

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

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TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 17, 2025



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Emergency Contact: 409.963.5633 CCE: 713.731.2775
Parish Hall: 713.731.2725 SVdP Food Pantry: 713.731.2716
WEB Address: <http://www.sfxhouston.com>
E-MAIL: stfrancishou@sfxhouston.com
Parish Office Hours: Tues-Wed 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Fri 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Closed on Mon & Thur
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/StFrancisXavierCatholicChurchHouston> YouTube: St. Francis Xavier Houston

MISSION STATEMENT

We, with the grace of the Holy Spirit, proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ as expressed in the beliefs and traditions of the Holy Roman Catholic Church. Through a passion for righteousness and consciousness of duty to God, we uphold the faithful worship of God in our mission to our church family and the Sunnyside Community.

PASTOR:

Vy. Rev. Michael Thompson, SSJ

DEACONS:

Michael V. Jenkins

Darryl K. Drenon

Frank J. Laugermann (Retired)

PARISH SECRETARY

Shirley M. Foreman.....x113

DIR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Unella Baber.....x103

ADULT FORMATION (OCIA)

Deacon Michael V. Jenkins

SVdP FOOD PANTRY

Closed for Restructure

CONTRIBUTIONS/MEMBERSHIP

Agnes Thompson

HALL MANAGER

Hilton S. Williams 713.542.0120

PLANT MANAGER/MAINTENANCE

Curtis Jones/Eugene Wilson

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Sat: Vigil 5:00 p.m.

Sun: 7:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday (Tue - Fri): 7:00 a.m.

First Friday: 7:00 a.m.

Holy Days: 7:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

One (1) hour before Weekend Masses or by appointment

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT:

First Friday: 7:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

CHOIR REHEARSALS:

Adult Choirs

Wednesdays: 6:30p.m.

Thursdays: 7:00p.m.

Youth Choir

4th Saturdays: 12:00 Noon

CHOIR DIRECTORS:

Jerry Givens 281.772.9276

VISITATION OF THE SICK

Communion for the sick and shut-in is available. Please call the parish office to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the parish office for information. Preparation classes are required for parents and godparents. Classes are held on the 1st and 2nd Thursdays of the month from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Call the Parish Office to register for the class.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact a priest a minimum of six months prior to your proposed wedding date.

WELCOME VISITORS/NEWCOMERS

To register, call or come by the parish office or visit our website at: www.sfxhouston.com



GIVE without Cash or Check



Save the number as a contact in your mobile phone for easy giving.

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	08/16/2025	5:00PM
<i>Living Family Members –Wanda Johnson</i>		
SUN	08/17/2025	7:30AM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
SUN	08/17/2025	10:00AM
<i>Edmonia Guillory (D)–Edwin E. Vallery</i>		
TUE	08/19/2025	7:00AM
<i>Dr. U.W. Watkins, Jr. (D)</i>		
<i>Tywanne Navy</i>		
WED	08/20/2025	7:00AM
<i>Beatrice Eaglin (D) – J. Henderson</i>		
THUR	08/21/2025	7:00AM
<i>Earlene Duplechaine (D)</i>		
<i>The Duplechaine Family</i>		
FRI	08/22/2025	7:00AM
<i>Vivian Willis (D) – Annette Willis</i>		
SAT	08/23/2025	5:00PM
<i>R.L. Henderson (D)</i>		
<i>The Henderson Family</i>		



Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Vea Barksdale, Clara Barras, Ivy Bobb, Hazel S. Brown, Tommy Burton, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Sterling Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Lawrence Frank, Paul Garrick Jr, Anthony Gobert, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton, Mason Harrison, Alvin J. Hebert, Cheryl Henderson, Donald Henderson, Anthony Hicks, Diane Houston, Crystal Jackson, Angela Johnson, Deacon Irvin Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Brooke Joseph, Shirley Ann Joseph, Serral Landry, JoAnn LaSane, Barbara Laugermann, Elon Lawdins, Freda & Shirley Lawdins, Hilary Ledet, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Donald May, Florence McChristian, Diane Miles, Jordan Mills, Dorothy Milstead, Cookie Mooring, Vy. Rev. William L. Norvel SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Angela Pena, Cynethia Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley, Catherine Pierre, Michael Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Marcelle Prevost, Melody Ratcliff, Effie Rems, Elise Richmond, John & Christine Roberts, Louis Robinson, Oliver Rose, Brian Russell, Grace Russell, Vy. Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman SSJ, Kerry Samuels, Mary Sias Kevin Simon, Joyce Smith, Joyce Staggs, Jeffery Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedy Swanks, Erma Taylor, Melvin Thomas, Gemma Walcott, Mary Ward, Herbert White, Agnes Williams, Patricia Williams, Eddie Rean Wilson, Terrell Wilson, Janice Woods, Alberta Zenon and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*I came to bring
fire to the earth...*
LUKE 12:49, NRSV

Today's readings are difficult to hear. Jeremiah's preaching so inflamed the people of Judah that he was thrown into a pit to die. Jesus warned his disciples that he came to inflame people so much that parents would turn against their children and vice versa. Nevertheless, says the author of Hebrews, we must persevere in our faith, endure our cross, and resist sin, so that one day we may find the joy that lies before us. As we suffer hardships on our journey to the Lord, may God's word encourage us to never give up.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK**■ Sunday – August 17**

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

Psalms 40:2-4, 18

Heb 12:1-4

Luke 12:49-53

■ Monday – August 18

Jgs 2:11-19

Psalms 106:34-37, 39-40, 43, 44

Matthew 19:16-22

■ □ Tuesday – August 19

Saint John Eudes, Priest

Jgs 6:11-24

Psalms 85:9, 11-14

Matthew 19:23-30

□ Wednesday – August 20

Saint Bernard, Abbot and

Doctor of the Church

Jgs 9:6-15

Psalms 21:2-7

Matthew 20:1-16

□ Thursday – August 21

Saint Pius X, Pope

Jgs 11:29-39

Psalms 40:5, 7-10

Matthew 22:1-14

□ Friday August 22

The Queenship of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14-16, 22

Psalms 146:5-10

Matthew 22:34-40

■ □ Saturday August 23

Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin

Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17

Psalms 128:1-5

Matthew 23:1-12

AUGUST 22**The Queenship of Mary**

This feast day recognizes Mary as the "Queen of Heaven and Earth" and celebrates her special role in salvation.

For many of us, the language of kings and queens may seem like they belong to history or a medieval movie. Royalty have absolute authority over a kingdom and their subjects, a concept that is foreign to many of us today. While Jesus doesn't rule a political kingdom, we honor and recognize him as the King of Kings, Lord of Heaven and Earth. To God alone belongs absolute authority over all of existence. We may think of queens as the spouse of the king, but there is another key relationship: the king's mother. In Biblical history, we see instances where the mother of the king is given due as a queen herself, complete with a throne! Mary's guiding influence over her Son is seen most notably in the Wedding Feast at Cana. Mary is not Queen on her own merit. She is "full of grace" and "blessed" in "all ages" because of the reign of her Son. ©LPi

Lord, we pray for all our current military service members who put their own lives on the line every day to protect our families and our country.

Army: Sade Beck, Wadie Troy Butler, Patrick Clay Jr, Kalah A. Guidry, Angel Guillory, Kerry Hubbard, Kory Hubbard, LaTroy King, Gary Christian Robertson, Anthony Lamar Smith II, Jordan T. McCorkle, Essence L. Casteel **Navy:** Alvin Balthazar, Debreanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Alexander Guillory Jr, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins-Camp, Xavier Henry, Anthony N. Russell **Air Force:** Samuel Houston, Roderick Jones, Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander **Marines:** Reginald Ward



CCE REGISTRATION

CCE Registration for the 2025-2026 school year will be accepted as follows:

Tuesdays, 8/19-9/16, 9am-4:30pm

Wednesdays, 8/20-9/17, 9am-4:30pm

Fridays, 8/22-9/19, 9:00am-3:00pm

Sat & Sun, 8/23-8/24-After all Masses

Registration forms are available in the Vestibule of the Church, the Harris Center and the Parish Website (www.sfxhouston.com). Classes will begin on Monday, **September 22nd** at **6:00pm** for Jr High and High School Students and on Saturday, **September 27th** at **9:30am** for Pre-K and Elementary Students. Call the CCE Office at (713) **731-2775** for additional information.



August 30 – CCE Staff Business Meeting 9:00am in the Harris Center Auditorium

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY FUNDRAISER



The Ministers of Hospitality will host a Wings & Fries fundraiser on Saturday, **September 6,**

2025 and Sunday, **September 7, 2025.** Wings & Fries will be sold for **\$10.00.** Assorted Sodas & Deserts will also be available for purchase. Please come out and support our Ushers and Greeters!



The 55+ Club will meet on Thursday, August 21st, at **2:00pm** in the Harris Center Auditorium.

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, August 9th and Sunday, August 10th was **511.** The 7:30am Livestream received **58** views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH FALL RAFFLE



Grand Prize!

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3rd Prize.....\$500.00 Gift Card
4th Prize.....\$400.00 Gas Card
5th Prize...\$300.00 Macy's Gift Card
Tickets are **\$5.00** each. Each household is asked to buy or sell at least 2 books of 20 tickets. Pick up Raffle Books after all Masses this weekend. Call the Parish Office if you would like to receive your Raffle Books in the mail.

Go to: <https://www.church.faithdirect.net/forms/index/632> or Scan the QR Code to purchase Tickets online.



Drawing: October 19, 2025

Winner Need Not be Present!

The next Bazaar Team Meeting is scheduled for **September 2, 2025.** This is the final day to place your Volunteer T-Shirt Order.

INNER-CITY CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

ZYDECO DANCE

SATURDAY AUGUST 23RD

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SOUNDS BY: **DJ JAMMIN' J**

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Did you know that Catholics can make an Act of Spiritual Communion?

When unable to receive Holy Communion, pray the prayer below:

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

Stewardship Reflection

That we have the courage to step out of our comfort zone and stand up for life, marriage and religious liberty. "Do you think I have come to give you peace on Earth? No, I tell you, but rather division." Luke 12:51 Many of us like to play it safe, not cause waves with our family and friends, especially when it comes to politics and religion. We don't want to cause any turmoil. However, many times this is at the expense of the truth. The truth being Jesus Christ. Too many people are misguided because they rely on their own limited human ability to reason and are not allowing faith in God to guide them. Form your conscience; take a stance for life, marriage and religious liberty.

dsf Cry Out with JOY TO THE LORD!

True joy in the Lord compels us to give back and share what we have. When we **Cry Out with Joy to the Lord!** we are inspired to open our hearts and hands, supporting ministries that bring hope and help to those in need. Our Parish Goal this year is **\$74,300.00.** We have paid **35%** of our goal, **\$25,750.31.** We have a balance of **\$48,549.69.** Please consider making your gift today! Pick up a pew envelope in the church, or go to www.archgh.org/dsf, or scan the QR Code to make a donation. No matter the size of your gift, every dollar goes a long way! Please include our Parish ID 7510 on your check to ensure St. Francis Xavier Church receives credit for your donation.

SCAN HERE TO GIVE





TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

August 17, 2025

The Only Place “Success” Comes Before “Work” Is in the Dictionary

Happy Sunday! Vince Lombardi once said, *“The only place that ‘success’ comes before ‘work’ is in the dictionary.”* He was talking about football, but the same is true for our walk with God. The crown comes after the cross, the victory after the battle, the reward after the labor.

In the first reading, the prophet Jeremiah speaks God’s truth to a morally decaying Jerusalem. His “reward” for this work? He’s thrown into a cistern full of mud. Yet Jeremiah doesn’t soften his message or remain silent to protect himself. His success was not in avoiding hardship, but in remaining faithful to the mission God had given him.

The Letter to the Hebrews tells us to **“run with perseverance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus.”** The spiritual race is not a sprint. It’s a marathon requiring daily discipline...prayer, worship, service, and moral courage...even when the road is uphill and the crowd is against us.

In the Gospel, Jesus reminds us that following Him will not always bring worldly peace. His message can cause division, even within our own households, because it challenges the status quo and calls for transformation. And transformation takes work.

That’s why Mother Teresa’s words strike to the heart: *“I do not pray for success, I ask for faithfulness.”* In God’s eyes, true success isn’t measured by titles, comfort, or popularity...but by fidelity to the call we’ve been given. The saints we admire didn’t arrive at holiness by accident. Day after day, they showed up in prayer and service, endured hardship with hope, and kept their eyes on the ultimate goal: life with God.

For us, the “work” may mean standing for truth when it’s unpopular, forgiving when it’s hard, or loving when it’s inconvenient. It’s choosing the long, steady path of faithfulness over the easy road of compromise.

So, brothers and sisters, as we hear today’s readings, remember this: We can’t expect the crown without the cross, the harvest without the sowing, or the victory without the battle. The only place “success” comes before “work” is in the dictionary...and in the kingdom of God, that work is called discipleship. Amen

Deacon Darryl



Sick, Shut-In and Senior Citizen Luncheon

August 5, 2025



*2025 King and Queen
John and Mary Richard*



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SCAN HERE FOR INFORMATION



**NEXT MEETING
AUGUST 26TH 2:00 PM**

Mental Health Illness and Challenges Awareness Presentation



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Served as a health care professional for over 45 years, advocating for individuals with both mental and physical disabilities to live with dignity as fully functioning, participating, and contributing members of our community.



"Turn AWARENESS ...Into ACTION"

Saturday, October 4, 2025, 8:30 AM

Location: St. Dominic Chancery

2403 Holcombe Blvd., Houston, TX 77021

Morkovsky Hall Room 205



FREE
Please RSVP at [GHCW.org](https://ghcw.org)
ALL ARE WELCOME!

***Please join us in praying the Novena for Mental
Health by the USCCB October 10-18, 2025***

***Hosted by The Galveston-Houston
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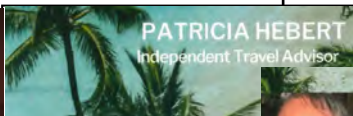
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