

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

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THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 11, 2026



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Emergency Contact: 409.963.5633 CCE: 713.731.2775
Parish Hall: 713.731.2725 SVdP Conference: 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)

SACRISTAN

Orell Dargin

PARISH SECRETARY

Shirley M. Foreman.....x113

BOOKEEPER

Stacie Boisseau.....x109

DIR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Unella Baber.....x103

ADULT FORMATION (OCIA)

Deacon Michael V. Jenkins

Tierra Ledet

ST VINCENT de PAUL CONFERENCE

Erica Smith (713) 731-2716

CONTRIBUTIONS/MEMBERSHIP

Agnes Thompson.....x107

OFFICE ASSISTANT

Hope Jackson

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 DIRECTOR:

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

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your mobile phone for easy giving.*

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	01/10/2026	5:00PM
<i>The Soul of Florence McChristian (D)</i> Shelia McDaniel, Ct 91, Alex LA		
SUN	01/11/2026	7:30AM
<i>Cheryl Henderson (L)</i> The Henderson Family		
SUN	01/11/2026	10:00AM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
TUE	01/13/2026	7:00AM
<i>Vocations</i>		
WED	01/14/2026	7:00AM
<i>World Peace</i>		
THUR	01/15/2026	7:00AM
<i>Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King (D)</i>		
FRI	01/16/2026	7:00AM
<i>All Who Have Died in Faith (D)</i>		
SAT	01/17/2026	5:00PM
<i>Deacon Albert Henry (D) - The Family</i>		

**ORDINARY TIME
BEGINS**

Monday, January 12th, the Church returns to Ordinary Time, the longest season of the Church year. This is the period of time (consisting of thirty-four weeks) within the liturgical calendar of the Church that is not the Advent/Christmas season or the Lent/Easter season. During this period, four solemnities of the Lord are celebrated: Trinity Sunday, the Body and Blood of Christ, the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and Christ the King Sunday. The Liturgical color during Ordinary Time is green.

**ONLINE MASS INTENTION
REQUESTS**

A Mass Intention is a specific petition for which the Mass is offered. Mass Intention Requests for 2026 are now available online. We have several open dates available for your requests. You can access the online Mass Intention software via this link:

<https://web4ucorp.com/massintentions/sfx/houston>

You will receive text or email notification when your request is approved. You will also receive reminder notifications when the date for your scheduled Mass is approaching. The required donation for each Mass is **\$10.00**. You can pay online using the Donation Link, or you can mail your check to the Parish Office.



Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Joseph Alcendor, Virgis Anderson, Clara Barras, Ivy Bobb, Hazel S. Brown, Tommy Burton, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Dalton & Julia Dean, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Paul Garrick Jr, Kristin Gilbreath, Anthony Gobert, Valerie Williams Goode, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Perry Hall, Mary Hamilton, Cheryl Henderson, Donald & JoAnne Henderson, Anthony Hicks, Diane Houston, Al Jackson Jr, Crystal Jackson, Angela Johnson, Deacon Irvin Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Brooke Joseph, Serral Landry, JoAnn LaSane, Barbara Laugermann, Hilary & Patricia Ledet, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Donald May, Diane Miles, Dorothy Milstead, Cookie Mooring, Debbie Morris, Very Rev. William L. Norvel SSJ, Carolyn Ollison, Angela Pena, Cynethia Pichon, Margie Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley, Catherine Pierre, Michael Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Marcelle Prevost, Melody Ratcliff, Effie Rems, Elise Richmond, John & Christine Roberts, Wilson Robertson, Louis Robinson, Oliver Rose, Brian Russell, Grace Russell, Very Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman SSJ, Kerry Samuels, Kevin Simon, Joyce Smith, Joyce Stag, Jeffery Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedy Swanks, Erma Taylor, Melvin Thomas, Gemma Walcott, Herbert White, Agnes Williams, Patricia Williams, Terrell Wilson, Janice Woods, Alberta Zenon and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.

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, LaTroy King, Essence McMillan, Gary Christian Robertson, Anthony Lamar Smith II

Navy: Alvin Balthazar, Debreanna Brown, Jermaine Ceaser, Kevin Crockett, Alexander Guillory Jr, Courtney Harris, Nia D. Hawkins-Camp, Xavier Henry, Anthony N. Russell, Robert Lee Smith

Air Force: Samuel Houston, Roderick Jones, Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander

Marines: Reginald Ward

**THE BAPTISM OF THE
LORD**

"This is my Son,
the Beloved, with whom
I am well pleased."



Matthew 3:17, NRSV

Isaiah's words may be echoing in our heads now, as we have heard them nearly every Sunday throughout every Advent and Christmas. Isaiah foresaw the Messiah, God's chosen one, who filled with God's spirit, would open the eyes of the blind, rescue those imprisoned in darkness, and establish justice on the earth. Peter attests that Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit and power, and Matthew tells of how the Holy Spirit appeared as a dove descending from the heavens when Jesus was baptized. Filled with the Holy Spirit in baptism, let us allow the words of scripture to move us with their power.

**READINGS
FOR THE WEEK**☐ **Sunday – January 11**

The Baptism of the Lord

S 42:1-4, 6-7

Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10

Acts 10:34-38

Mt 3:13-17

☒ **Monday – January 12**

1 Sm 1:1-8

Ps 116:12-19

Mk 1:14-20

☒ ☐ **Tuesday – January 13**

Saint Hilary, Bishop,

Doctor of the Church

1 Sm 1:9-20

(Ps) 1Sm 2:1, 4-8

Mk 1:21-28

☒ **Wednesday – January 14**

1 Sm 3:1-10

Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10

Mk 1:29-39

☒ **Thursday – January 15**

1 Sm 4:1-11

Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25

Mk 1:40-45

☒ **Friday January 16**

1 Sm 8:4-7, 20-22

Ps 89:16-19

Mk 2:1-12

☐ **Saturday January 17**

Saint Anthony, Abbot

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1

Ps 21:2-7

Mk 2:13-17



January 12.....6:00pm
6th – 10th CCE CLASSES
 January 17.....9:30am
PreK – 5th CCE CLASSES
 January 19
NO CCE CLASSES – MLK HOLIDAY
 January 24.....9:30am
PreK – 5th CCE CLASSES
 January 26.....6:00pm
6th – 10th CCE CLASSES
 January 31.....9:30am
PreK – 5th CCE CLASSES

2025-2026 OCIA

January 15.....6:00pm
OCIA CLASSES

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EMHC FORMATION SESSION

Join us Saturday, **January 31st**, for an **Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion** Formation Session. The Office of Worship is hosting a formation session in both English and Spanish. Click the following Link to register:

<https://capernaum.lead4m.com/course/119>

Early registration is \$30 until Sunday, **January 25th**, at Midnight.

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on New Year's Day was **98** and the Livestream received **79** views online. In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, January 3rd and Sunday, January 4th was **475**. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come and worship with us in the church.



Tranard Deshawn Stafford passed away on December 31, 2025 at the age of 54 yrs. Tranard is the Son of Celeste Rayme Stafford and the late Roosevelt Stafford. A Funeral Service was held at Silver Lake Church on January 10, 2026. Eternal rest grant unto his soul.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul
 Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

The St. Francis Xavier St. Vincent de Paul Conference will meet on Tuesday, **January 13th**, and again on Tuesday, **January 27th**, at 2:00pm in the Harris Center Auditorium. The Conference is still in the development stage and anticipates going operational after the 2nd quarter of the year.

55+ Club



The 55+ Club will meet on Thursday, **January 15th** at **2:00pm** in the Harris Center Auditorium. The Club is recruiting new members during the month of January thru March. Membership dues are only **\$15.00/year**. Contact Herbert "Red" Archer @ (281) 536-8912.



The **55+ Club** will host a Bus Trip to the Coshatta Casino on Saturday, **January 17th**. The Bus will load at **6:30am** and depart from St. Francis Xavier at **7:00am**. The Cost is **\$45.00** per person. Seats are available. Contact: Wanda Johnson @ (832) 492-5088.



LECTORS QUARTERLY MEETING

Lectors will meet on Saturday, **January 17th**, at **11:00am** in the Church. Congratulations to our Youth Lectors, **Noah & Naomi Knighten!** They have been selected to proclaim the Readings for the Martin Luther King Mass at the Co-Cathedral on Sunday, **January 18th**, at 3:00pm. Let's give them our support.

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 may fulfill our own Baptismal call by giving ourselves entirely to God and answer His call to holiness. "John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, yet you are coming to me?" Matthew 3:14 The Catholic Catechism states that "Jesus' immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God's will." In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus – the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.

Stewardship Intention Card



As we begin the a new year, let's take time to reflect on the Blessings we have received in 2025. You are invited to commit to giving back in the new year by completing a **Call to Stewardship Intention Card**. These cards were mailed in your January Envelope packet. If you do not receive envelopes in the mail, we have yellow intention cards in the vestibule of the church.



If you will need a copy of your 2025 contribution statement for tax purposes, please call the Parish Office at **(713) 738-2311**. Statements will be sent only upon request. **Contributions received after December 31st will not be reflected on statements for 2025.**



Here are some practical lessons from Christ's Baptism recorded in Matthew 3:13-17.

Baptism is not optional. It prepares us to enter into the Kingdom of God. Jesus tells Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews, “**Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**” Nicodemus said to Him “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born? Jesus answered, “**Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.**” [John 3:3-5]

Before a mother gives birth her water breaks; then the child comes forth through the birth canal.

Water is a part of our physical birth. Water and **the Holy Spirit** accompany our **spiritual birth**. The Spirit is needed to transform the soul. Baptism **isn't** just symbolic; it is a real spiritual rebirth that washes away sin, bestows grace, and brings the baptized into a holy life, making them members of Christ. Jesus made Himself a citizen of earth so that we may become citizens of our true home in the Kingdom of God.

Learn to walk as a Baptized Child of God.

Galatians 5:16 say, “Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.” The word “walk” in the Scriptures refers to one's lifestyle. Some horses wear **blinders**. These blinders reduce the horse's field of vision helping the horse concentrate and limit distractions. Blinders help them keep their vision focused on the track, trail, or roadway before them so they **do not go the wrong way**. We should see our baptism as **spiritual blinders that help align us with God's will and purpose for our lives**.

1. We must put God at the center of our lives acknowledging that He is God and we are not. We must strive to live a life worthy of the message Jesus left us in the Gospels: loving God first, our neighbors second and ourselves third. This creates

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (A)

[After Jesus had been baptized] A voice came from the heavens, saying, “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” Mathew 3:17

Practical Lessons from The Lord's Baptism

a lifestyle that is not focused on me, but on God and others- and that is what creates holiness.

2. We are to reject what the world is offering and embrace everything Jesus has promised us.

You cannot have a foot in both Kingdoms-one in the kingdom of darkness and the other in the Kingdom of Light. In the Baptismal Rite for the Renunciation of Sin these questions are asked: Do you reject Satan? And all his works? And all his empty promises? Do you reject the glamor of evil, and refuse to be mastered by sin? Many people are riding the fence. A man once had a dream, in which he saw two kingdoms. On the right, he saw a beautiful green field with Jesus in the pasture. On the left, he saw a beautiful field, but Satan was there, offering everything the world had to offer. The man could not decide which Kingdom he wanted. He liked Jesus, but he loved the things the world, so he decided to sit on the fence that divided the two kingdoms. He took a little from both. Suddenly, everything became dark, and he found himself standing before Satan in Hell. The man cried out, “No, no, no! I didn't choose you-I was on the fence! Satan replied, “**I own the fence!**”

Jesus said, “**Whoever is not with Me is against Me**” Matt. 12:30. And in Revelation Jesus says, “**I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth**” Revelation 3:15-16.



Our **baptism** should become **spiritual blinders**, helping us stay focused and aligned with Christ and the Kingdom of God!

◇◇ Dcn. Jenkins



A MASS OF REMEMBRANCE



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON

**41st Observance of the annual celebration
honoring the birthday of
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart
1111 St. Joseph Parkway
Houston, Texas 77002**



Most Reverend Joe S. Vásquez
Metropolitan Archbishop
Archdiocese of Galveston - Houston
PRINCIPAL CELEBRANT

**January 18, 2026
3 p.m. | Sunday
Afternoon**



Rev. Father Reginald Samuels
Vicar for Catholics of African Descent
Pastor, St. Laurence Catholic Church
Archdiocese of Galveston - Houston
HOMILIST

Reception to follow at the Cathedral Centre.



Fr. Martin Eke, MSP and St. Francis of Assisi
Parish invite you to

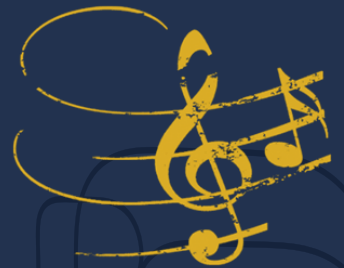


ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI Thank You Jesus Prayer Brunch



Featuring :

- Songs of Thanksgiving
- Inspirational Thank You Jesus Talk
- 2,000 Times Thank You Jesus Prayer
- Gratitude Walk
- Testimonies
- Brunch



****Free Event – Everyone is invited****

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2026



9:00 AM – 12:00 PM



St. Francis Parish Hall

5102 Dabney St. Houston , Texas 77026

RSVP is required.

Text only:

- Renita Mathis 832 869 0186
- Latricia Lewis 281 703 8548
- Mary St. Julian 713 443 3616

Deadline January 5, 2026

***Thank You Jesus Chaplets will be
available for purchase that day at \$5.00.**

First come, first served.

**Anyone who cannot text,
please call the parish office
or Fr. Martin**

Houston Inter-City Councils & Courts

Annual Mardi Gras Dance

January 31, 2026

AT
7:30 PM



Tickets
\$35.00

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Let's put our boots on the ground

For additional information
contact:

Knight Paul H. Ledet, Jr.
HICC Vice-President

phledet64@aol.com



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Justin Mabrie

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