

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

Staffed by the Josephites since 1952

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 12, 2025



4600 REED ROAD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77051-2857
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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



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MASS INTENTIONS

SAT	10/11/2025	5:00PM
<i>Deacon Albert Henry (D) – The Family</i>		
SUN	10/12/2025	7:30AM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
SUN	10/12/2025	10:00AM
<i>Joseph & Mary Zenon (D)</i>		
<i>The Zenon Family</i>		
TUE	10/14/2025	7:00AM
<i>David & Kathryn Johnson (D)</i>		
<i>The Johnson McLaurin Family</i>		
WED	10/15/2025	7:00AM
<i>Audrey Otis (D)</i>		
<i>Rita Albert & Theresa Williams</i>		
THUR	10/16/2025	7:00AM
<i>Ronald Johnson (D)</i>		
<i>The Johnson McLaurin Family</i>		
FRI	10/17/2025	7:00AM
<i>Living Family Members</i>		
<i>Wanda Johnson</i>		
SAT	10/18/2025	5:00PM
<i>Ezzard Sam (D) – Lydia & Roger Sam</i>		



MARY LOUISE JOHNSON
1939 - 2025



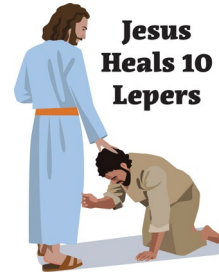
There will be one (1) Mass on Bazaar Sunday, October 19th! Mass is scheduled for 9:00am. If your regular Mass is 7:30am or 10:00am, make plans to attend the 9:00am Mass on Sunday, or the 5:00pm Vigil Mass on Saturday.



Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Joseph Alcendor, 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, Dalton & Julia Dean, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Lawrence Frank, Paul Garrick Jr, Anthony Gobert, Valerie Williams Goode, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Mary Gordon, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton, Mason Harrison, Cheryl Henderson, Donald Henderson, Kenneth Joseph Henderson Jr, 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, Jordan Mills, Dorothy Milstead, Cookie Mooring, Vy. 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, Louis Robinson, Oliver Rose, Brian Russell, Grace Russell, Vy. Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman SSJ, Kerry Samuels, Kevin Simon, Steven Singleton, Joyce Smith, Joyce Stagg, 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, Kerry Hubbard, Kory Hubbard, LaTroy King, 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 **Air Force:** Samuel Houston, Roderick Jones, Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander **Marines:** Reginald Ward

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**Jesus Heals 10 Lepers**

Today's readings extol the virtue of gratitude. We hear first of Naaman, a foreigner, who is so grateful to Elisha and the LORD for curing his leprosy that he returns to offer gifts. In the Gospel, another foreigner—a Samaritan—returns to Jesus to offer thanks after his leprosy is cured. May we be as grateful as them for God's blessings upon us, starting with our "Thanks be to God" for the saving power of God's word.

READINGS**FOR THE WEEK****Sunday – October 12**

The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Kgs 5:14-17

Ps 98:1-4

2 Tm 2:8-13

Lk 17:11-19

Monday – October 13

Rom 1:1-7

Ps 98:1-4

Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday – October 14

Saint Callistus I, Pope, Martyr

Rom 1:16-25

Ps 19:2-5

Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday – October 15

Saint Teresa of Jesus, Virgin,

Doctor of the Church

Rom 2:1-11

Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 9

Lk 11:42-46

Thursday – October 16

Saint Hedwig, Religious; Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin

Rom 3:21-30

Ps 130:1-6

Lk 11:47-54

Friday October 17

Saint Ignatius of Antioch,

Bishop, Martyr

Rom 4:1-8

Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11

Lk 12:1-7

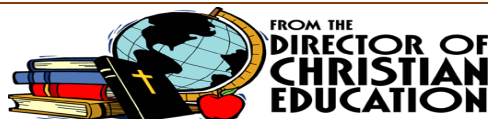
Saturday October 18

Saint Luke, Evangelist

2 Tm 4:10-17

Ps 145:10-13, 17-18

Lk 10:1-9



October 13.....6:00pm
6th – 10th CCE CLASSES
 October 18 & October 20
NO CCE CLASSES
 October 25.....9:30am
PreK – 5th CCE CLASSES
 October 26.....2:00pm-4:00pm
TRUNK OR TREAT!
 October 27.....6:00pm
6th – 10th CCE CLASSES
 November 1.....9:30am
PreK – 5th CCE CLASSES
 November 3.....6:00pm
6th – 10th CCE CLASSES

Pink Sunday



In recognition of all breast cancer survivors, we are asking parishioners to wear pink the weekend of **October 25th and 26th**.

2026 MASS INTENTION REQUESTS

Mass Intention Request Forms for 2026 will be available on **November 1st**. We can accept only one intention per Mass. Each Mass is said for one person, living spouses or one family. To allow everyone an opportunity to get Mass Intentions approved, please note the following restrictions when submitting your requests:

1. A Mass may be offered for the same individual no more than two times per month (24 times per year).
2. A Mass intention can be scheduled no more than one calendar year in advance, beginning on November 1st.
3. You may request only one (1) Mass per Month on a Weekend (Saturday/Sunday)
4. You may request only one (1) Mass per Week on a Weekday (Tuesday through Friday).
5. Requests will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis in the order in which the request is received in the Parish Office.

The minimum donation for each Mass is **\$10.00**.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH FALL RAFFLE



Grand Prize!

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2nd Prize.....\$1000.00 Gift Card
3rd Prize.....\$500.00 Gift Card
4th Prize.....\$400.00 Gas Card
5th Prize.....\$300.00 Macy's 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://giving.parishsoft.com/App/For m/77e1e124-86ee-4251-ae0e-559949a3a1ee>

or Scan the QR Code below to purchase Tickets online.



Drawing: October 19, 2025

Winner Need Not be Present!

The next Bazaar Team Meeting is scheduled for **October 14, 2025**.



SUNDAY OCTOBER 26TH

2:00PM- 4:00PM

Join us for a free, safe and unique way to Trick or Treat! Volunteers are needed! Costumes are encouraged! Interested in participating? Register your trunk at (832) 978-4247.



Jana Orphe'
October 9th

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 our actions and words reflect our love for God every day. "For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control." 2 Timothy 1:7 Many of us compartmentalize our Faith, we bring it out only when we attend Mass or when we attend a parish event. Being a good steward requires discipline and striving to put God first in everything - all the time. The next time you are at a neighborhood party or at work or out shopping, would your words and actions signal to others that you are a good and faithful servant of our Lord?



On the weekend of October 19, 2025, parishes in the Archdiocese will take up the **World Mission Sunday Collection**. In 1926 Pope Pius XI instituted Mission Sunday for the whole Church with the first worldwide Mission Sunday collection taking place in October 1927. The Mission Sunday collection is always taken on the next to last Sunday during the month of October. That day is celebrated in all the local Churches as the feast of catholicity and universal solidarity so Christians the world over will recognize their common responsibility with regard to the evangelization of the world.

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, October 4th and Sunday, October 5th was **505**. The 7:30am Livestream received **40** views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come and worship with us in the church.



Some reflections inspired by online copyrighted

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Today we are observing ten, ostracized lepers, disheartened men who were hopeless. They had leprosy, a disease for which there was no cure. In fact, leprosy was a death sentence carried out a little bit at a time—an arm now, a leg or ear later. Because the disease was thought to be highly contagious, lepers were driven out of town where they could not associate with anybody. These men were hopeless, helpless, and alone, but they formed a friendship among themselves.

One day they heard about Jesus, and their hopes began to rise. They had reached the point of believing, so they began to dream that they could be made whole again. Despite a hopeless disease, they began to feel there was a chance to live. Through fellowship, these ten lepers had the courage to keep going. They went to seek out Jesus and yelled out to him, "Master, have mercy upon us." Everybody would have told them they were going to die, that it was useless to ask for help. If they had believed that they would have died. But they came to our Lord, taking Jesus at his word that "All things are possible to them who believe."

Jesus saw a way to test their faith. He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." They could have looked at each other and said, "Well, nothing's happened to us. We're just the same as we were." Instead, they did what he said; they obeyed him. As they went, the blessing came and they were cleansed. What a wonderful experience! However, the text tells us there were ten lepers. They all asked Jesus for healing, and they were all healed. But there was a key difference in one of them. Nine of them received healing and went on their way. Only one took the trouble to come back and say, "thank you."

One could almost feel the Lord's disappointment and sadness in his voice when he asked, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?" Why didn't the nine come back? I imagine one reason is because of their selfish pride. Perhaps they thought, *A lot of people have leprosy, and it takes their lives. But we had the power to overcome it.* I have a feeling they went around saying, "Look what I've done, I've been healed." To have returned to thank Jesus would have deflated their egos. That is an ordinary problem with humanity. The reason a lot of people do not experience gratefulness is because of our egos. Instead of giving thanks, we say, "Look at how great I am." I have also heard people

say to me how they struggle to say thank you, "I'm thankful, but I'm not the kind to say so." Or maybe they were so excited. They probably had families they had not seen in a while. Maybe they had business they needed to attend to. Maybe they intended to thank Jesus later; we know that one well. Or maybe those nine people were not thankful because they concentrated on their self-interest instead of their blessings.

Were there not ten healed? Where are the nine?" Suppose the Lord looked down on all the people in the world. Would he look at us and say: Look at this person, this family, or this business. I poured out my blessings upon them, but they do not have time to thank me. They do not ever remember the things I have done.

The Gospel although highlights the one leper who was a foreigner and enemy of the Jews. Yet he alone expressed gratitude for God's healing. Through his newfound faith he was able to return and acknowledge the giver of grace. As we learned last weekend, true faith leads us to action, and we do not need a lot of it. "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to the mulberry tree, be uprooted and planted in the sea, it would obey you." The Samaritan returning was that tangible expression of his faith that we talked about in the sermon. Faithful gratitude is always a way of being saved.

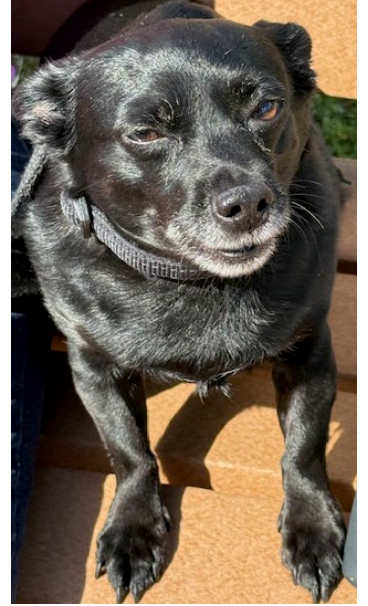
I believe the act of coming to church, participation in the Sacraments, being good disciples and Christians, is a gesture of thankfulness similar to the one man returning to see the Lord. You could have done something else this morning, but you came to Mass to say, "thank you Jesus." The leper received a physical blessing the first time, but when he came back the second time, he received an even greater blessing. Jesus said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well." (your faith has saved you!) The Samaritan had received a spiritual blessing that could not replace his physical blessing. We only have to look around at the people we know and ask ourselves, *do their physical blessings make them happy?* Most of the time, the answer is no. When they receive the physical blessing they desire, they fail to give thanks and, as a result, do not receive a spiritual blessing from their Lord and Savior.

Vy. Rev. Michael L. Thompson, SSJ



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October 7, 2025





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