

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

Staffed by the Josephites since 1952

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 9, 2025



4600 REED ROAD, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77051-2857
Parish Office: 713.738.2311 Fax: 713.738.3337
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

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

Michael Stevenson 832.884.6543

Mikayla Peugh

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

FAITH DIRECT®
Text-to-Give
Text \$ amount to 281-949-7600



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

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT.	03/08/2025	5:00PM
<i>Dcn. Albert Henry (D) - The Family</i>		
SUN.	03/09/2025	7:30AM
<i>Deceased Family Members</i>		
<i>Wanda Johnson</i>		
SUN.	03/09/2025	10:00AM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
TUE.	03/11/2025	7:00AM
<i>Tanya Melissa Lewis (D)</i>		
<i>The Lewis Family</i>		
WED.	03/12/2025	7:00AM
<i>Patrick Martell (D) – Joyce Martell</i>		
THUR	03/13/2025	7:00AM
<i>Vivian Willis (D) – Annette Willis</i>		
FRI	03/14/2025	7:00AM
<i>Eva Reaux (D) – Family & Friends</i>		
SAT	03/15/2025	5:00PM
<i>Alesha Hooks (D) – Stephanie Hooks</i>		

Asleep
in Jesus



AUDREY DECUIR GRANT
1929 - 2025



Thank you to everyone for the Cards and Gifts received for my Birthday! Your thoughtfulness and generosity is sincerely appreciated. You will continue to be in my prayers. *Fr. Michael*

Archbishop-Designate Joe S. Vásquez will be installed as the Ninth Bishop and Third Archbishop of Galveston-Houston on March 25, 2025, at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. Due to space limitations, in-person participation will be available only by ticket; The Mass will be streamed online at www.archgh.org/live.



Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Nathan Addison IV, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Chloe Ausbie, Clara Barras, Adrienne Barnes, Hazel S. Brown, Tommy Burton, Amber Byas, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Dalton Cooper Jr, Shelton Darte, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Sterling Certenberg, Lois Epps, Lawrence Frank, Lloyd Gibbs Anthony Gobert, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton, Alvin J. Hebert, Clyde Henderson, Donald Henderson, Anthony Hicks, Diane Houston, Crystal Jackson, Deacon Irvin Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Brooke Joseph, Shirley Ann Joseph, Serral Landry, JoAnn LaSane, Barbara Laugermann, Shirley Lawdins, Hilary Ledet, Kayson Lester, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Mr. Martin, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Florence McChristian, Diane Miles, Dorothy Milstead, Cookie Mooring, Joseph Mundine, 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, Alan Pryor, 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, Joyce Smith, Joyce Stagg, Jeffery Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedy Swanks, Erma Taylor, Melvin Thomas, Gemma Walcott, Herbert White, Agnes Williams, Patricia Williams, Theresa Williams, Eddie Rean Wilson, Terrell Wilson, Janice Woods, Alberta Zenon and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.

Let us Know: Call the Parish Office when you and/or a family member are ill, in the hospital, or having surgery.

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: Barbara Baber, Sade Beck, Wadie Troy Butler, Patrick Clay Jr, Kalah A. Guidry, Angel Guillory, Geraldine 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, Randolph J. Navy III, Anthony N. Russell **Air Force:** Samuel Houston, Roderick Jones, Joshua Creeks, Joffre Lander **Marines:** Reginald Ward

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Worship the Lord
your God and
serve him only.



LUKE 4:8, NIV

Today and every Sunday we offer our gifts at the altar of the Lord. Today's first reading narrates the reasons for the Chosen People's gratitude to God, which lead them to offer firstfruits and thanksgiving to the LORD. Saint Paul assures the Romans that all who confess their faith and seek help from the Lord will be saved. Finally, we hear Jesus quote God's words when he resists the devil's temptations in the desert. Let us now listen to the word of God, knowing that in God's word we find salvation.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

■ **Sunday – March 9**

1st Sunday of Lent

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Psalm 91:1-2, 10-15

Romans 10:8-13

Luke 4:1-13

■ **Monday – March 10**

Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18

Psalm 19:8-10, 15

Matthew 25:31-46

■ **Tuesday – March 11**

Isaiah 55:10-11

Psalm 34:4-7, 16-19

Matthew 6:7-15

■ **Wednesday – March 12**

Jonah 3:1-10

Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19

Luke 11:29-32

■ **Thursday – March 13**

Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25

Psalm 138:1-3, 7-8

Matthew 7:7-12

■ **Friday March 14**

Ezekiel 18:21-28

Psalm 130:1-8

Matthew 5:20-26

■ **Saturday March 15**

Deuteronomy 26:16-19

Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8

Matthew 5:43-48



March 10 thru March 15

NO CCE CLASSES – SPRING BREAK

March 17.....6:00pm

6th – 10th CCE Classes

March 22.....9:30am

PreK – 5th CCE Classes

March 24.....6:00pm

6th – 10th CCE Classes

March 29.....9:30am

PreK – 5th CCE Classes

March 31.....6:00pm

6th – 10th CCE Classes



March 17 – 9th & 10th Grades Jeremiah Training in the Harris Center

April 12 – 10th Grade Confirmation Retreat in the Harris Center Auditorium 9:00am-3:00pm

NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION

Black and Indian Missions Collection

The Black and Indian Mission Collection exists to help communities build the Church and preach the Gospel of Jesus among the African American, Native American, and Alaska Native people of God. St. Francis Xavier Parish is a recipient of the proceeds from this collection.

To learn more, please visit <https://blackandindianmission.org/news/black-and-indian-mission-collection>

Journey to Second Chance MINISTRY



St. Francis Xavier Journey to Second Chance Ministry will continue our outreach and support to the formerly incarcerated and their families on **March 12th**, from 2-6 p.m. to you our families, friends, neighbors and the community to provide support and resources (job placement, interview clothing & shoes, counseling, partner outreach, notary services) to help you on your JOURNEY TO SECOND CHANCE. The Journey to Second Chance Ministry will meet on Wednesday, **March 12th**, at 6:00pm in the Harris Center Auditorium.



Outdoor Stations of the Cross
(In the Prayer Garden)

Every Friday during Lent

5:30pm

Laetare Sunday (Wear Rose/Pink)

March 30

Palm Sunday – April 13

CCE Passion Play.....10:00am

Holy Thursday – April 17

Mass6:00pm

(No Morning Mass)

Good Friday – April 18

Outdoor Stations..... 3:00pm

Good Friday Service.....4:00pm

(No Mass)

Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)

April 19

Mass.....8:00pm

(No 5:00pm Mass)

Easter Sunday - April 20

Regular Mass Schedules

7:30am and 10:00am

FISH FRY!

Every Friday During Lent
March 7-April 18

11:00am – 6:00pm

Call (713) 731-2725 to place your order.

FISH DINNERS

(Catfish/Trout).....\$20.00

Extra Side Orders.....\$2.00

Cake.....\$1.00

Drinks.....\$1.00



DONATIONS ARE NEEDED
GREEN BEANS (gallon size)
WHOLE KERNAL CORN (gallon size)
CAKES (a day or two prior)

Monetary Donations are Welcome

We will do the shopping for you.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, March 1st and Sunday, March 2nd was **504** and the 7:30am Sunday Mass Livestream received **55** views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come worship with us in the church.

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 give God the “first fruits” of our gifts – our first and best time in prayer, charitable works in ministry participation and financial support of our parish mission and community outreach. “I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given to me.” – Deuteronomy 26:10 This line from the Old Testament offers two challenges. First, do you give to God from your “first fruits” - the first and best that you have to offer? Or do you give from what you have leftover? Second, do you realize that everything you have and that everything you are has been given to you by God? We aren’t owners of anything, we are merely stewards of God’s gifts. Pray for a grateful and generous heart, every day, in all circumstances.



To **Cry Out with Joy to the Lord!** is to recognize and thank Him for His abundant gifts. This joy springs from our grateful hearts and reminds us to pause and appreciate God’s countless blessings – even the small, everyday miracles that reflect His love for us. As we cultivate gratitude, we create space for even greater joy in our lives. Please consider making your gift in the parish, or online at www.archgh.org/dsf, and join our mission to be Christ’s hands and heart in our community.

SCAN HERE TO GIVE



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT(c)

March 9, 2025

"When the devil had finished every temptation, he departed from Him [Jesus] for a time."
 Luke 4:13

Powerful lessons learned; when Jesus was tempted

If the devil was **bold enough to tempt Jesus**, the Son of God (Luke 4:1-13); he doesn't give a second thought about tempting us. As followers of Christ, we will **encounter** temptations. Jesus teaches us **important lessons**, as He is being tempted by the devil.

The devil is real. He is not a figment of your imagination. Jesus was not talking to thin air but to a being. I am amazed at the amount of Christians who do not believe that the devil exists. Jesus held a conversation and responded to the devil; **He was teaching us that the devil is real.** In the book *On Heaven and Earth*, **Pope Francis said**, *"I believe that the devil exists"* and *"his greatest achievement in these times has been to make us believe he doesn't exist."* In a morning homily on Oct. 30, 2014, Pope Francis said that the Christian life is a **constant battle against the devil**. *"The devil is not tossing flowers at us, but flaming arrows"* aimed to kill the Pope said. If we don't believe that the devil exists; we have already lost the battle against him.

Expect to be attacked. As followers of Christ, we are **not exempt from temptation and the attacks** of the devil. We are warned to be **"vigilant"** (be on careful watch) for the **"devil"** who *"is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour"* 1 Peter 5:8. After the third temptation; the devil **temporarily left** Jesus for a more opportune and favorable time (Luke 4:13). Jesus had to be alert for other attacks from the devil. Therefore, **we shouldn't be caught by surprise**, when we are tempted. Someone may be unkind and hateful, and you may be **tempted** to hold a grudge or try to get revenge. There is a warning in the sport of Boxing: **Never drop your guard!**

Learn how to recognize the devil. The devil will not come to you with a **pitchfork and horns**. We can't go on how he looks, because he *"masquerades as an angel of light"* (2 Cor. 11:14), so he can deceive people. **Men**, the devil may come to you wearing pumps, a short dress, and a body measurement of 36-24-36. **Ladies**, the devil may come to you with big biceps and a smooth conversation. Jesus teaches us how to recognize

the devil: **anybody who tries to get you to go against the Scriptures, is the devil.** It could be your closest friend, a co-worker, or a neighbor. The devil wanted Jesus to worship him (Luke 4:6-7) which was **contrary** to the Scriptures.

Jesus told the devil, *"It is written: you shall worship the Lord, your God, and Him alone shall you serve."*

Christians **shouldn't** place anyone **before** God.

Believers need the Armor of God as St. Paul called it in Ephesians 6.

Below is an illustration of two Christians; one is **not prepared** to meet the demonic and wicked challenges of the world, and the other is

ready. The water in the pitcher represents the cares,

deceitfulness, and

lust of the world

Jesus warned about

in Mark 4:19. The

peeled **orange**

represents the

Christian that is

deceived by the

devil, rarely

prays, doesn't

forgive, chases material things, and God is **not** first in

their life. When placed in the water, the peeled orange

sinks to the bottom; which signifies a Christian

overcome and defeated by the world. The **unpeeled**

orange is the Christian covered with the Armor of

God. They love Christ and their neighbor; they pray

and read the Scriptures daily, they may have some

Bible verses memorized, and they are in a continuous

pursuit to be righteous. They can **stay afloat** against

the tactics of the devil (Eph. 6:11). Believers must

diligently work to keep the devil from having an

opportunity or advantage in their lives and not let the

situations of this world **drown them**. Even if I push

the unpeeled orange down in the water, it will rise

back to the top! *"The just fall seven times, [but] they*

rise again" (Prov. 24:16).



◁▷ Dcn. Jenkins



JOIN ME FOR AN **EDUCATIONAL EVENT!**

Saturday March 15, 2025 10am to Noon

**Stop by and find out how to use your Medicare Plan benefits
Ask Questions**

**Come check out what's happening in your community
Refreshments will be served**

**Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church
Harris Center Auditorium
4600 Reed Rd. Houston, TX 77051**

Hosted by:

Parish Health Ministry

KPC Council and Court #138

This event is for educational purposes and no plan-specific benefits or details will be shared. Not affiliated with or endorsed by the Government or Federal Medicare Program.

For accommodation of persons with special needs at this meeting, call 832-594-5255 (Gwen Reed Lamothe) Mon-Fri 10am-5pm.

Each time Jesus was tempted He remembered God's Word. So He did not do as He was tempted.

Draw  around the Scripture Jesus remembers.

Worship the Lord!
your God and
serve Him only.

One does not live
by bread alone.

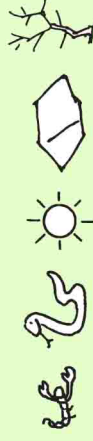
Do not put
the Lord your
God to the test.

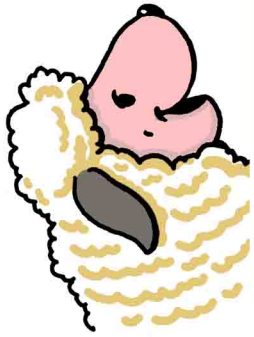


The Temptations of Jesus

For 40 days, Jesus was in the desert.
He ate nothing and was tempted.

Find these items
in the picture below.



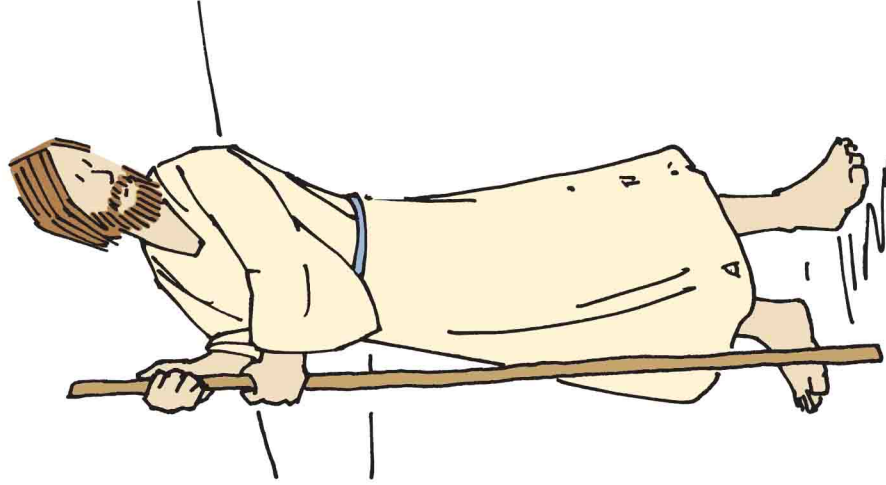


The devil quit tempting Jesus that day, but planned to return and tempt Him again.

Supply the first letter of each possible time to find when the devil planned to tempt Jesus again.

at an ...

_____ften
_____eriodically
_____erpetually
_____ccasionally
_____outinely
_____omorrow
_____sually
_____ever
_____ventually
_____oday
_____mmediately
_____onthly
_____ternally



Children's Worship Bulletin™



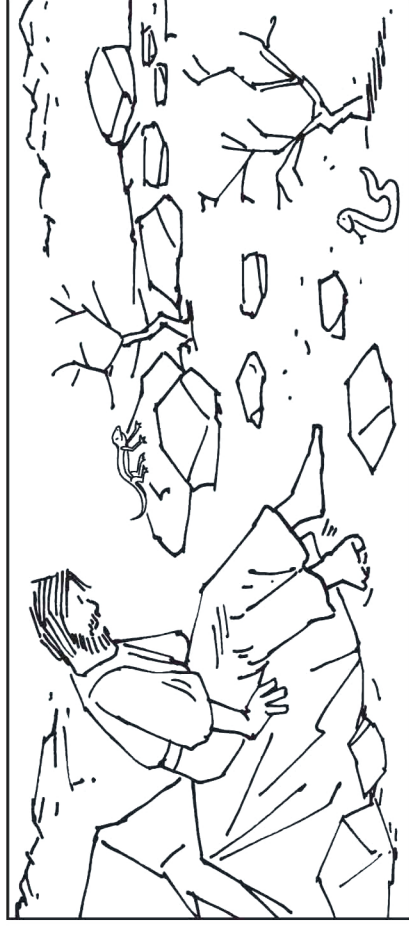
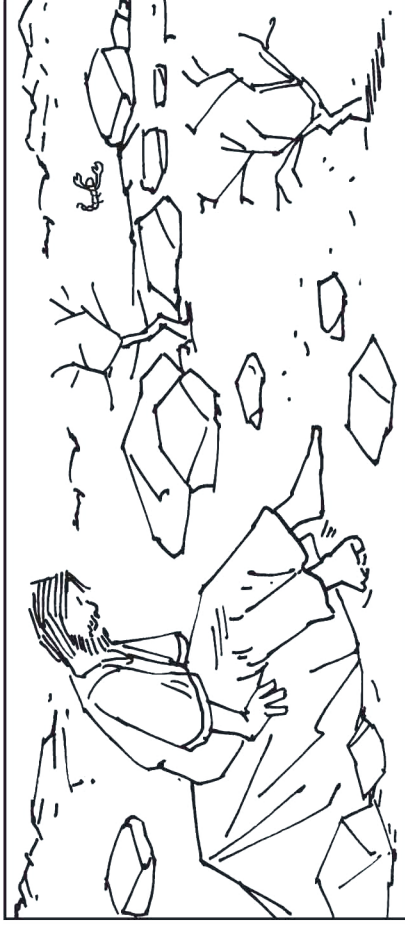
Ages 7+

March 9, 2025 • Luke 4:1-13

The Temptations of Jesus

For 40 days, Jesus was tempted by the devil in the desert and had nothing to eat.

Find 14 things that are different in the second picture.



Enter your **SECRET CODE** to unlock games @ games.childrensbulletins.com

SECRET CODE

SHTMG1

Place your Ad here!



REGGIE RUSSELL REALTORS

1325 Almeda Genoa, Houston, TX 77047

(713) 434-9999

TWO STEPPIN DJs

Jammin J and T Mike

Music at it's best for
Your Special Occasion

(832) 748-3968 or (713) 410-4214



CONTROLLED MADNESS

"Specializing in Working German Shepherds"

Toren Robinson 713.557.4524 Houston, TX

(832) 985-0258

www.homefueldelivery.com
info@homefueldelivery.com



**GET FUEL DELIVERED RIGHT
AT YOUR DOORSTEPS
STAY SAFE! SAVE TIME! SAVE MONEY!**

MIKON ENERGY

Business!
On The Road!



MABRIE MEMORIAL MORTUARY

Funerals - Memorials - Cremations

We're Here For You

5000 Almeda Rd., Houston, TX 77004

(713) 942-7673, mabriemortuary.com



Herman J.

Mabrie, III, M.D.

Justin Mabrie

Place your Ad here!

EZ MAIL MANAGEMENT

WE OFFER QUALITY
SERVICE AT A
COMPETITIVE PRICE



Services: Direct Mail Consulting,
1st Class Mail, Standard/Non-
Profit Mail, Mail Merge, Folding/
Tabbing/Inserting, Mailing Lists,
Postcards, Political Mail, Bulk
Mailing, Courier Services

**CALL US TODAY
713-780-9804**

ezmailhou@aol.com



RODNEY JACKSON REALTY

Buying | Selling | Leasing | Investing | New Home Construction

"Always Something Different"

cell: 832-878-8556 | office: 713.623.8899



**COLDWELL BANKER
REALTY**



TRENT LANCELIN

Master Barber

13310 Cullen Blvd.
Suite # E
Houston, TX. 77047

*Tuesday Special
\$10.00-All Even*

When it's time for
**Compassion
Integrity
and
Professionalism**
it's time for McCoy and Harrison.



McCoy & Harrison

Funeral Home and Services

A Family Serving Families Since 1925

4918 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Houston, TX 77021

Phone: 713.659.7618
Fax: 713.748.7122

www.mccoyandharrison.com



PATRICIA HEBERT

Independent Travel Advisor

Website:

patriciahebert.inteletravel.com

Contacts:

(409) 223-2372

Email: phebert1947@gmail.com

Let me handle your travel needs!



Higgins Beauty

Salon

3606 Nita St
Houston, TX 77051

Karen Higgins
Owner/Stylist

Appointments Call:
(713) 842-1915



MARY KAY®

Gwendolyn Reed

Independent Beauty Consultant

Dermatologists approved skincare for women, men and
teens. I can help you with your beauty, health and gift needs.

Website: marykay.com/GReed6

greedlamoth2@aol.com

1-832-594-5255

God First, Family Second, Career Third

Ross Mortuary, Inc.

"SERVICE OF DISTINCTION"

(713) 223-8071 or 223-3296

3618 Lyons Avenue
Houston, Texas 77020

FAX Number 223-5934



Dr. Umekei Smith
KPCLA Court #159



Umekei Smith DDS

FAMILY & COSMETIC DENTISTRY

Smile Makeovers • Invisalign • Implants and Dentures • HSA

Flex Spending • Most Insurance Accepted

AARP/Medicare Plans Accepted • 7am Appointments Available

713.662.2535

3264 South Loop West | Houston, TX 77025

New Patient Special \$49 EXAM AND XRAYS

BAKER-JONES CO.

SINCE 1951

Air-Conditioning & Heating

Sales & Service

(License No. TACLA 1008)

(713) 529-3418

Ronald K. Moss - President
Justin Moss - Vice President

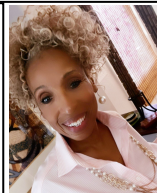


Steven K. Schwartz II, Attorney at Law

Probate & Estate Settlement
Wills & Estate Plans

713-385-0269

www.SchwartzLawHouston.com



SHARON A. ZENON

Notary Public

State Of Texas

Here to meet all your Notary needs; Please
call for appointment. Phone: 713-446-4279

Please support these businesses. They support our parish and community.

For advertising information, contact the Parish Office at (713) 738-2311.