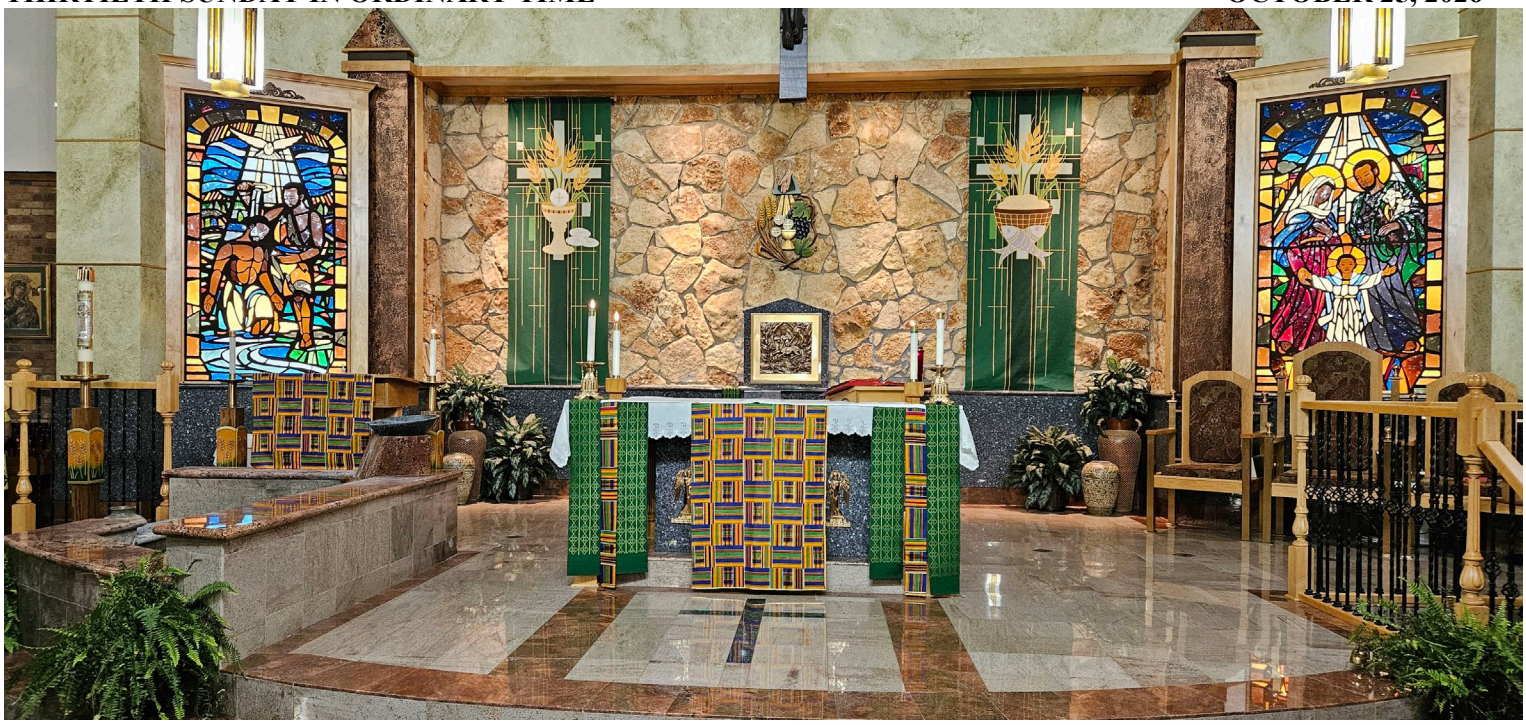
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THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME **OCTOBER 25, 2026**



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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:
Very Rev. Michael Thompson, SSJ

PAROCHIAL VICAR:
Rev. Alexander Lema, 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: 11:30a.m.

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

GIVE without Cash Or Check
TEXT-TO-GIVE
Text $ amount to 281-949-7600

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT 10/24/2026 5:00PM
Sharon Ward (L) – The Goodwin Family

SUN 10/25/2026 7:30AM
Ezzard Sam (D) – Sam Family

SUN 10/25/2026 10:00AM
Alberto R. & Rafaela E. Baines (D)
Angelica Baines

TUE 10/27/2026 7:00AM
Ben Williams, Jr. (D)
Red Simpson & Family

WED 10/28/2026 7:00AM
Vivian Willis (D) – Annette Willis

THUR 10/29/2026 7:00AM
Marcelle Prevost (D) – Jeanette Steptoe

FRI 10/30/2026 7:00AM
Barbara Johnson (L)
The Johnson Family

SAT 10/31/2026 5:00PM
Edward Ray Chavis, Jr. (D)
The Edward Ray Chavis Family



Blessing of the Graves will take place at Paradise South and Houston Memorial Gardens on **Sunday, November 1st** at **1:00p.m**. Please use your ***All Souls Day Envelopes*** (**November 2nd**) to remember your loved ones who are deceased. These envelopes will remain on the Altar throughout the month of November.



Thank you to the ***Sisters for Christian Community*** who met in Houston and chose to celebrate Mass with us on Saturday, October 17, 2026. We look forward to having you worship with us again!

Please Pray for...

Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Arthur Baltrip Jr, Vea Barksdale, Adrienne Barnes, Clara Barras, Monica Bass, Hattie Blackmon, Ivy Bobb, Hazel S. Brown, Tommy Burton, Jimmy Byas, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Marlene Davis, Dalton & Julia Dean, Wanda & Joe Dixon, Michael Dozier, Mary Duplechain, Victoria Eaglin, Lois Epps, Paul Garrick Jr, E. J. Gary, Valerie Williams Goode, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Lolita Hall, Mary Hamilton, Mason Harrison, Cheryl Henderson, Donald Henderson, Anthony Hicks, Alana Higginbottom, Diane Houston, Al Jackson Jr, Crystal Jackson, Angela Johnson, Dcn Irvin Johnson, Natalie Johnson, Brooke Joseph, Kenneth King Jr, Lydia & Joseph Landry, Serral Landry, JoAnn LaSane, Barbara Laugermann, Elon Lawdins, Hilary & Patricia Ledet, Hazel Lewis, Laurenzia Lewis, Eugene Mallery, Charles Martin, Shannon Martin, Donald May, Diane Miles, Cookie Mooring, Debbie Morris, Yusuf Muwwakkil, Angela Pena, Deborah Peron, Cynethia Pichon, Margie Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley, Catherine Pierre, Michael Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Melody Ratcliff, Susan Rawls, Effie Rems, Elise Richmond, John & Christine Roberts, Wilson Robertson, Louis Robinson, Oliver Rose, Brian Russell, Very Rev. Michael K. Saah-Buckman, SSJ, Kerry Samuels, Kevin Simon, Joyce Smith, Joyce Stagg, Jeffery Steptoe, Walter Strickland, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedi Swanks, Erma Taylor, Melvin Thomas, Linda Turner, Deshun Vital, Gemma Walcott, Patricia Williams, Patricia Wiltz, Terrell Wilson, Janice Woods, Alberta Zenon and all the sick and shut-in in our parish family.

Lord, we pray for all our military service members who put their own lives on the line to protect our families and country.
Army: Sade Beck, Jacc Blanks, 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, Mason Guidry, 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

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



We are reminded in today's Gospel of the two commandments that Jesus identifies as the greatest. Above every other law, order, or command, we are called to do two things: love God and love our neighbor. The first reading gives practical applications of this command. They reflect an era from many centuries ago, but we can still appreciate them today. May our love for God and neighbor grow and flourish in our hearts, our souls, and our minds, motivating us to show that love here and out in the world.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday – October 25
Ex 22:20-26
Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51
1 Thes 1:5-10
Mt 22:34-40

Monday – October 26
Eph 4:32—5:8
Ps 1:1-4, 6
Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday – October 27
Eph 5:21-33
Ps 128:1-5
Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday – October 28
Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles
Eph 2:19-22
Ps 19:2-5
Lk 6:12-16

Thursday – October 29
Eph 6:10-20
Ps 144:1-2, 9-10
Lk 13:31-35

Friday – October 30
Phil 1:1-11
Ps 111:1-6
Lk 14:1-6

Saturday October 31
Phil 1:18-26
Ps 42:2-3, 5
Lk 14:1, 7-11

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

2026-2027 CCE CLASSES

2026-2027 CCE Registration will be accepted in the CCE Office as follows:

Monday - 6:00pm to 8:00pm
Saturday - 9:30am to 11:30am

A Late Fee of $15 will be applied after December 7, 2026.

Classes are as follows:

October 26…..…….....6:00pm

6th – 10th CCE CLASSES

October 31…..…….9:30am

PreK – 5th CCE CLASSES

October 31...……11:00am

TRUNK OR TREAT!!!

November 2.……..…..6:00pm

6th – 10th CCE CLASSES

November 7.……..….9:30am

PreK – 5th CCE CLASSES

2026-2027 OCIA CLASSES

OCIA Classes are every Thursday at **6:00pm**. The Registration Form can be found on the Parish Website: www.sfxhouston.com



DISCIPLE MAKER INDEX

The Disciple Maker Index Survey is Open! Our parish is on a journey to know, love, and serve Christ as a parish community. Together we must embrace Christ's vision for missionary discipleship so our parish can thrive and be a place for others to grow together in faith. The very first step in this process involves **assessing our greatest strengths and opportunities**, and that is where the **Disciple Maker Index (DMI)** comes in! The DMI is an important survey tool that invites you to reflect on your discipleship journey.

Go to the following link to take the DMI survey today:

www.survey.catholicleaders.org/d/d03494

- Your input helps strengthen our parish
- Results help leadership prepare for the future
- A report of the findings will be shared with you

If you prefer a paper-copy, you may pick up your survey in the Lobby of the Church and the Harris Center. To submit the completed paper survey, please drop off in the Mail Drop. We are blessed in so many ways.

Please continue to pray for this intention and for the growth and protection of our parish.

2027 MASS INTENTION REQUESTS

Mass Intention Request Forms for 2027 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.

Online Mass Intention Requests will also be available at the following link: https://web4ucorp.com/massintentions/sfxhouston

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



Shelia Robinson Boone passed away on October 16, 2026, at the age of 65 yrs. A Funeral Mass is scheduled for October 31st at 10:00am, Viewing begins at 8:45am. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

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.

Stewardship Reflection

That we recognize everything we have and everything we are, is a gift from God. "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." – Matthew 22:37 Do you put other "gods" before God? Is your love of money, power, status, comfort or some personal possession greater than your love for God? Do you recognize that everything you have and that everything you are, is a gift from God? Putting God first in everything helps keep us from becoming a slave to our possessions and to our pride.

IN THE ONE, WE ARE ONE
IN ILLO UNO UNUM

DSF SCAN HERE TO MAKE A GIFT

As of October 20, 2026:
Goal - $79,872.00
Paid - $23,927.00
Owed - $55,945.00
Donors - 94

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, October 17th and Sunday, October 18th was **434**. The 7:30am Livestream received **82** views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream or bring a friend to come and worship with us in the church.



REFLECTIONS

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Cycle A)

LOVE IS THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

The goal of the Christian life is to be close to God on earth through holiness of life, and to one day see him face to face in heaven. We sometimes adopt many religious practices to help us attain our Christian goal, like daily rosary devotion, Eucharistic adoration, daily masses, and pilgrimages, among other things. As important as these are, Jesus tells us in the Gospel that all our devotion must be hinged on the commandment of love. In essence, there is no holiness of life and no heaven for us without love.

In all our years of religious instruction, there is no doubt that we come across many laws or commandments. But no religious law has solid foundation if it is not rooted in love for God. Love for God comes from the realization of his goodness to us; he loved us and sent his son to die for us even while we were still sinners (Cf. Romans 5:8). Our proper response to God's great generosity and kindness towards us is to love him as well, as we learn from scripture: "for your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise, I will bless you all the days of my life, in your name I will lift up my hands" (Psalm 63:4-5).

Our love for God has an important component, which is love for neighbor, they are not mutually exclusive but must always go together. Loving God is not an abstract idea, it is shown in practical ways by loving our neighbors. It is a truth of scripture that we hear on the lips of Jesus himself: "whatever you did for the least of these brethren of mine, you did for me" (Matthew 25:31-42). St. John also tells us that it is impossible to love God without loving our neighbors: "If anyone says, 'I love God,' but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen"

There is, however, one important question that we need to answer, and it is the question of who our neighbor is. We sometimes limit the extent of our love to family and friends, and though there are moments when it might be difficult to love even family members and friends, we do not mind trying because of the bond we share with them. But in the story of the Good Samaritan, Jesus extends the possibility of our love to embrace anyone, anywhere who needs love. He further challenges us to extend that love to even our enemies. The principle of this love is that we are called to love as God loves, since God is not selective in his love" But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust" (Matthew 5:44-45).

Finally, we often fall into the trap of waiting for great moments to show someone we love them, during birthdays, graduations or anniversary. But love can also be as simple as listening, holding someone's hand through difficult moments, a hug, a phone call to check on someone, a positive word of affirmation or a prayer for someone facing a challenge. Love should not be an action expressed occasionally but a daily expression of our Christian discipleship in obedience to Jesus.

Rev. Alexander Lema, SSJ

Knights of Peter Claver & Ladies Auxiliary

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Good Old Homecook GUMBO

COST $15.00

ALL MASSES

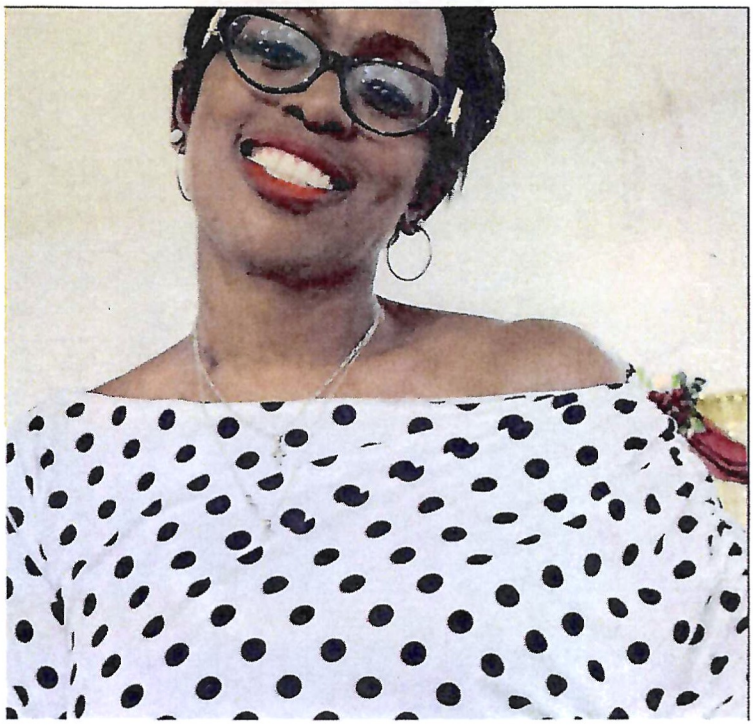
October 31, 2026 and November 01, 2026



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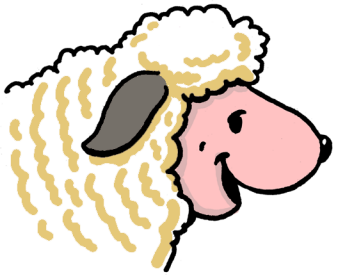
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Want to be a community sponsor or donate funds, food, or Thanksgiving supplies?

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While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them some questions of His own.

Use the graph code to write in the missing letters.

	K	L	A	I	P
	D	E	Q	S	U
	R	T	Z	N	O
			?		

They were so

_ _ _ _ _ _ _

no one

_ _ _ _ _ to _ _ _

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Him any more

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

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Children's Worship Bulletin™

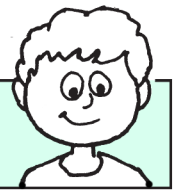
Ages 7+

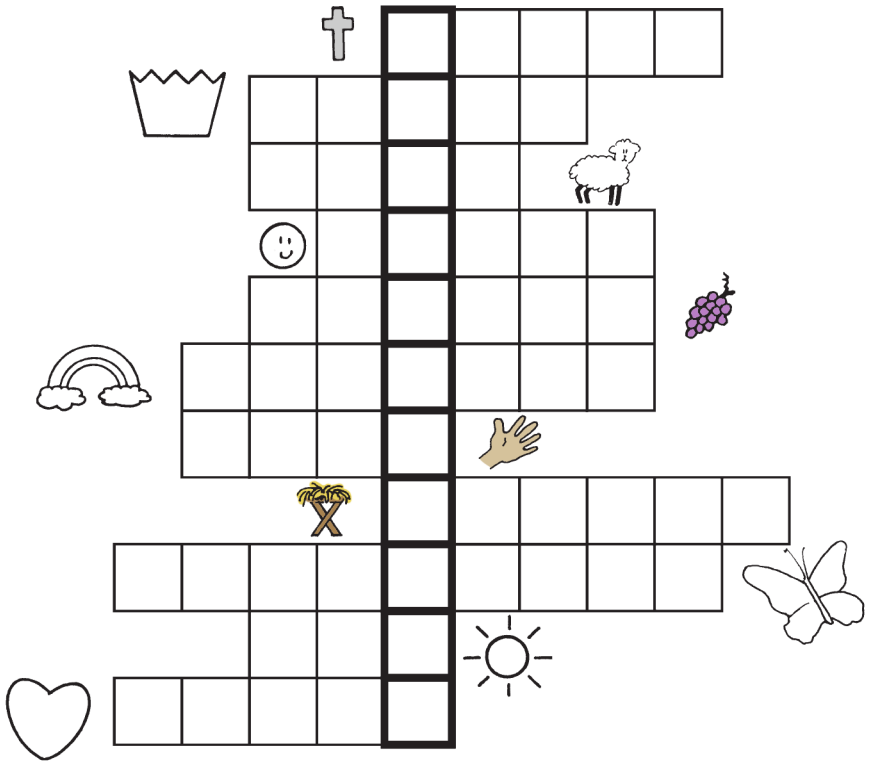
October 25, 2026 • Matthew 22:34-46

The Greatest Commandment



Find a word that means "a law of God."
Write the name of each picture in the boxes.
The darker boxes will spell the answer.



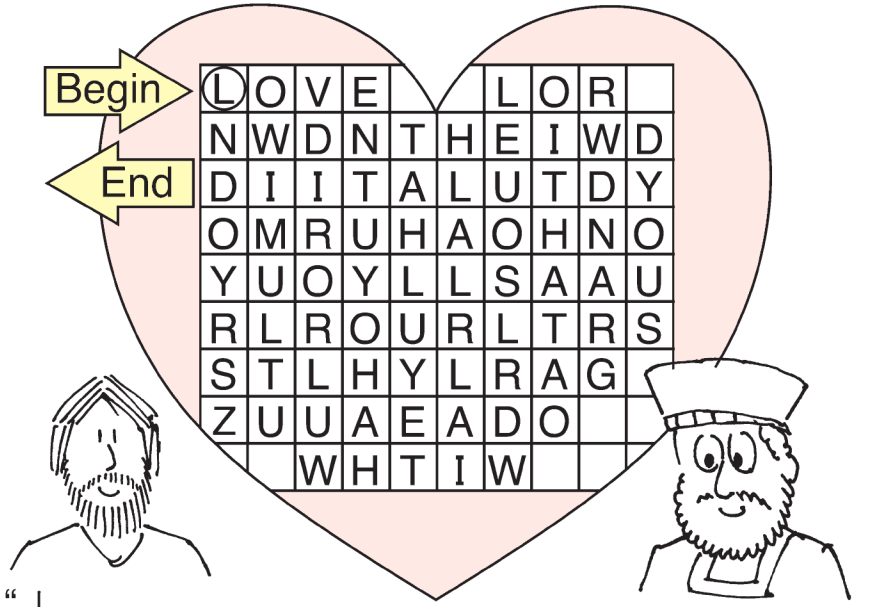


Enter your **SECRET CODE** to unlock games @ **games.childrensbulletins.com**

SECRET CODE
KQR218

A Pharisee asked Jesus,“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

Follow the arrows through the letters to find Jesus’ answer.



“ L _ _ _

Then Jesus asked them some questions of His own.

Trace the letters to complete the sentence.

But they were so hard to

answer

that no one

asked

Him any more

questions.



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Children's Worship Bulletin™

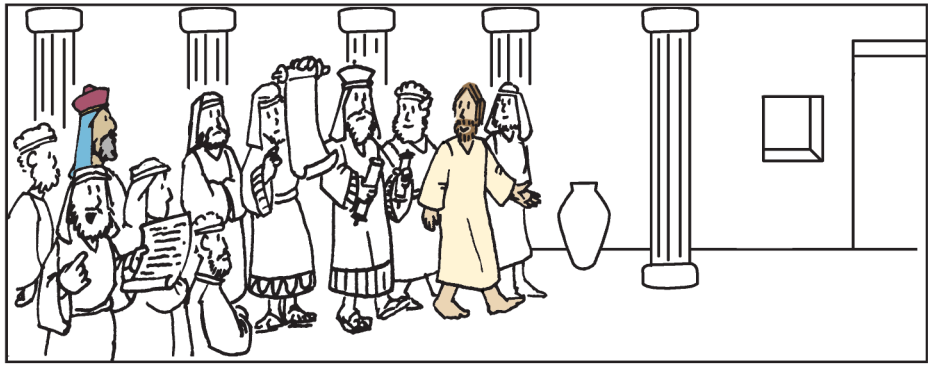
Ages 3+ **October 25, 2026 • Matthew 22:34-46**

The Greatest Commandment

Some leaders asked Jesus,
"Which is the greatest commandment?"

Circle 7 differences in the 2nd picture.



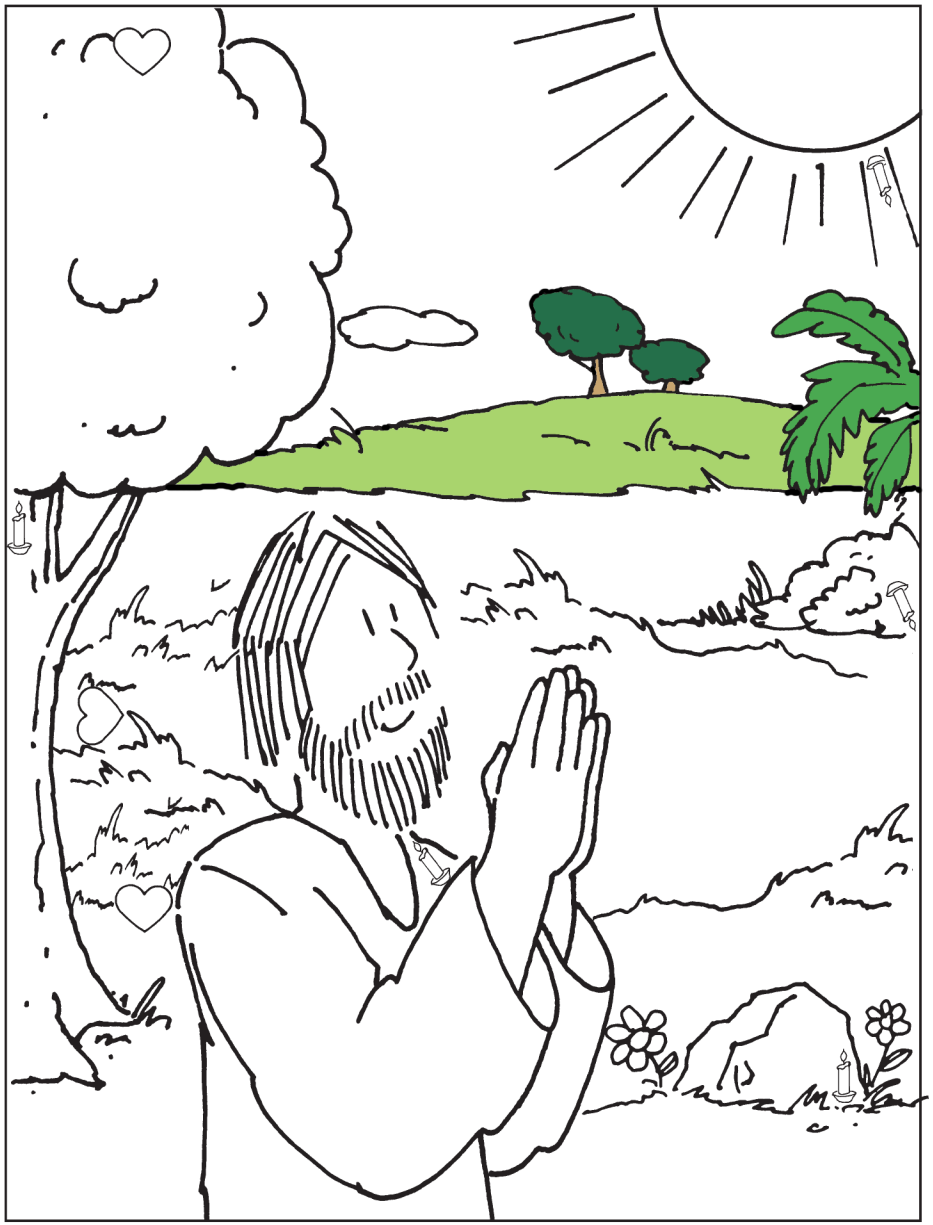


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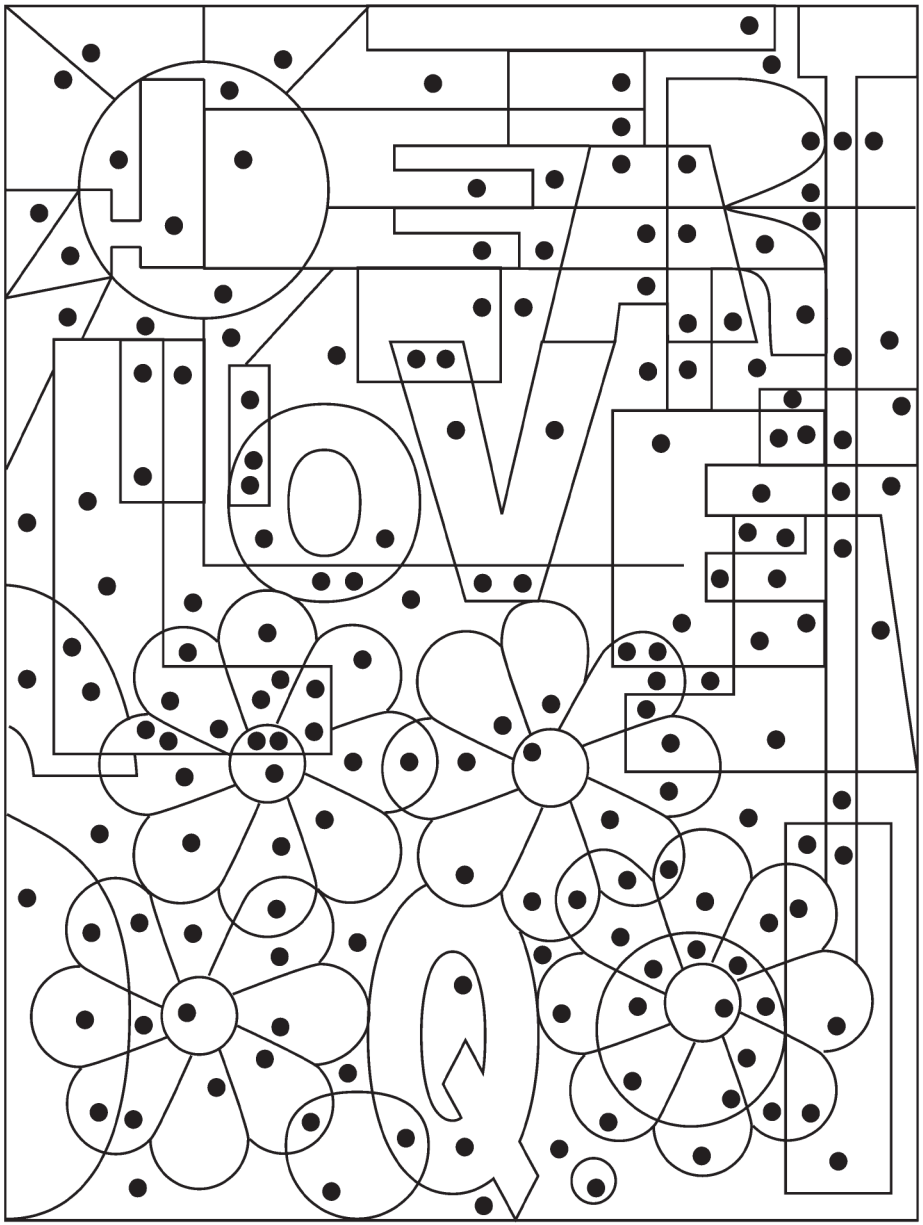
Jesus said the greatest commandment is
"Love God with all your heart."

Count the 🕯's. 4 or 5? Count the ♡'s. 3 or 4?



The 2nd most important commandment
is "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Shade in the spaces with 2 ●'s.





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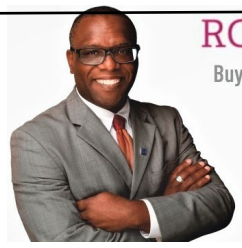
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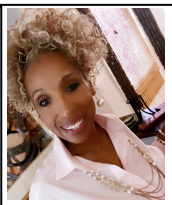
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