

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

Staffed by the Josephites since 1952

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 5, 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/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	10/04/2025	5:00PM
	<i>People of the Parish</i>	
SUN	10/05/2025	7:30AM
	<i>Edward Ray Chavis, Jr (D)</i>	
	<i>The Edward Ray Chavis Family</i>	
SUN	10/05/2025	10:00AM
	<i>Kristina M. Chaney (D)</i>	
	<i>Family and Friends</i>	
TUE	10/07/2025	7:00AM
	<i>Anna Mai, Joseph Nguyen, Maria Tran</i>	
	<i>and All Souls-Peace for All Families</i>	
	<i>Kieunhi Nguyen</i>	
WED	10/08/2025	7:00AM
	<i>James & Justine Reaux (D)</i>	
	<i>Nieces & Nephews</i>	
THUR	10/09/2025	7:00AM
	<i>Tristan Davis (D) – Marlene Davis</i>	
FRI	10/10/2025	7:00AM
	<i>The Burris Family (L)</i>	
	<i>Stephanie Goodwin</i>	
SAT	10/11/2025	5:00PM
	<i>Deacon Albert Henry (D) – The Family</i>	



Mary Louise Johnson passed away on September 19, 2025 at the age of 86 yrs. A Funeral Mass was held on October 4th. *Eternal rest grant unto her soul, O Lord, and perpetual light shine upon her.*

Robert E. Ellis passed away on September 30, 2025 at the age of 86 yrs. A Funeral Mass is scheduled for October 17th at 10:00am. Viewing begins at 8:45am. *Eternal rest grant unto his soul, O Lord, and perpetual light shine upon him.*

**Today is "Respect Life Sunday!"**

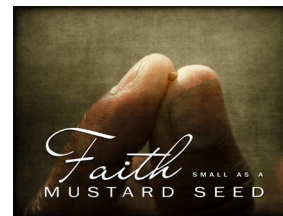
Each October, the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates **Respect Life Month**, and the first Sunday of October is designated as Respect Life Sunday. We consider more deeply why *every* human life is valuable and reflect on how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death. Please remember the many lives unjustly lost, whether through abortion, the death penalty, murder, or any other ungodly manner.



Donald Abraham, Akaycia Addison, Azielee & Nathan Addison IV, Emmoree Addison, Kayne Addison, Lauren Addison, Zaneta Addison, Mary Jane Albert, Joseph Alcendor, Clara Barras, Mary Becher, Ivy Bobb, Hazel S. Brown, Tommy Burton, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Thelma Carmouche, Sterling Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Dalton & Julia Dean, Joseph Dixon, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Lawrence Frank, Paul Garrick Jr, Anthony Gobert, Valerie Williams Goode, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, 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, Michael LaMothe, 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-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The prophet Habakkuk cries out to God in frustration, upset that nothing is being done about the discord and violence in Judah. "Patience," God answers. The apostles cry out to Jesus, complaining their faith isn't strong enough. "You have plenty," Jesus assures them. May we not be too timid to cry out to God in our need, may we listen for God's reassuring voice, and, as we sing in the psalm, may we harden not our hearts.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK**■ Sunday – October 5**

The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Hb 1:2-3, 2:2-4

Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14

Lk 17:5-10 (141)

■ □ □ Monday – October 6

Saint Bruno, Priest; Blessed Marie

Rose Durocher, Virgin

Jonah 1:1-2:2, 11

Jonah 2:3, 4, 5, 8

Lk 10:25-37

□ Tuesday – October 7

Our Lady of the Rosary

Jonah 3:1-10

Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 7-8

Lk 10:38-42

■ Wednesday – October 8

Jonah 4:1-11

Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10

Lk 11:4

■ ■ □ Thursday – October 9

Saint Denis, Bishop, and Companion,

Martyrs, Saint John Leonardi, Priest

Malachi 3:13-20

Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6

Lk 11:5-13

■ Friday October 10

Joel 1:13-15; 2:1-2

Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9

Lk 11:15-26

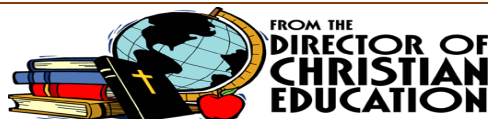
■ □ □ Saturday October 11

Saint John XXIII, Pope; BVM

Joel 4z:12-21

Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12

Lk 11:28



October 6.....6:00pm
6th – 10th CCE CLASSES
 October 11.....9:30am
PreK – 5th CCE CLASSES
 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



The Journey to Second Chance Ministry Open Door Day will provide outreach

and support to the formerly incarcerated and their families on Wednesday, **October 8th**, from **11:00am to 2:00pm** in the Harris Center Auditorium. Job placement interviews, clothing & shoes, counseling, partner outreach, and notary services will be provided. In addition, TEXAS DPS Identification and Driver License Services & Financial Support in obtaining & completing the required documentation will be available to help you on your JOURNEY TO SECOND CHANCE.



The **Sunnyside Night Out Against Crime** event in 2025 is scheduled for **October 7th**, from **5:00pm to 9:00pm** in the St. Francis Xavier Parish Parking Lot. This event is part of the National Night Out campaign, which aims to heighten crime prevention awareness, increase neighborhood support in anti-crime efforts, and unite communities. It provides residents an opportunity learn about crime prevention, and celebrate their community. Food vendors and entertainment are provided. Come out and join us for a night of community building with family, friends and neighbors as we stand united against crime.

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 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 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**.



**SISTERS IN THE SPIRIT
OF HOUSTON**

Community Outreach

SISTERS * TALK * LIVE

Breast Cancer Awareness

Wednesday - October 8, 2025

Our Lady Star of the Sea Church

1401 Fidelity St. – Houston, TX 77029

Meet & Greet: 5pm – 6pm in Parish Hall

Panel Discussion and Q & A: 6pm

Please Register - Free Event

Register online at:

<https://olsoshouston.tx.flocknote.com/signup/221744>

ATTENDANCE

In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, September 27th and Sunday, September 28th was **452**. The 7:30am Livestream received **66** views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream, or bring a friend to come and 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 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?



LECTORS QUARTERLY MEETING

Lectors will meet on Saturday, **October 11th**, at **11:00am** in the Church.

Liturgical Ministry Formation Day

Saturday, October 11, 2025

8:30am - 3:30pm

**St. Dominic Chancery
2403 Holcombe Blvd**

Offering formation sessions in all liturgical ministries:

- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Preparing the Lector
- Hospitality Ministry
- Formation for Altar Server Coordinator
- Liturgical Art & Environment
- Ministers to the Sick & Homebound
- Sacristan Ministry

Registration - \$30 until spots are filled
 Walk-in Registration - \$30 as space is available

Lunch will be provided

Register at: www.archgh.org/FallLMFD



Some reflections inspired by online copyrighted

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

We can all identify with the request of the disciples to Jesus in today's gospel reading, 'Increase our faith.' From time to time, we can feel that our faith is weak and fragile.

In the imagery of the second reading, we sometimes feel that our faith is like a flame that has died back to the embers. In that reading, Paul calls on Timothy to stir into a flame the gift that God gave him, the gift of faith.

The trials and tribulations of life can sometimes challenge our faith. When life is a struggle, we wonder where God is. We might find ourselves angry with God, like the prophet Habakkuk in the first reading, who asks, 'How long, Lord, am I to cry for help while you will not listen, to cry "Oppression" in your ear and you will not save?' He felt abandoned by God as he struggled to deal with all that was coming at him. Yet, he was very much a person of faith.

Disappointment with God, anger at God, is not necessarily a sign that our faith has grown weak. If we can trust God with our anger towards him, it is a sign of faith. Habakkuk's trusting faith allowed him to have a very honest conversation with God. God values our honesty in prayer.

Very often we have more faith than we think we have. When we look at our faith, we see how weak it is. Perhaps when the Lord looks at our faith, he sees how strong it is. When the disciples turned to Jesus and said, 'Increase our faith,' Jesus went on to speak to them about the power of faith that is only the size of a mustard seed, which was considered the smallest seed at the time. It is as if Jesus was saying to his disciples, 'Do not be worried about the size of your faith.'

Rather, be grateful for whatever faith you have, even if it is only the size of a mustard seed.'

Jesus is saying to us today, that when it comes to our relationship with him, he is the primary partner. He is always relating strongly to us, and even if our response to him, our faith, seems very weak and frail to us, he is holding on to us firmly, drawing us powerfully to himself. Even a tiny opening in our hearts is enough for the Lord to work with. At the end of the day, faith is not primarily a human achievement, something we do.

Faith is a gift of God, in the words of the second reading. The Lord is always offering us this gift of faith, the gift of responding to his loving initiative towards us. Even when we are very reluctant to receive this gift, the Lord continues to offer it. When we do receive this gift, as all of us who are present here today have done, then the Lord will do everything possible to fan our faith into a living flame.

In the life of faith, we do not have to rely on ourselves. Again, in the words of the second reading, we can rely on the power of God. If ever we feel that our faith is weak, we can simply come before the Lord, like the disciples in the gospel reading, and pray, 'Lord, increase my faith.' That prayer in itself is a wonderful act of faith, and it is a prayer that will certainly not go unanswered by the Lord.

In today's gospel reading, Jesus assures us that faith, even if it is only the size of a mustard seed, can accomplish wonders. The image of the uprooting of a mulberry tree and replanting it in the sea can stand for anything that seems impossible from a merely human perspective. Through our mustard seed of faith, the Lord can carry out immeasurably more than all we could ask or imagine, in the words of Saint Paul.

True faith is unselfish. Living faith is unselfish faith. It seeks to give rather than receive. It seeks to obey God, not "me, myself and I," Unselfish faith is humble, not full of pride. It admits that "We are worthless slaves; if we have done only what we ought to have done." [Lk. 17:10]

As we reflect upon these words, let us review what kind of faith that we have. Let us ask ourselves, "Do I have unselfish faith that will draw me to the loving heart of Jesus?" Or, "Do I have a faith that places a barrier between Jesus and myself?" If there is a barrier that prevents you from growing in the love of Jesus, ask Jesus to remove it so you may blossom in your faith. As we continue with the celebration of the Holy Mass, let us remember those who are in need of the gift of faith so that they too may grow in the love of Jesus.

Vy. Rev. Michael L. Thompson, SSJ

AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA



ROSARY RALLY

October 11, 2025

10:00am

ALL MINISTRIES ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE. ROSARY WILL BE LEAD BY THE ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHRISTIAN WOMEN ORGANIZATION AND ASSISTED BY THE KPC FAMILY UNIT 138, CCE STUDENTS, AND OTHER MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH AND COMMUNITY.

**PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE CHURCH LOBBY IF
YOU PLAN TO PARTICIPATE!**

**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PRAYER GARDEN
4600 Reed Rd Houston, TX 77051
(713) 738-2311**

OCTOBER Is BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



2025

Breast Cancer Campaign

St. Francis Xavier Church is partnering with the S.T.E.A.M. Unit to donate Hydration Gift Packs to patients, thrivers and survivors of Breast Cancer in the Sunnyside and South Park Communities. You can support by:

- ♦ Donating \$40 per hydration gift package
- ♦ Sign up current patients or survivors of breast cancer via the sign up sheet at St. Francis Xavier Church (in vestibule) during the month of October
- ♦ Hydration Packs will be donated to women and men survivors/patients. Distribution early November.

We appreciate your support in our 4th Year of this needed Community Outreach Project!

*Corlis Taylor Simmons
Mary Kay Sales Director*

*Gwendolyn Reed Lamothe
Mary Kay Consultant*



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