

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

(ARCHDIOCESE OF GALVESTON-HOUSTON)

Staffed by the Josephites since 1952

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 22, 2026



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Parish Hall: 713.731.2725 SVdP Conference: 713.731.2716
WEB Address: <http://www.sfxhouston.com>
E-MAIL: stfranchishou@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

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

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

GIVE without Cash or Check 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	03/21/2026	5:00PM
<i>People of the Parish</i>		
SUN	03/22/2026	7:30AM
<i>Levan Ledet (D) - Dolores Dupre Ledet</i>		
SUN	03/22/2026	10:00AM
<i>Phyllis Moore (D)</i> SFX CCE Department		
TUE	03/24/2026	7:00AM
<i>Marie Riggs (D) – Helen Brown</i>		
WED	03/25/2026	7:00AM
<i>Ann Linton (D) – Christine Scott</i>		
THUR	03/26/2026	7:00AM
<i>Patrick Prejean (L) – Mary Provost</i>		
FRI	03/27/2026	7:00AM
<i>Special Intention – Wanda F. Johnson</i>		
SAT	03/28/2026	5:00PM
<i>Joseph & Earlene Duplechaine (D)</i> The Duplechaine Family		



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, Dylan Broussard, Tommy Burton, Jimmy Byas, Julius Cadoree, Nancy Calvin, Nathaniel Campbell, Sterling Certenberg, Dalton Cooper Jr, Frank Davis Sr, Rev. Henry Davis SSJ, Marlene Davis, Atrica Dozier, Mary Duplechain, Lois Epps, Paul Garrick Jr, Anthony Gobert, Valerie Williams Goode, Betty Goodwin, Stella Goodwin, Beulah Hadrick, Mary Hamilton, Mason Harrison, Cheryl Henderson, Donald 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, Lester Mose, Carolyn Ollison, Angela Pena, Cynethia Pichon, Margie Pichon, Percy Pichon Sr, Robin Pichon-Mosley, Catherine Pierre, Michael Pierre, Mildred Pierre, Marcelle Prevost, Melody Ratcliff, Susan Rawls, Effie Rems, Elise Richmond, John & Christine Roberts, Wilson Robertson, Louis Robinson, Oliver Rose, Brian Russell, Grace Russell, Very Rev. Michael Saah-Buckman SSJ, Kerry Samuels, Kevin Simon, Joyce Smith, Joyce Stagg, Jeffery Steptoe, Mackenzie Swanks, Kennedi 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.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

From the first reading to the Gospel, new life is promised for those who believe.

Through Ezekiel, God promises the Israelites that one day they will rise from their graves and have God's spirit put in them. Saint Paul proclaims that God will give life to our mortal bodies through the Holy Spirit dwelling in us. Jesus calls Lazarus forth from the tomb, giving new life to his friend after he had been dead four days. May God's word affirm and strengthen our faith in the Lord's power to give new life.



GRANT ULICE SOLOMON, JR.
1961-2026

The Annunciation



A tradition, which has come down from the apostolic ages, tells us that the great mystery of the Incarnation was achieved on the 25th day of March.

It was at the hour of midnight, when the most holy Virgin was alone and absorbed in prayer, that the Archangel Gabriel appeared before her, and asked her, in the name of the blessed Trinity, to consent to become the Mother of God. Let us assist, in spirit, at this wonderful interview between the angel and the Virgin: and, at the same time, let us think of that other interview which took place between Eve and the serpent.

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, 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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- **Sunday – March 22**
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Ez 37:12-14
Ps 130:1-8
Rom 8:8-11
Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 20-27, 33-45
- **Monday – March 23**
Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop
Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41-62
Ps 23:1-6
Jn 8:1-11
- **Tuesday – March 24**
Nm 21:4-9
Ps 102:2-3, 16-21
Jn 8:21-30
- **Wednesday – March 25**
The Annunciation of the Lord
Is 7:10-14; 8-10
Ps 40:7-11
Heb 10:4-10
Lk 1:26-38
- **Thursday – March 26**
Gn 17:3-9
Ps 105:4-9
Jn 8:51-59
- **Friday – March 27**
Jer 20:10-13
Ps 18:2-7
Jn 10:31-42
- **Saturday March 28**
Ez 37:21-28
(Ps) Jer 31:10-12, 13
Jn 11:45-56



March 23.....6:00pm
 6th – 10th CCE CLASSES-Stations of the Cross
 March 28.....9:30am
 PreK – 5th CCE CLASSES-Stations of the Cross
 March 30.....6:00pm
 6th – 10th CCE CLASSES-Stations of the Cross
 April 3.....2:30pm
 Passion Play
 April 4 & April 6
 NO CCE CLASSES-EASTER HOLIDAY

**OCIA CLASSES
 2025-2026**

March 26.....6:00pm
 FINAL CLASS

Lenten
 WORSHIP
 SCHEDULE

Outdoor Stations of the Cross
 (In the Prayer Garden; weather permitting)
 Every Friday during Lent
 5:30pm

Holy Week

Palm Sunday – March 29

Holy Thursday – April 2
 Mass6:00pm
 (No Morning Mass)

Good Friday – April 3
 CCE Passion Play.....2:30pm
 Good Friday Service.....3:30pm
 (No Mass)

**Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)
 April 4**
 Mass.....8:00pm
 (No 5:00pm Mass)

Easter Sunday - April 5
 Regular Mass Schedules
 7:30am and 10:00am

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 open our hearts to see God’s active presence in our daily lives and become “partakers of the divine nature.” “Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?’” John 11:40 Many of us say that we believe in God. We attend Sunday Mass and participate in parish events. But when life gets hard and the pressure is on, when things aren’t going our way, do we really believe? Do we really put our trust in the Lord? When we live a life of gratitude, recognizing all that we have been given, we really do see that God is providing for our needs. Living a grateful and generous life allows us to see God’s active presence in our daily lives and we become “partakers of the divine nature.”

2026 RAFFLE
 Knights of Peter Claver

Knights of Peter Claver – Ladies Auxiliary Council & Court #138

Win Gift Cards - \$11,000.00
TICKETS - \$100.00
1st Place-\$5000.00 2nd Place-\$2000.00
3rd Place-\$1000.00
4th Place thru 9th Place-\$500.00

DRAWING – Saturday, June 28, 2026
 St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church
 Only 250 tickets will be sold

Contact:
 Theresa Chambers (713) 857-2787
 Curtis Jones (713) 417-8341

*Benefiting KPCLA Initiatives
 Need Not be Present to Win*



Pamela Sam passed away on March 9, 2026, at the age of 57 yrs. Pamela is the Daughter of Emily Sam. A Celebration of Life was held at Greater St. Matthew Church on March 21, 2026. *May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

55+ Club
 The last day to accept new members is **March 31st**. Membership dues are only **\$15.00/year**. Contact Herbert “Red” Archer @ (281) 536-8912.

ATTENDANCE
 In-person Mass attendance on Saturday, March 14th and Sunday, March 15th was **486**. The Sunday Livestream received **51** views. Please join us via YouTube Livestream or bring a friend to come and worship with us in the church.

Ministry Fair

The St. Francis Xavier Ministry Fair is scheduled for Sunday, **April 19th**, from 9:00am to 1:00pm in the Parish Hall. All Ministry Heads are invited to the Final Planning Meeting on Tuesday, **April 9th**, at 6:00pm in the Harris Center Auditorium. Please plan to attend this very important meeting.



Thank you to the “Sisters in Christ”, **Dorothy Auzenne, Dorothy Scott, Delores Archer, Bertha Lewis & Marie White** for preparing Easter Gift Bags which were delivered to our Sick & Shut-in Parishioners. Your act of kindness is a true Blessing for our parishioners!

IN THE ONE, WE ARE ONE
 IN ILLO UNO UNUM

SCAN HERE TO MAKE A GIFT



Some reflections inspired by online copyrighted commentaries and homilies

Fifth Sunday of Lent (Cycle A)

Today's gospel challenges to be life-givers in a world where the taking of life has become much more common than it used to be. We might reflect today on what the Lord's words in the gospel reading could mean for each of us concretely - 'Take the stone away', 'Unbind him, let him go free'. If the Spirit of God has made his home in us, as Paul states in the second reading, we cannot underestimate our capacity to be life-givers for others. There is some life-giving work that, with the Lord's help, we can do for someone or for some group, and which, if we do not do it, may never get done. The Woman at the well, told the people of the community "I have met a man who told me everything I have done". The man born blind told the people, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes....and I was able to see."

In calling people out of their tombs, the Lord looks to us to help him in this work. When Jesus came to the tomb of Lazarus, he first called on people to 'Take the stone away'. Having called Lazarus forth from his tomb, he then called on those present to 'Unbind him, let him go free'. The Lord involved others in his life-giving work. He looks to us today to be channels of his life-giving presence to others. We have the awesome capacity to give life to others or to take life from them. We are too aware of the growing number of murders in our land. The Life Message that Jesus teaches "Roll away the stone, [unbind him and let him go.](#)" There are so many dark areas in our private lives. We often bind ourselves with chains of addiction to alcohol, drugs, sexual deviations, slander, gossip, envy, prejudices, hatred, and uncontrollable anger, and we bury ourselves in the tombs of despair. Sometimes we are buried in the tomb of selfishness, filled with negative feelings such as worry, fear, resentment, hatred, and guilt. Like the woman at the well in last weekend gospel, we are to shame to face our brothers and sisters at the well. We encounter Jesus and seek the life-giving water of forgiveness he offers. He offered it to the woman at the well. He offered it to the man born blind. And He offers it to you and me.

The raising of Lazarus is not only a great miracle; it is a symbol of that deeper awakening to the fullness of Life that comes with Christian Faith. This transformation is the work of the same Spirit who raised Jesus to the new life of resurrection. That Spirit is already at work in us through Faith and Baptism. Our transformation, which will be completed at our resurrection, has already begun. The Spirit enables us to share in the risen life of Jesus and moves us to live that new life through acts of love, patient endurance, generosity, and self-control. Jesus asks us today to seek his help and that of the community around us to loosen those chains and come out of tombs of our own creation. Is there an area of life where hope is gone? Why not invite Jesus to visit this area? If we want Jesus to visit our dark dungeons of sin, despair and unhappiness, let us ask Jesus during this Holy Mass to bring the light and the power of the Holy Spirit into our private lives and liberate us from our tombs. Are there times when we refuse to let God enter into our hearts, fearing that faithful tithing will endanger our savings? When we receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Jesus will call our name and command, "Come out!"

Jesus calls each of us by name to come out of our graves, our sinfulness, and to help others to do the same.

Lazarus, come out! Mary and Martha, come out!
Curtis and Eugene, come out! Agnes and Shirley, come out!"

This is Good News to someone who is addicted, whether to a chemical substance or to unsavory habits. "Lazarus, come out!"

This is Good News for the person who has lived an empty, meaningless life, "Lazarus, come out!"

This is Good News for the tired, the hurting, the person at his or her wit's end. "Lazarus, come out!"

This is good news for all of us: "Lazarus, come out!"
This can be the beginning of a new life in Christ.

Very Rev. Michael L. Thompson, SSJ



FRIDAY FISH FRY

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

EXTRA SIDE ORDERS.....\$ 3.00

CAKE.....\$ 2.00

DRINKS.....\$ 1.00

ALL DINNERS INCLUDE:

- 3PCS FISH**
- CHOICE OF 2 SIDES: GREEN BEANS, CORN,
POTATO SALAD**
- BREAD, TARTAR SAUCE AND KETCHUP**

*(WILL DELIVER ORDERS OF 10 OR MORE; NEED AT
LEAST 2 HOURS NOTICE)*

EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT

11:00AM – 6:00PM

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC CHURCH

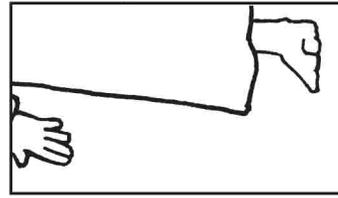
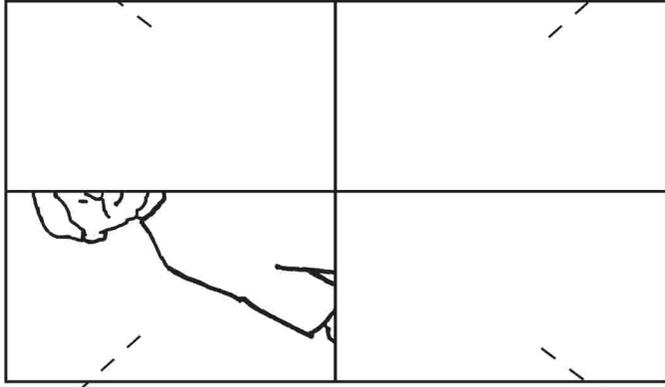
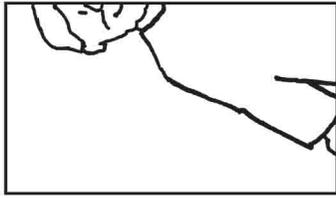
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Jesus called Lazarus out of the tomb.
He was alive!

Copy the rectangles.



Jesus Raises Lazarus From the Dead

Lazarus had died. His sisters were sad.

Count how many  tears.
9 or 10



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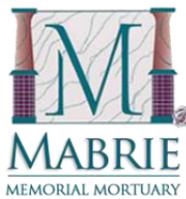
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We encourage you to come by for a tour, reach out for at-need service coordination, or meet with us to develop a pre-need plan.



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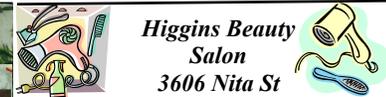
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