

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church

Archdiocese of Galveston – Houston

5102 Dabney St. Houston, TX 77026

Phone 713-672-7773

Email: stfrancisofassisihouston@gmail.com Website: stfrancisofhouston.org



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church



St. Francis of Assisi Parish is served by The Missionary Society of St. Paul of Nigeria

Our Parish Vision

We envision a caring, loving community of men, women and children who possess a genuine Christian concern for one another, a unified family where the members, aware of God's presence in each of them and led by His spirit are able to work, pray and play together; a faith filled community where gospel values are studied, lived, nurtured, shared and celebrated; a community of individuals and groups traveling together on a common faith journey; a community harmoniously working for the kingdom; a community that is active in service and evangelization.

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Marian Chapel

3rd Sunday of Lent, Year C

March 23, 2025



“... ‘Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future.’”

Luke 13:8-9



Stations of the Cross Schedule Fridays @ 6:30 PM

(in person & live streamed)

- March 7 Instrument of Peace Choir and El Shaddai
- March 14 Audio-Visual; Liturgical Movement; Ushers; Environment & Sacred Space
- March 21 Lectors; CCE Teachers & candidates; Stewardship; Associate Missionaries of St. Paul
- March 28 Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist; Sisters In the Spirit
- April 4 Hope, Love, & Joy Seniors; Altar Society; Samaritan Ministry; Hospitality
- April 11 Knights of Peter Claver, Ladies, Jr. Knights & Daughters; Youth Ministry

Living Stations of the Cross & The Lord's Passion
Good Friday, April 18, 2025 @ 4:00 PM

75th Anniversary Ceremony



Traveling Chalice is with the family of Mr. & Mrs. Bradley Lewis, Sr. this week

Let us pray with them



Need information and don't know who to call?
Here is a listing of our Ministry leaders who are always willing to help!

Parish Office - 713-672-7773
Fr. Martin Eke, MSP, Pastor - 713-672-7773
Stephanie White, Parish Secretary - 713-672-7773
Deacon John Goodly - 713-628-9989
Deacon Ignatius Joseph (Retired) - 281-745-3005
Deacon Michael St. Julian (Retired) - 713-256-8657

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass Monday - Saturday 7:00 AM
(Marian Chapel, Teleconference Line & Zoom)

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday Mass	5:00 PM
Sunday Mass	8:00 AM
Sunday Mass	11:00 AM

The link is:
<https://www.facebook.com/1familyonelove/>

Dial In Number

Dial in Number: 425-436-6368 • Access code: 579460#

BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday at 6:00 PM
Dial In Number: 425-436-6368
Access code: 579460#

ROSARY

Monday - Friday at 8:00 PM
Teleconference Line Dial in Number: 425-436-6368
Access Code: 579460#

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84919189256?pwd=Mm5oWlVQMUVzSWlDTEFWR0F4bGF2UT09>

Zoom Dial In Number: 346-248-7799
Meeting ID: 849 1918 9256 / **Pass Code:** 618049

ROSARY & BENEDICTION

Sunday at 10:25 AM
Dial in Number: 425-436-6368 / Access Code: 579460#

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:25 PM to 4:45 PM & by appointment

- Altar Servers**
Ronald Berard
713-299-4024
- Altar Society**
Mary Robertson
832-790-8124
- Associate Missionaries of St. Paul (AMSP)**
Ms. Onari Guidry
713-633-7728
- Audio/Visual**
Bonita Taylor
713-252-2028
- Bazaar Committee**
Carla Lewis 713-534-3927
Mark Davis 713-498-6112
- Coordinator of Religious Education**
Ms. Jamie Thomas
832-236-7316
- Daughters of Divine Love**
832-445-0241
- Disaster Response Committee**
Paul Sloan
281-734-7289
- El Shaddai Ministry**
Joyce Ramos
832-797-0450
- Environment & Sacred Space**
Abel Rodriguez
713-658-5198
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**
Dr. Clarice Campbell
281-919-8563
- Faith Alive Youth Ministry**
Davida Mouton 832-236-5116
Jorri Odom
- Finance Council**
Mrs. Adrian Sloan
281-831-8572
- Hope, Love, & Joy Seniors**
Ella Ledet
713-927-1073
- Hospitality**
Frances Baldwin
713-674-1629
- Knights of Peter Claver Council #231**
Grand Knight John Arceneaux, Jr.
(281) 315-0452
- Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #231**
Grand Lady
Diana Carmon-Jones
713-969-7586
- Knights of Peter Claver Junior Knights**
Charles LaVigne
832-887-4880
- Knights of Peter Claver Junior Daughters**
Dena Lavigne
832-245-1846
- Lectors**
Dorothy Webb
832-567-4742
- Liturgy Committee**
Matt Matthews
832-423-9335
- Liturgical Movement**
Dena Lavigne
832-245-1846
- Minister of Music**
Matt Matthews
832-423-9335
- Pastoral Council**
Donna Pierson
713-304-1322
- Samaritan Ministry/Funeral Repast**
Mary Robertson
832-790-8124
- Second Family Care Team**
- Sisters in the Spirit**
Evelyn Wright
713-385-6607
- Stewardship Committee**
Antoinette Goodly
281-710-4883
- Ushers**
John Mathis
832-477-0999

BAPTISM
For Infants: Baptism Preparation (Parents & Godparents), contact Parish Office one month prior to getting the child baptized.
For Children, ages 6-15, Youth, and Adults contact Parish Office. Youth and adult Baptism is done on Easter only.

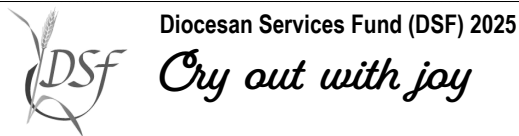
MARRIAGES
A minimum of six months preparation is required. Contact the pastor before setting the date.

FUNERALS
The death of a loved one can be a trying and unpredictable time. Before any arrangements are made for funerals, please call the parish office to schedule a time to meet with the pastor.

Sacrificial Offerings

March 16, 2025	
Offerings (Mail In / Drop Off)	\$875.00
Offerings (Mass)	\$3,841.10
Online Giving Offerings	\$1,315.00
Zelle Offerings	\$595.00
Total	\$6,626.10
Ash Wednesday Collection	\$964.50

**Thank you for your generosity
May God bless you**





Annie Marie Joubert, Mercedes Arline, Amelie Marie Murphy, Dorothy Meyers, Gustavia LaBlanc, Joseph Gallagher, Joel Richards, Sr., Anna Bell Lewis, Barbara Calhoun, Enola Zenon, Emma Filer, Earl M. Robertson, Allen St. Julian, Alsie Gee, Winnie Malveaux, Marie Grace Moran, Myrtle St. Julien, Rita Lewis, Wilfred Lambey, Stan Martinez, Patricia Davis, Brother Mike Velarde, Eula Broussard, Donald Morgan, Kendra James, Jocelyn Dancy Smith, Sedric Wiltz, Mitchell Francis, Julia Higgs, Francis Baldwin, Evelyn Roches, Joyce Punch.

Your word is a LAMP FOR MY FEET, AND A LIGHT FOR MY PATH (Psalm 119:105)

Homily of Third Sunday of Lent, Year C, 2025

Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15; Psalm 103:1-4, 6-8, 11; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Luke 13:1-9

The first reading is about the call of Moses. Moses had fled from Egypt to Midian. There, he was tending the flock of his father-in-law. While in the region of Mount Horeb, he was called by God in an extraordinary way. Moses saw a fire flaming out of a bush, but the bush, though on fire, was not consumed. Moses decided to go and see why the bush was not burned. When Moses came near, God called him from the bush, "Moses! Moses!" He answered, 'I am here.' God said, 'Come no nearer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground. ...' God, then, gave Moses the mission to go and get the Israelites out of Egypt.

The hymn, "Holy Ground," comes to mind:

*This is holy ground
We're standing on holy ground
For the Lord is present
And where He is is holy
This is holy ground
We're standing on holy ground
For the Lord is present
And where He is is holy*

It is important to remind ourselves that the Catholic Church teaches that the burning bush experience gives us a good understanding of the dogma of the perpetual virginity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. As the bush burned without being consumed by fire, so Mary conceived Jesus without losing her virginity.

We need not wait for God to call us in an extraordinary way as he called Moses. The Spirit of God may be ministering to our hearts and sending us on a mission to free someone in an affliction or to rescue a situation or to perform a good work. Our excuses and reluctance are the 'sandals' on our feet. Some of us are wearing really oversized and heavy 'sandals' that prevent us from lifting our feet to doing what God wants us to do.

When the Spirit of God ministers a call in our hearts, let us not reject the call. Let us, rather, pray for the grace we need. St. Bernardine of Siena writes, "This is a general rule that applies to a rational creature. Whenever divine grace selects someone to serve a particular grace or some especially favored position, all the gifts for his state are given to that person and enrich him abundantly." Simply put, when God gives us a mission, he gives us the grace. God says, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 2:9).

The 'sandals' on our feet are our sins and weaknesses that prevent us from coming close to God. During the Lenten journey, we are invited to remove those 'sandals.' The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a great opportunity. Further, we are invited to reconcile and make peace with one another. Jesus warns us in the gospel not to delay to return to God. We are old enough to die as soon as we are conceived in our mother's womb. Everyone is only a step away from death. Jesus reminds us that death can be very sudden like those killed when the Tower of Siloam fell on them. St. Paul writes in the second reading, "These things happened to them as an example, and they have been written down as a warning to us ... Therefore, whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall" (1 Corinthians 10:11-12).

The gospel reminds us that although we are sinners and unworthy, yet God gives us opportunities to return to him, or to become what he wants us to become, or to make progress, or rise to greater heights, or to break new grounds, or to bear fruits. Let us not waste such opportunities because some missed opportunities are rare to come by. A proverb says, "Make hay while the sun shines."

The gospel is also a reminder that we need to be patient with ourselves and with one another and support one another in every way possible. Someone writes, "Be patient with slow growers, late bloomers, and those unseeing." St. Paul advises us, "We who are strong ought to put up with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves; let each of us please our neighbor for the good, for building up" (Romans 15:1-2). Barbara Lee wrote a book she titled, "God Isn't Finished With Me Yet," where she encourages us that God does meet us with unexpected grace where we do not foresee it, and when we do not give up.

We are challenged with various invitations on this third week of Lent. Some of us are invited to remove oversized and heavy 'sandals' in order to repent from sin and come nearer to God. Some of us are encouraged to accept God's invitation to do good. Some of us are challenged to rise to greater height. Some of us are invited not to despair or give up. Some of us are encouraged to be patient with ourselves and with others. Some of us are warned not to be overconfident lest we fall. Do you find yourself in any of the invitations?

God said to Moses, "I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt, and I have heard their cry of complaint ... I know well what they are suffering." O God, hear our cry of complaint and save us as you saved your people. Amen.

Fr. Martin Eke, MSP

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, March 22, 2025 (<i>Vigil Mass</i>) St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners Living & Deceased	5:00 PM
Sunday, March 23, 2025 † Nora Carmon requested by The Carmon Family † Gene Anthony Phillips, Sr. requested by Elsa Phillips & Family † Carrie Neal, † Merrell La Cour, † Mavis LaCour, & † Gertrude Chelette requested by Frankie & Donald Morgan	8:00 AM
Sunday, March 23, 2025 † Dalton & † Theresa Belson requested by Antoinette Goodly † Shelton Joseph requested by Barbara Joseph & Family † Sarah & † Hilver Soileau, Jr. requested by Clarice Campbell	11:00 AM
Monday, March 24, 2025 Christelle Kamssu Birthday Thanksgiving	7:00 AM
Tuesday, March 25, 2025 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Wednesday, March 26, 2025 † Souls in Purgatory requested by A Friend	7:00 AM
Thursday, March 27, 2025 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Friday, March 28, 2025 † Celeman Celestine requested by Clarice Campbell † Richard Webb requested by Family & Friends	7:00 AM
Saturday, March 29, 2025 † Ida Nell Beaudion requested by Melane Jones & Sisters	7:00 AM

Upcoming Events		
Date	Event	Time
Saturday April 5, 2025	Lenten Confession	10:00 AM - 12 Noon
Sunday April 13, 2025	Palm Sunday 11:00 AM Mass Procession from hall parking lot to church 10:40 AM	Masses 5:00 PM 8:00 AM 11:00 AM
April 17, 2025	Holy Thursday	Mass - 6:00 PM
April 17, 2025	Holy Thursday Adoration (see schedule below)	7:30 PM - 11:30 PM
April 19, 2025	Holy Saturday	Mass - 6:00 PM
April 20, 2025	Easter Sunday	Mass - 10:00 AM
Sunday April 27, 2025	Crawfish Festival	12:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Sunday May 18, 2025	Seniors Day at St. Francis of Assisi	Mass - 11:00 AM
Saturday June 28, 2025	75th Anniversary Celebration	

Holy Thursday Adoration Schedule	
<i>Ministry & Organization Leaders, please note that the Rosary will be prayed at the beginning of each hour</i>	
7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Instrument of Peace Choir, El Shaddai, Hope, Love, & Joy Seniors, Samaritan Ministry, Hospitality, Sacred Space, Second Family Care Team, Altar Society
8:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Audio-Visual, Liturgical Movement, Environment & Sacred Space, Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Sisters in the Spirit, Lectors, CCE Teachers, & candidates, Stewardship, Associate Missionaries of St. Paul
9:30 PM - 10:30 PM	Knights of Peter Claver, Ladies Auxiliary, Jr. Knights, Jr. Daughters, Youth Ministry, Ushers & others
10:30 - 11:30 PM	Fr. Martin, Finance Council, Pastoral Council & anyone who wishes to join

KPC 231 - Lenten Fish Fry: Fridays during Lent - 11 AM to 7 PM
 2 Piece Fried Fish Dinner - \$13.00 ▪ Crawfish Etouffee Dinner - \$14.00
 Mixed Dinner (1 piece of fish & crawfish etouffee) - \$16.00
 (all dinners served with potato salad, green beans, bread, & cake)
 Fish Basket (2 pieces of fish, fries, bread, & cake) - \$13.00
 Extra piece of fish - \$4.00 ▪ Water or Soda - \$1.00 each
 Fundraiser benefits KPC Council and Court 231 and St. Francis of Assisi Parish
 KPC #231 sincerely appreciates your patronage and support

ALTAR SOCIETY - EASTER LILIES: Easter Lilies in memory and/or honor of a loved one to decorate the altar can be ordered at \$10.00 each. Seventy-Five lilies were ordered and will be reserved on a first come first serve basis. Order forms are on the information table. Order forms and payments may be put in the collection basket, mailed, dropped off, or put in the parish office or the rectory's mail box. All orders must be received by Sunday, April 6, 2025. For more information you may contact Mrs. Mary Robertson at 832-790-8124 or the parish office. Lilies may be picked up after each Mass on April 26th & 27th.

Good Friday Living Stations of the Cross Casting Call
 Interested? Contact Charles & Dena Lavigne at 832-245-1846 or Matt Matthews at 832-423-9335 or Kimberly White at 832-969-8041
 Practice Saturdays @ 10:00 AM ▪ March 29th ▪ April 5th ▪ April 12th

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 Office Cell: 346-600-2162

www.ouzenne.com
ocfirm@ouzenne.com

OFFERINGS & DONATIONS: Weekly Offerings and Donations may be mailed, dropped off at the parish or completed online through **ParishSOFT Giving or Zelle.**

Weekly offerings and/or donations dropped at the parish or put in the rectory's mail box. The mail box is safe because it has a lock. The church gate opens daily at 9:00 AM and closes at 5:00 PM.

Online offerings and/or donations may be made through:

ParishSOFT Giving:
 - <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stfrancisofassisi>

Zelle:
 - Email: stfrancisofassisihoustont@gmail.com

CCE Classes are on Sundays - 9:30 AM to 10:45 AM: We are accepting students for all grades, sacramental preparation and for adults in need of Confirmation. For more information, contact Ms. Jamie Thomas at 832-236-7316.

St. Francis of Assisi Annual Crawfish Festival
 Sunday, April 27, 2025 ▪ 12pm - 8pm ▪ \$5.00 Admission
 Live music: Brian Jack & Step Rideau ▪ Bingo ▪ Great Food

Seniors Day at St. Francis of Assisi ▪ Sunday May 18th @ 11am Mass
 To celebrate senior members of the parish who are 75 years old and older. Seniors must be registered members of the parish. Please send names and contact information to parish office via phone or email by April 21st.

75th Anniversary Souvenir Journal: You are invited to place congratulatory messages, well wishes and shared memories of loved ones to mark our church's Diamond Jubilee Souvenir Journal. Ads are being accepted through April 9, 2025. Please see the AD flyer for additional information. AD flyers are on the information table in the foyer of the church. For more information you may contact Patricia Lewis at 281-703-8548 or Jamie Thomas at 832-236-7316.

Thank you for your support - your 75th Anniversary Committee

Black Fire Glazed Ceramic Tiles to be placed on the exterior of the church wall in honor or in memory of loved ones. The tiles are \$75.00 each. Order forms are on the information table. Order forms and payments may be put in the collection basket, mailed, dropped off, or put in the parish office or rectory mail box. For more info, contact Joseph Sloan at 713-927-9901.

Pope Francis' March 2025 Prayer Intention
For families in crisis. Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

Vocation Events
<https://houstnovocations.com/events>
 For additional information and events visit link above or call **713-652-8239**

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 (713)-223-8071