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 Marian Chapel

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.

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, Year A

May 17, 2026





"Special Jubilee Year of St. Francis of Assisi"
Commemorating the 800th Anniversary of his Death

Traveling Statue & Relic
is with
Luis Martinez & Family
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

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.

Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) 2026
Parish Goal: 26,875.00
Total Amount Paid: $10,820.00
Total Number of Donors: 29
Percentage Paid: 40.26%

Altar Servers
Ronald Berard
713-299-4024

Altar Society
Mary Robertson
832-790-8124

Associate Missionaries of St. Paul (AMSP)
Ms. Onari Guidry
713-907-7066
Nancy Mathis
713-208-3711

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
Paul Sloan
281-734-7289

Hope, Love, & Joy Seniors
Ella Ledet
713-927-1073

Hospitality

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
Mrs. Adrian Sloan
281-831-8572

Samaritan Ministry/Funeral Repast
Mary Robertson
832-790-8124

Sisters in the Spirit
Evelyn Wright
713-385-6607

Stewardship Committee
Antoinette Goodly
281-710-4883

Ushers
John Mathis
832-477-0999

Sacrificial Offerings

May 10, 2026

Offerings (Mail In/Drop Off)	$9,180.00
Offerings (Mass)	$3,609.00
Online Giving Offerings	$1,135.00
Zelle Offerings	$3,780.00
Total	**$17,704.00**

Thank you for your generosity
May God bless you

Prayer Request

Annie Marie Joubert, Mercedes Arline, Amelie Marie Murphy, Dorothy Meyers, Gustavia LaBlanc, Joseph Gallagher, Barbara Calhoun, Enola Zenon, Emma Filer, 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, Joyce Punch, Robert Mendoza, Sr., Jose Rodriguez, Jr., Kambria Rachal, Brooklynn Heath, Joseph Earl Williams, Jr., Terry Paul Solomon, Rebecca Vincent, Augustine Dauphine, Rosalyn Orphey.

YOUR WORD IS A LAMP FOR **MY FEET, AND A LIGHT FOR MY PATH (Psalm 119:105)**

Homily of Ascension of the Lord, Year A, 2026

Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47:2-9; Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20

The idea that Jesus was a political messiah never left Jesus' disciples even when Jesus was about to ascend into heaven. Jesus' disciples gave him a heroic welcome into Jerusalem, believing that he had come to overthrow the Romans. Then, he was arrested, crucified, and buried. When Jesus rose and reappeared, the disciples' conviction of his political messiahship became stronger.

In the first reading, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom of Israel?" I imagine that Jesus' answer was confusing to them. Jesus replied, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:6-7). The disciples might have wondered the link between restoring the kingdom of Israel and what Jesus said about the Father and the Holy Spirit. It could be why when Jesus ascended into heaven, the apostles stood transfixed and gazed intently at the sky until two angels came to minister to them. Then, they returned to Jerusalem and remained together and gave themselves to constant prayer until they received the Holy Spirit which Jesus had promised them (Acts 1:12-14).

What does the Ascension of the Lord mean to us?

First, we pray for people who are transfixed in confusion and people who are transfixed in all kinds of overwhelming situations, that they may experience the ministration of God's angels to guide and lead them.

Second, Jesus ascended into heaven and is at the right hand of God interceding for us. St. Paul confirms this, "Christ who died, and … rose and is seated at the right hand of God, interceding for us." Jesus says, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). The Book of Hebrews writes, "Therefore, he is always able to save those who approach God through him, since he lives forever to make intercession for them" (Hebrews 7:25). Also, 1 John 2:1 says, "We have an intercessor with the Father, Jesus Christ, the Just One." This is the reason all our prayers are to God, in the Holy Spirit, and through Jesus Christ.

Third, Jesus says, "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you may be where I am" (John 14:3). The two angels who appeared to the disciples when Jesus ascended into heaven said to the disciples, "This Jesus has been taken up into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven." The Preface 1 of today's Eucharistic celebration says, "Mediator between God and man, judge of the world and Lord of hosts, he ascended, not to distance himself from our lowly state but that we, his members, might be confident of following where he, our Head and Founder, has gone before." We are, therefore, to be ready for his return and go with him. Jesus speaks of his coming in Matthew 24:36, "But of that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone."

Fourth, Jesus is no longer physically in the world. As his followers, we are to continue his good deeds by witnessing him to the world. He says, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem … and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). Jesus remains in the world through us, who are his disciples, ambassadors, and witnesses. We are his mouth, his hands, his feet, and his heart.

Fifth, as we celebrate Jesus' Ascension, we pray and look forward to the fulfillment of Jesus' promises. He says, "But I tell you the truth, it is better for you that I go. For if I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you" (John 16:7). Jesus also says, "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit that the Father will send in my name; he will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you" (John 14:26). We pray that we may open our hearts to the teaching and reminding of the Holy Spirit. We are encouraged to participate in the Novena to the Holy Spirit.

Sixth, St. Augustine describes the mystical nature of Ascension in today's Divine Office: "He did not leave heaven when he came down to us; nor did he withdraw from us when he went up again into heaven. … These words are explained by our oneness with Christ, for he is our head and we are his body."

Last Sunday, Jesus assured us, "I will not leave you orphans" (John 14:18). Today, in the gospel, he assures, "Behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). Therefore, let us switch from empty gaze to gazing on him trusting in his blessed assurance. Amen.

Fr. Martin Eke, MSP

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 16, 2026 (*Vigil Mass*) **5:00 PM**
St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners Living & Deceased

Sunday, May 17, 2026 **8:00 AM**
† **Mary** & † **John D. Goodley** requested by Renee Goodley
Sloan & **Labrie Families Living** & **Deceased** requested by Paul & Gloria Sloan
† **Joseph William Morgan**, † **Roy Roque** & † **Cora Sarpy** requested by Donald & Frankie Morgan

Sunday, May 17, 2026 **11:00 AM**
† **Earl Robertson** requested by The Family
† **Ray Anthony Murphy, Jr.** requested by Elaine & Kwandolyn Murphy
† **Shelton Joseph** requested by Barbara Joseph & Family

Monday, May 18, 2026 **7:00 AM**
Private Intention

Tuesday, May 19, 2026 **7:00 AM**
Private Intention

Wednesday, May 20, 2026 **7:00 AM**
† **Amy Huggins** requested by A Friend

Thursday, May 21, 2026 **7:00 AM**
† **Helen Castenelle** requested by Veronica Murphy

Friday, May 22, 2026 **7:00 AM**
Private Intention

Saturday, May 23, 2026 **7:00 AM**
Private Intention

OFFERINGS & DONATIONS: Weekly Offerings and Donations may be mailed, dropped off a t 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: **stfrancisofassisihouston@gmail.com**

The Jubilee Year of St. Francis Family & Friends Parish Pilgrimage
Saturday, June 6, 2026
Program
10:00 AM – 10:50 AM Confession
10:30 AM – 10:50 AM Rosary & Litany of St. Francis ▪ 11:00 AM – Mass
(Veneration of St. Francis of Assisi Relic during Mass)
Light refreshments after Mass on church lawn, weather permits
"Let us go to the house of the Lord" Psalm 122

SAFE ENVIRONMENT COMPLIANCE & TRAINING

The Safe Environment compliance training and renewal training is a condition of employment and volunteer ministry in our Archdiocese. All clergy, employees, contracted school personnel, volunteers, members of groups, movements, and organizations over the age of 18 who work, volunteer or participate in any capacity are required to complete the Archdiocesan Safe Environment Training and a criminal background check before they may begin employment or volunteer activities. Mandatory renewal training must be completed every five years and a new background check submitted before the five-year expiration of prior training. You may call the parish office if you need to know the status of your training or need help with logging on to complete the training.

Remember, education is the key element of the Safe Environment program and protection of our children and other vulnerable adults is very important to us.

Pope's Prayer Intention for May 2026
That everyone might have food. Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food. **- Pope Leo XIV**

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

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time
Thursday May 14 to Friday May 22, 2026	**Novena to the Holy Spirit** (Pentecost Novena)	8:00 PM Prayer
May 22, 2026 Friday	**Super Bingo**	7:00 PM
May 31, 2026 Sunday	**Crowning of Mary**	After 11:00 AM Mass
June 6, 2026 Saturday	**St. Francis of Assisi Family & Friends Pilgrimage**	10:00 AM to 12 Noon
June 28, 2026 Sunday	**Graduation Mass**	11:00 AM Mass
September 26, 2026 Saturday	**St. Francis Jubilee Year Mass** Principal Celebrant Bishop Italo	9:00 AM

St. Francis of Assisi Sisters In the Spirit Spring Super Bingo
Friday, May 22, 2026 ▪ Coverall Jackpot: $500
Doors open at **5:30 PM** ▪ Games begin at **7:00 PM**
Concessions available ▪ Tickets: $20 presale ▪ $25 at the door
(Deadline to purchase: May 20th)
For more information, please contact
Liz Kindle 281-923-2961 or Johnna Broussard 713-806-2778
or Evelyn Wagner Wright 713-385-6607

The **Sisters In the Spirit of Houston, Inc.,** will celebrate its **25th Jubilee Anniversary** on Sunday, July 12, 2026, at 3:00 PM at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church. The Most Reverend Italo Dell'Oro, C.R.S., will serve as the principal celebrant. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Donna Pierson at 713-304-1322 (text or call) by May 31, 2026.

SAVE THE DATE: The **4th Annual Archdiocesan African Cultural Heritage Festival** will be on **Sunday, August 2, 2026**, at **2 PM** at St. Mary of the Purification Church 3006 Rosedale Street, Houston 77004. The event will begin with Mass followed by cultural celebration of food, fellowship and fun festival. ***ALL ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE; MARK YOUR CALENDARS TODAY!***

Raffle tickets are also available for purchase

Around the Archdiocese: to see events and activities in our local parishes, schools and other Catholic organizations visit **archgh.org/ata**

Office of Aging: The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston has an Office of Aging that serves older adults of 50+ years and their families and caregivers. If you are over 50 or caring for someone who is, we want you to know that you are seen and heard, valued and loved! This year we have begun SAINTS University, a learning community for faith fellowship and fun that has a full calendar of events in northern, central and southwest Houston and events in Spanish for our Spanish speaking seniors and families. To find our more visit **www/archgh.org/aging/saints**.

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Office Manager
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11322 Sandstone Canyon Drive
Humble, TX 77396-1955
Office Cell: 346-600-2162
www.ouzenne.com
ocfirm@ouzenne.com

Ross Mortuary
Service of Distinction
http://www.rossmortuaryinc.com
3618 Lyons Avenue, Houston TX 77020
(713)-223-8071