

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

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

July 12, 2026

"...the seed sown on rich soil is the one
who hears the word and understands it,
who indeed bears fruit and yields a
hundred or sixty or thirtyfold."

Matthew 13:23



SFA Bakhita Center wears a new look



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

Traveling Statue & Relic
is with

**The St. Francis of Assisi
Nightly Prayer Group**
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/1familyonlove/>

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
713-907-7066
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
- 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

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

July 5, 2026	
Offerings (Mail In/Drop Off)	\$2,055.00
Offerings (Mass)	\$3,875.00
Online Giving Offerings	\$1,601.00
Zelle Offerings	\$718.00
Total	\$8,249.00



Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) 2026
Parish Goal: 26,875.00
Total Amount Paid: \$13,640.00
Total Number of Donors: 37
Percentage Paid: 50.75%

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



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, Stan Martinez, Patricia Davis, Brother Mike Velarde, Eula Broussard, Donald Morgan, Kendra James, Jocelyn Dancy Smith, Sedric Wiltz, Julia Higgs, Joyce Punch, Robert Mendoza, Sr., Kambria Rachal, Brooklynn Heath, Joseph Earl Williams, Jr., Terry Paul Solomon, Rebecca Vincent, Augustine Dauphine, Rosalyn Orphey, Barbara Joseph, Abel Rodriguez, Patricia A. Ouzenne, Herman Kennerson, Sr., Virginia Calais.

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

Homily of Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, 2026

Isaiah 55:10-11; Psalm 65:10-14; Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-9

The first reading is Prophet Isaiah's admonition to the people of Israel to accept the word of God because, not only that it is life-giving, it must surely come to fulfillment. He uses two familiar weather elements, rain and snow, to describe the effects of the word of God. Human beings are the earth watered by the word to make us fertile and fruitful. Without God's word, human beings become wastelands. May we have the same experience like Jeremiah who exclaimed, "When I found your words, I devoured them; your words were my joy, the happiness of my heart" (Jeremiah 15:16), and the psalmist, "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path" (Psalm 119:105).

In the second reading, St. Paul describes creation's suffering, pain, and futility until the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, came and set creation free from slavery to corruption in order to share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. Slavery to corruption means to be controlled by moral decay, sin, and destructive habits. The Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, sets free individuals, peoples, groups, communities, organizations, churches, states, countries, and so on, when they listen to the Word and accept it.

In the gospel, Jesus gives us the Parable of the Sower and, also, its meaning: The word of God is the seed, and we are either the path, or the rocky ground, or among thorns, or the rich soil where the word falls on or where the word is sown. We pray not to be the path, or the rocky ground, or among thorns. We pray to be the rich soil so that we can bear lasting fruit, "a hundred, or sixty or thirty."

We are not to be like the Pharisees, the Sadducees, and their scribes who nullify the word of God in favor of human traditions. All human-made laws, rules, and regulations are limited and, at some point, become obsolete. But the word of God is limitless and everlasting. Jesus says, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away" (Matthew 24:35).

One of the conversion moments of St. Augustine of Hippo was when he was weeping and agonizing over his spiritual struggles in a garden in Milan. Then, he heard a voice that chanted repeatedly from a nearby house, "Tolle, lege" (Latin for "Pick it up and read, pick it up and read"). He picked up the Bible, opened it at random and read the first passage his eyes fell upon, Romans 13:13-14, "Let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in promiscuity and licentiousness, not in rivalry and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh." After reading this passage, St. Augustine experienced a flood of light that cleared his lingering doubts. There and then, he took an immediate decision to fully commit to the Christian faith.

The same voice sings to us today, "Pick it up your Bible and read, pick it up your Bible and read." St. Jerome tells us that ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.

A friend of mine shared with me where he belongs in Jesus' Parable of the Sower. He said that he does not belong among those who fell on the path because he is steady with his faith and goes to Mass. For the same reason, he does not see himself as among those who fell on rocky ground. He says that he sees himself among those who fell on rich soil but there are thorns all over the rich soil. How not to be choked by the thorns is the problem.

Many of us can identify with my friend's situation. Daily in our way are thorns of trials and temptations, and thorns of evil one's machinations. Thorns, spiritual or physical, are part of life. Jesus says, "I have told you this so that you might have peace in me. In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world" (John 16:33). In John 17:15, Jesus does not pray that God takes us out from the world. He prays that God keeps us from the evil one.

We are encouraged, today, to let the word of God dwell richly in us and rule our lives (Colossians 3:16). With God's word, we are conquerors. With the word of God, we dwell in the shelter of the Most High (Psalm 91:1). "Even though [we] walk through the valley of the shadow of death, [we] will fear no evil, for you are with [us]; your rod and your staff comfort [us]" (Psalm 23:4). Amen.

Fr. Martin Eke, MSP

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, July 11, 2026 (<i>Vigil Mass</i>) St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners Living & Deceased	5:00 PM
Sunday, July 12, 2026 † Anna Lee Arceneaux requested by Children & Grandchildren † Earline James, † Mary Dauphine, Mariah Jacob & Virginia James requested by Augustine Dauphine Sloan & Labrie Families Living & Deceased requested by Paul & Gloria Sloan	8:00 AM
Sunday, July 12, 2026 † Ralph Murray requested by Patricia Murray & Family † Richard Webb requested by Family & Friends † Martel, † Alberta, † Lydia, † Lucy, & † Lucius Cezar requested by Clarice Campbell	11:00 AM
Monday, July 13, 2026 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Tuesday, July 14, 2026 Mass In Thanksgiving requested by Jamie Thomas	7:00 AM
Wednesday, July 15, 2026 Gloria Calderon requested by A Friend	7:00 AM
Thursday, July 16, 2026 † Harold & † Enola Mitchell requested by Ella Ledet & Family	7:00 AM
Friday, June July 17, 2026 † Benita Brooks & † Mr. Demaris requested by Veronica Murphy	7:00 AM
Saturday, July 18, 2026 Souls In Purgatory requested by A Friend † Robert 'Tonto' Murphy, Sr. requested by Veronica Murphy	7:00 AM

Upcoming Events		
Date	Event	Time
September 26, 2026 Saturday	St. Francis Jubilee Year Mass Principal Celebrant Bishop Italo	9:00 AM

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

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.**

Knights of Peter Claver Council & Court # 231 and St. Francis of Assisi

2026 Back to School Supply Drive benefiting Felix Cook Elementary
Collection Box in Foyer of Church. For more information contact:
Mary Berard Diana Carmon-Jones Mary Beard
713-299-1465 713-969-7586 832-607-6146

TMO Community Outreach: TMO is interested in reaching out to registered voters who live in the Kashmere Gardens neighborhood to encourage them to participate in the life of the community and to vote. They have funding that will allow them to pay people to join their organizers for door-to-door visits to homes. If you're interested, please contact Joe Higgs by phone at 402.671.4911 or email at jhiggsne@gmail.com.

Gold and Silver Wedding Jubilee Masses: The Office of Family Life Ministry has set the 2026 Jubilee Masses for married couples celebrating 25 or 50 year milestone anniversaries. Both Masses will be held at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, 1111 St. Joseph Pkwy, Houston, TX 77002.

- Couples celebrating 50 years of marriage, the Mass will be Sunday, September 20; use this link for more information or to register: <https://archgh.swoogo.com/50WAJ26>
- Couples celebrating 25 years of marriage, the Mass will be Sunday, October 11; use this link for more information or to register: <https://archgh.swoogo.com/25WAJ26>

Save the Date: August 8, 2026 after 5pm Mass

*Honoring Fr. Martin Eke's
10th Anniversary as Pastor of St. Francis & 65th Birthday*
Additional details coming soon!

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: stfrancisofassisihouston@gmail.com

**St. Francis of Assisi • Altar Society Dinner Sale • Sunday • July 19, 2026
After the 8:00 AM and 11:00 AM Masses**

Menu

Meatballs with gravy over rice, green beans, potato salad, water or soda • \$15.00 • Sweets will also be available for purchase
To pre-order call Mrs. Mary Robertson at 832-790-8124
Proceeds from the dinner sale will help with the purchase of essential altar supplies, such as: candles, altar wine, hosts, religious articles, priest vestments, and altar linens.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our parish.

**Knights of Peter Claver, Inc. National Convention
Supreme General Chapter Presents**

Irene T. Green Performing Arts Extravaganza

Friday • July 24, 2026 • Tickets: \$20.00

Hyatt Regency Houston Downtown - 1200 Louisiana St

An Evening of outstanding entertainment

Contact: Gracious Lady Marie Ledet 713-305-4764



Pope's Prayer Intention for July 2026

For respect for human life. Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God. **- Pope Leo XIV**

Vocation Events

<https://houstonvocations.com/events>

For additional information and events visit link above or call **713-652-8239**

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