

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.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Marian Chapel

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

August 2, 2026

The LORD

is near to
all who call upon him,

*to all who call
upon him
in truth.*

Psalms 145:18



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.

Back to School Blessing

Saturday, August 8th
5pm Mass

Sunday, August 9th
8am & 11am Masses



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?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84919189256?pwd=Mm5oWlVQMUVzSWlDTEFWR0F4bGF2UT09)
[pwd=Mm5oWlVQMUVzSWlDTEFWR0F4bGF2UT09](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

Bible Study

Deacon Ignatius Joseph
281-745-3005

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 26, 2026

Offerings (Mail In/Drop Off)	\$350.10
Offerings (Mass)	\$3,227.00
Online Giving Offerings	\$831.00
Zelle Offerings	\$635.00
Total	\$5,043.10

Maintenance Fund Collection \$536.00

Thank you for your generosity
May God bless you



Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) 2026

Parish Goal: 26,875.00
Total Amount Paid: \$14,265.00
Total Number of Donors: 40
Percentage Paid: 53.08%



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, Kambria Rachal, Brooklynn Heath, Joseph Earl Williams, Jr., Terry Paul Solomon, Rebecca Vincent, Augustine Dauphine, Rosalyn Orphey, Barbara Joseph, Abel Rodriguez, Herman Kennerson, Sr., Virginia Calais.

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

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

Isaiah 55:1-3; Psalm 145:8-9,15-18; Romans 8:35, 37-39; Matthew 14:13-21

The first reading is God's message of consolation to the Jewish exiles in Babylon. At that time, the exiles were in despair and desolation. Many of them no longer trusted that God was going to take care of them. Through Prophet Isaiah, God called upon them: "All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat; come without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk! Why spend your money for what is not bread; your wages for what does not satisfy? ... Come to me heedfully, listen, that you may have life. I will renew with you everlasting covenant, the benefits assured to David."

This message is very relevant to us during these difficult and trying times. In one way or another, we are all hungry, thirsty, and sick. God, the origin and source of life, invites us, "Come to me heedfully, listen, that you may have life." The Collect prayer of last Sunday's Mass reminds us that without God nothing is holy and nothing has firm foundation. Why, then, spend our money for what is not "bread" and wages for "what does not satisfy"? That is, why, then, seek satisfaction and solutions in worldly and ungodly things?

In the gospel, Jesus withdrew himself to a deserted place to mourn the death of his cousin, John the Baptist. The vast crowd discovered where he went and followed him. Jesus was moved with pity and cured the sick among them, and miraculously fed the hungry crowd with five loaves and two fish. Although Jesus was grieving, he did not turn the people away. Someone called Jesus "The Wounded Healer." John 6:37 says, "All that the Father gives to me come to me, and whoever comes to me, I shall not turn away."

We pray that difficult and trying times do not weaken our faith or make us lose our faith in God. St. Paul encourages us in the second reading that anguish, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, or sword must not separate us from the love of Christ. St. Paul adds, "No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." No matter what comes our way, "we conquer overwhelmingly" if we are close to God through Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 13:6 says, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." His saving grace and miraculous deeds remain abundant in our time. Let us, therefore, accept God's invitation in our moments of exile, desert, thirst and hunger, sickness, heavy burden, despair, and desolation. These are not the moments to seek solutions and satisfaction outside God ("spend your money for what is not bread; your wages for what does not satisfy").

In the gospel, when it was evening, the disciples said to Jesus, "'This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves.'" Jesus could have decided not to attend to the crowd because it was a time of a great loss for him, the murdering of his cousin, John the Baptist. Jesus could have listened to his disciples' suggestion to dismiss the crowd so that they could "go to the villages and buy food for themselves." But he did not.

By his action, Jesus taught his disciples and teaches us a few lessons: to have hearts of compassion for people in need; that our difficulties and limitations should not be excuses to neglect or dismiss those in need; to be wounded healers like him; and that God multiplies abundantly his blessings when we share the little we have with the needy. We are invited not only to share material things but also our presence, time, talent, etc., with the needy.

In one of his homilies, St. Basil the Great challenges those who are slow in charity: "You avoid meeting people in case you might be obliged to part with even a little of what you have. You can say only one thing: 'I have nothing to give you. I am only a poor man.' Indeed, you are poor and utterly destitute. Poor in love, poor in humanity, poor in faith in God..." (On Charity 3, 6).

A few Sundays ago, we reflected on how the widow of Zarephath shared with Elijah a handful of flour and a little jar of oil, the only food that remained for the her and her son. What was the result? God multiplied the flour and the oil and "She was able to eat for a year, and Elijah and her son as well; the jar of flour did not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry..." (1 King 17:7-16).

God multiplies his blessings for those who trust in him, who come to him, and who have a charitable heart.

Fr. Martin Eke, MSP

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, August 1, 2026 (<i>Vigil Mass</i>) St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners Living & Deceased	5:00 PM
Sunday, August 2, 2026 † Linda Mathis requested by Veronica Mitchell Anderson † Merrell LaCour requested by Donald & Frankie Morgan † Donald Demouchet requested by Ella Ledet & Family	8:00 AM
Sunday, August 2, 2026 † Magdeline Sias requested by Sisters of the Holy Family Houston Associates † Earl Robertson, Sr. requested by Deacon John & Antoinette Goodly † Ray Anthony Murphy, Jr. requested by Kwandolyn Murphy	11:00 AM
Monday, August 3, 2026 † Patricia Dixon & Sheila Roque requested by Veronica Murphy	7:00 AM
Tuesday, August 4, 2026 † Bruce L. Scott, Jr. requested by A Friend	7:00 AM
Wednesday, August 5, 2026 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Thursday, August 6, 2026 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Friday, June August 7, 2026 Associate Missionaries of St. Paul Fr. Martin Eke, MSP & Phillip Hall requested by Veronica Murphy	7:00 AM
Saturday, August 8, 2026 † Linton Bourda requested by Jackie Smith	7:00 AM

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: stfrancisofassisi-houston@gmail.com



Knights of Peter Claver Council and Court 138 Community Line Dance Fundraiser

Sunday ▪ August 2, 2026 ▪ 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church Parish Hall

(4600 Reed Road, Houston TX 77051)

Admission: \$10.00 per person ▪ Concessions: Wings & fries w/drink \$10.00

Payment Options: Cash, Check, or Zelle to Queen.Saints138@gmail.com

(include "Line Dance Matinee" in the memo line)

For more information, contact:

Lady Gwen Reed Lamothe at 832-594-5255 or Lady Helen Gobert at 281-450-9713
Dance for a Cause. Give with Your Heart. Make a Difference - One Step at a Time!

Attention: Employees, Ministry Leaders, & Volunteers of St. Francis of Assisi

It is **imperative** that **all Employees, all Ministry Leaders, and all Volunteers** are up to date with their Safe Environment Training. **Employees:** ensure your safe environment training does not expire. **Ministry Leaders:** before anyone is accepted as a new volunteer, please ensure that Safe Environment Training is the first step. Ensure that all volunteers of the ministry are up to date with their training. **Volunteers:** complete the training and know the status of your training. You may call the parish office with any questions and/or concerns. Remember, **the safety of children and vulnerable adults is a priority here at St. Francis of Assisi.**

Pope's Prayer Intention for August 2026

For evangelization in the city. Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

- 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
August 8-9, 2026	Back to School Blessing	All Masses
September 26, 2026 Saturday	St. Francis Jubilee Year Mass Principal Celebrant Bishop Italo	9:00 AM

Plan to attend the **4th Annual Archdiocesan African Cultural Heritage Festival**
Sunday, August 2, 2026

St. Mary of the Purification Church

3006 Rosedale Street, Houston 77004

2:00 PM Mass

3:30 PM Festival (cultural art, food, dance, and fellowship)

ALL AGES ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE!

Father Reginald Samuels, Vicar

Catholics of African Descent

Father Sebastine Soja Okoye, Director

AAACHF

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

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

For more information reach out to a Pastoral Council Member.

Call for Cast Members – Transitus of St. Francis Dramatization

We're preparing a dynamic dramatization of the **Transitus of St.**

Francis of Assisi, commemorating his passage from earthly life to

eternal life. **All ages are welcome** to participate! Our **first meeting**

will be held on **Saturday, August 8th at 10:30 AM** in the Conference

Room. If you're interested in being part of this special tribute to our Patron Saint, please contact **Dorothy Webb at 832-567-4742**. This is a beautiful opportunity to honor the life and legacy of St. Francis of Assisi.

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