

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

August 30, 2026

*“Whoever wishes to come after me must
deny himself, take up his cross, and
follow me.”* **Matthew 16:24**



“Special Jubilee Year of St. Francis of Assisi”

*Commemorating the 800th Anniversary
of his Death*

Traveling Statue & Relic
is with

Mary Aguilar & 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?](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

August 23, 2026

Offerings (Mail In/Drop Off)	\$992.00
Offerings (Mass)	\$2,783.00
Online Giving Offerings	\$755.00
Zelle Offerings	\$975.00
Total	\$5,505.00

Maintenance Fund Collection \$508.00

Thank you for your generosity
May God bless you



Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) 2026

Parish Goal: 26,875.00
Total Amount Paid: \$14,990.00
Total Number of Donors: 46
Percentage Paid: 55.78%



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 Orphe, Barbara Joseph, Abel Rodriguez, Herman Kennerson, Sr., Virginia Calais, Michael Roman Burnam, Joseph Guidry.

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

Homily of Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, 2026

Jeremiah 20:7-9; Psalm 63:2-9; Romans 12:1-2; Matthew 16:21-27

We are all carrying various kinds and sizes of crosses. That is why Jesus invites us in today's gospel, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). "Deny oneself" means to surrender one's personal plans to God and put God first. Our crosses are our afflictions, difficulties, trials, temptations, responsibilities, love of God and love of neighbor, and our faith journey.

In the first reading, Prophet Jeremiah's cross was his responsibility to prophesy to his people, their rejection of him, and the persecution he suffered in their hands.

When God called Jeremiah, he said to him, "To whomever I send you, you shall go; whatever I command you, you shall speak. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you ... See, I place my words in your mouth! Today, I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to uproot and to tear down, to destroy and to demolish, to build and to plant" (Jeremiah 1:7-10).

The first reading was a time Jeremiah felt that God had not fulfilled his promises to him, "to uproot and to tear down, to destroy and to demolish." Rather, he continued to see "terror on every side" and hear "denounce him, denounce him" (Jeremiah 20:10). In his frustration, Jeremiah accused God of duping him (deceiving him). He wanted to stop prophesying. "I say to myself, I will not mention him, I will speak in his name no more. But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones; I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it." Despite how he felt, Jeremiah did not give up. He continued to prophesy. The prophesy of Jeremiah does end with chapter 20 of the first reading, it ends with chapter 52. Jeremiah teaches us to continue the work of God even when the work is not recognized, and when there is no apparent good result, and when one is not appreciated, and when one is persecuted for no just reason. That is the way to carry our crosses and follow Jesus.

St. Paul encourages us in the second reading not to embrace the standard of "If you can't beat them, join them." St. Paul encourages us, "Do not conform yourselves to this present age..." We are to remain steadfast to the will of God, to what is good and to what is pleasing to God. Not what is pleasing "to this present age." That is the way to carry our crosses and follow Jesus.

In the gospel, Jesus speaks about his own cross, that he "must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed ..." Peter wanted Jesus to refuse his cross. "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you." Peter was an obstacle to the will of God, to what is good and to what is pleasing to God. Therefore, Jesus rebuked him, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me."

The encounter between Jesus and Peter reveals to us the pressure we go through in times of our crosses. Jesus teaches us not to refuse or abandon our crosses. He says, "Whoever does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me" (Matthew 10:38). We need to be watchful of the pressures that come from our close ones. Peter was very close to Jesus. The most difficult trials and temptations are not from enemies. They are from close ones. Many times, we compromise/conform ourselves due to pressures from close ones against what is good, what is God's will, and what is pleasing to him. We pray for the grace to resist such pressures.

Let us conclude with this story:

God, according to his divine plan, gave a man a tall cross to carry and told him, "While on your journey, pray for anything, and I will give you." The man set off on his journey. After a few miles, he cried to God, "Lord, my cross is too heavy, please, cut it down a little." God threw a handsaw to him to cut the cross to the size he wanted. He was delighted and continued his journey. After a few more miles, he cried to God again, "Lord, please cut it down a little more, I will be able to carry it better." God threw a handsaw to him to cut the cross a little more according to his wish. He was glad. After a few more miles, he got to a gully. The easiest way he would have crossed over the gully would have been to place the cross across the gully to become a bridge. Sadly, the cross was, now, too short to go across the gully.

May our crosses become our bridges across the gullies in our life journeys. Amen.

The story of Jesus's cross ends with his resurrection. May the stories of our crosses end with testimonies of victory. Amen.

However, we know that there are incomprehensible lifelong crosses. In such conditions, we pray for enduring grace while trusting in God in whose will is our strength and peace. To God be the glory, even in incomprehensible lifelong crosses. Amen.

Fr. Martin Eke, MSP

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, August 29, 2026 (<i>Vigil Mass</i>) St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners Living & Deceased	5:00 PM
Sunday, August 30, 2026 † Anna Roberts requested by Mary Charles The Brown Siblings requested by Patricia Chavis † Andrew & † Ursula Thomas requested by Jamie Thomas	8:00 AM
Sunday, August 30, 2026 † Frances Wiltz, † Nescafe Batiste, † Delores Melvin, † Mary Ursula Thomas, † Carolyn Price, † Doris Arceneaux, † Carolyn Hancock, † Norma Duhon, & † Frances Baldwin requested by St. Francis of Assisi Sisters In the Spirit † Miguel Sanchez requested by Clarice Campbell † John Arceneaux, Sr. requested by Children & Grandchildren	11:00 AM
Monday, August 31, 2026 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Tuesday, September 1, 2026 † George Derousselle requested by Gwendolyn Derousselle † Michael Mitchell requested by Ella Ledet & Family	7:00 AM
Wednesday, September 2, 2026 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Thursday, September 3, 2026 † Manuel & † Mary Aguilar requested by Mary Helen & Cameron	7:00 AM
Friday, September 4, 2026 Associate Missionaries of St. Paul Cheryl Campbell requested by Clarice Campbell	7:00 AM
Saturday, September 5, 2026 † Souls in Purgatory requested by A Friend	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: stfrancisofassisihouston@gmail.com

CCE Registration for all grades continues. This includes adults in need of Confirmation. Sisters and brothers coming from other faith traditions are invited to come and learn about Catholic faith in hopes of becoming Catholics.

There will be a Parent Orientation next Sunday, September 13, 2026 after the 8am Mass for all new and returning families. Classes will begin on Sunday September 20, 2026 at 9:30 am.

We would like to have a few more teachers so that we may have one teacher per grade level, substitutes, and teacher aids for the lower grades. Therefore, we are also accepting volunteers who are practicing Catholics and are willing to share their faith to become Catechists.

Around the Archdiocese: To see events and activities in our local parishes, schools and other Catholic organizations visit:
<https://archgh.org/ata>

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
Friday, September 25 to Sunday, October 3, 2026	Novena to St. Francis of Assisi	8pm Prayer Line & as noted
September 26, 2026 Saturday	St. Francis Jubilee Year Mass Principal Celebrant Bishop Italo	9:00 AM
September 27, 2026 Sunday	Transitus of St. Francis	6:00 PM

St. Francis of Assisi's Fall Raffle tickets are now on sale! We are asking each family to purchase or sell at least three books of tickets. This year, we will raffle **seven** gift cards instead of **three** - that means **seven chances to win!** The drawing will be held on Saturday, October 3rd. Raffle tickets may be picked up in the church foyer after Mass. **Thank you for your support!**

The Novena to St. Francis of Assisi will be Friday, September 25th through Friday, October 2nd, at 8:00 PM on the prayer line. On Sunday, September 27th, join us in the church at 6:00 PM for the Transitus, a dramatization of St. Francis' passage from earthly life to eternal life. The Blessing of Animals will take place outdoors after each Mass on Saturday, October 3rd and Sunday, October 4th. Please note that animals are not brought inside the church this year.

St. Peter Claver Catholic Church Bingo Night

6005 N. Wayside Dr., Houston, TX 77028

Friday, September 11, 2026 • Grand Prize \$500 Cover All

Doors open at 6pm • Games start at 7pm • Food & Drinks available for purchase

Tickets: Pre-Sale: \$20 until September 6th • At the door: \$25

Contact St. Peter Claver @ 713-674-3338 or Tina @ 832-725-7817

CashApp Barbara @ 832-766-6307 or **Zelle** Christine @ 832-567-4715

2026 BENEMERENTI AWARD NOMINATIONS

The word "*Benemerenti*", derived from the Latin, meaning "*to a well-deserved person*".

Who can be nominated? Any person worthy of grateful recognition by St. Francis of Assisi Church and Society may be nominated for the award of a "Benemerenti".

The nominee:

- ✓ must have freely provided service exercising their duty toward God and their neighbor (volunteering to do whatever is necessary for the parish and the community)
- ✓ must have shared their God given talents with the parish and the community (talents can include providing transportation, moving of people and goods, singing, speaking, cooking, praying for others, mentoring others, preaching, visiting the sick, visiting the imprisoned, providing comfort to the bereaved, feeding the hungry, providing shelter for the homeless, marching for life, peace and justice, etc.)

All nominations should include a brief note about the nominee and the reason for the nomination.

Nomination Deadline: Wednesday, September 30, 2026

Please email your nomination to the parish office. Nominations can also be dropped off in the parish office, rectory mail box, church suggestion box, or given to Fr. Martin. Thank you.

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Patricia Ouzenne
Office Manager

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