

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

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

September 20, 2026



"Seek the Lord while he may be found,
call him while he is near."

-Isaiah 55:6

Novena to St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, September 25th to Friday October 2nd

Rosary/Prayer line at 8:00 PM

Transitus • Sunday, September 27th @ 6:00 PM in Church

Jubilee Year of St. Francis Mass

Saturday, September 26th @ 9:00 AM

Principal Celebrant Bishop Italo



"Special Jubilee Year of St. Francis of Assisi"

Commemorating the 800th Anniversary
of his Death

Traveling Statue & Relic

is with

John Arceneaux & 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

September 13, 2026

Offerings (Mail In/Drop Off)	\$2,060.00
Offerings (Mass)	\$4,909.00
Online Giving Offerings	\$1,295.00
Zelle Offerings	\$880.00
Total	\$9,144.00



Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) 2026

Parish Goal: 26,875.00
Total Amount Paid: \$15,215.00
Total Number of Donors: 47
Percentage Paid: 56.13%

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, Rita Lewis, Stan Martinez, Patricia Davis, Brother Mike Velarde, Eula Broussard, 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, Michael Roman Burnam, Joseph Guidry, Chester Beard, Javier Ruiz, Chris Simpson, Timothy Berard.

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

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

Isaiah 55:6-9; Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18; Philippians 1:20-24, 27; Matthew 20:1-16

In the first reading, Prophet Isaiah tells us that God's thoughts are not our thoughts nor his ways our ways. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are God's ways above our ways, and his thoughts above our thoughts. Meaning, (1) Human beings plans are limited based on what they can see right now and what they imagine will happen. But God sees the whole picture into eternity. (2) Therefore, instead of demanding that God fit into human wisdom, standards, and expectations, we are invited to surrender our own limited viewpoints to God and trust in him. St. Paul says, "For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God" (1 Corinthians 3:19).

The parable in today's gospel goes against the wisdom of this world. In the parable, the same wage is paid to those who worked all day, those who worked for a few hours, and those who worked for only one hour. Judging from human wisdom, standards, and expectations, the landowner acted unfairly.

However, Jesus did not tell this parable to teach employers how to pay workers. With this parable, Jesus taught the lawyers, the scribes, the Pharisees, the Sadducees, and the chief priests that although the Gentiles received the message of salvation later than the Jews, the Gentiles would have equal share in the Kingdom of God. Salvation and heaven are not classed. Before and during the era of Jesus, the Jewish religious leaders and legal experts exhibited a strong sense of entitlement.

In our time, there are places where some people, due to their entitlement mentality, deny others their rights and privileges. There are places where some people, due to their entitlement mentality, render others as nobodies. St. Paul tells us in the second reading, "Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ" (Philippians 1:27). The way of the gospel of Christ is as St. Paul writes in Galatians 3:28, "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Jesus prays for us in John 17:21, "I pray that they may be one...."

The message today stands against preferential treatments and exclusiveness entrenched in our structures. Sadly, these vices rear their ugly heads in families, organizations, communities, churches, society, and so on. Where do we not find the vices of preferential treatments and exclusiveness? The only solution is to conduct ourselves, as St. Paul challenges us, in the way of the gospel of Christ. We pray the prayer of Jesus, that we may be one.

The parable in today's gospel is one of the biblical explanations why the Catholic Church performs the Last Rite (the Sacrament of Extreme Unction) on those in danger of death or the dying in the hope of the individuals' repentance and God's forgiveness of their sins and be welcomed into his kingdom. The dying thief crucified by the side of Jesus received forgiveness just before his death and was welcomed into paradise (Luke 23:43).

Jesus concludes his instruction in today's gospel with the following words, "The last will be the first, and the first will be the last." This reminds me of a boxing tournament where the boxer who had only 50 points knocked out his opponent who had 150 points within the last twenty seconds of the fight. There are many instances like this. The unemployed men who stood at the marketplace did not walk away in discouragement. They remained until 5pm! Their perseverance, patience, waiting, and hope paid off!

Many times, we are tempted or actually fall into the temptation of writing off others or writing ourselves off. We ask dismissive questions, just like Nathaniel in John 1:46, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" We forget that Mary Magdalene became St. Mary Magdalene, and that Saul became St. Paul. And a host of other 'lasts' that became 'firsts.' We forget the words of Scripture in 1 Samuel 2:5, "She who was barren has borne seven children..." Therefore, do not rush to conclude, to dismiss, and to write off. Something greatest eventually came out of Nazareth!

Therefore, be patient. Persevere. Keep hoping. Keep trying. Keep praying. Do not give up. Do not walk away in discouragement or despair. Many blessings had occurred in the nick of time. Your 11th hour blessing may be on its way! Amen.

(Note: 5pm is the 11th hour because ancient Roman and Jewish timekeeping counted 12 hours of daylight from sunrise to sunset. Sunrise is 6am, which is hour 1. Sunset is 6pm, which is hour 12).

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, September 19, 2026 (<i>Vigil Mass</i>) St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners Living & Deceased	5:00 PM
Sunday, September 20, 2026 † Francis Baldwin, † Chris Carmouche, † Joseph Dauphine, & † Richard Webb requested by the Eugene & Stephanie White † Joseph Broussard requested by Eula Broussard Homebound Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi requested by St. Francis of Assisi Pastoral Council	8:00 AM
Sunday, September 20, 2026 † Shelton Joseph requested by Barbara Joseph & Family † Ira Wilson requested by Joyce Wilson & Family † Ray Anthony Murphy, Jr. requested by Mary Trahan	11:00 AM
Monday, September 21, 2026 † Manuel & † Mary Aguilar requested by Mary Helen & Cameron Kendra Smith requested by Veronica Murphy	7:00 AM
Tuesday, September 22, 2026 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Wednesday, September 23, 2026 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Thursday, September 24, 2026 † Annette A Fostal requested by Veronica Murphy	7:00 AM
Friday, September 25, 2026 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Saturday, September 26, 2026 Private Intention	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: stfrancisofassisihoustons@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. CCE is on Sunday at 9:30 am.

GET ON UP! BOOTS & BLING ZYDECO. Get ready for an unforgettable night of Zydeco, great food, good vibes, and plenty of dancing at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. FEATURING: Brian Jack & the Zydeco Gamblers, with sounds by the Legendary DJ Chatterbox on Saturday, October 3, 2026. Doors open at 7:00 PM. The admission is \$25.00 at the door. Grab your crew, bring your dancing spirit, and let's make this a night to remember!

Generation of Grace "A Welcoming Space for Women of God"

Saturday • October 10th • 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Holiday Inn Express & Suites (1010 FM 1960, Houston TX 77073)

Join speakers **Veronica Anderson** and **Linda Francis** for a prayer-filled gathering for women of all generations, rooted in faith, reflection, and unity. All are invited. Tickets are \$25.00. *Come, let's bridge the generation gap and grow together in faith.* Use QR code to register.

For questions call **281-318-1405** or email Info.generationsofgrace@gmail.com



Pope's Prayer Intention for September 2026

For care of water. Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

- 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 Francis of Assisi Super Bingo • Friday • October 2, 2026

5102 Dabney Street, Houston TX 77026

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE NOW: Presale: **\$20** • at the Door: **\$25**

Deadline to purchase presale tickets: Monday, September 28th

Doors open at 5 pm • Games begin at 7 pm • Concessions available **Coverall grand prize will be \$1,000.00!!!**

For tickets contact: Johnna - 713-806-2778 or Evelyn - 713-385-6607

Join us for family friendly fun and support our parish!!

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".

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.

FALL DINNER SALE FUNDRAISER. In lieu of our annual Bazaar, the Altar Society will sponsor a Fall Dinner Sale on **Saturday, October 17, from 4:00 - 7:00 PM**, and **Sunday, October 18, beginning at 8:30 AM until sold out.** Enjoy Chicken and Sausage Gumbo for **\$15** or BBQ Pork Steak with dirty rice, green beans, and potato salad for **\$20**. Each meal includes water or soda. Sweets will also be sold. Presale tickets are available after Mass each. Proceeds benefit St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church.

For information, contact **Mary Robertson at 832-790-8124**.

Uplift Her Women's Wellness Day: Free Event for Women

Saturday, September 26, 2026 • 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

The Collective, 12401 South Post Oak Road

Health Screenings • Wellness Workshops • Inspiring Speakers

Scan the QR code to register.



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Patricia Ouzenne
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