

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

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

September 6, 2026



"...where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

-Matthew 18:20

Happy Labor Day - September 7, 2026



"May the favor
of the Lord
our God be ours.
Prosper the
work of our
hands!"

Psalms 90:17

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 30, 2026

Offerings (Mail In/Drop Off)	\$1,140.00
Offerings (Mass)	\$4,335.00
Online Giving Offerings	\$770.00
Zelle Offerings	\$926.00
Total	\$7,171.00



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, 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, Michael Roman Burnam, Joseph Guidry, Chester Beard, Javier Ruiz.

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

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

Ezekiel 33:7-9; Psalm 95:1-2, 6-9; Romans 13:13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20

The people of Israel's disloyalty to God resulted in their conquest and captivity by Babylon. While in exile in Babylon, God did not abandon them. God called one of them, Ezekiel, to prophesy to them. In the first reading, God spoke to Ezekiel, "I have appointed you a watchman for the house of Israel..."

In the same way, God has appointed each one of us to watch over one another and to be one another's keeper. Priests are appointed to watch over the faithful and the faithful are to watch over their priests. Family members are appointed to watch over one another. Neighbors are appointed to watch over one another. Church members, coworkers, business partners, colleagues, and so on are appointed to watch over one another. We are not appointed to fight and destroy one another. Rulers and leaders are appointed to watch over the citizens; not neglect them, or mistreat them, or abandon them, or steal what belongs to them, or kill them. No one should be like Cain who murdered his brother and questioned God, "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Genesis 4:9).

God called Ezekiel to speak truth to his people to save them. In the same way, God calls us to speak truth to one another to save one another. God says in the first reading, "If you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I shall require from your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity, but you will have saved your life." St. James writes, "Remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover a multitude of sins" (James 5:20). Therefore, God has not called us to rumor or to gossip or to slander or to be silent in the face of evil.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer says, "Silence in the face of evil is evil: God will not hold us guiltless." Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a German Lutheran pastor and theologian who was executed for his role in the political resistance against Adolf Hitler. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stated that remaining silent in the face of wrongdoing makes a person cooperative with evil and that the inaction of good people is a greater tragedy than the acts of bad people. He was equally executed.

While we are challenged to speak truth to one another, we are also challenged to accept the truth we hear and not harden our hearts or shoot the messenger. Some people are like the guilty Hebrew man who attacked Moses for correcting him, "Who made you a ruler and judge over us?" (Exodus 2:14).

Watching over one another and speaking truth to one another are acts of love. That is why St. Paul writes in the second reading, "Owe no one anything, except to love one another... hence, love is the fulfilment of the law" (Romans 13:8-10). St. Jerome recorded that St. John, the evangelist, lived to about 100 years old. He became so frail and weak that he could no longer walk and had to be carried by his disciples into the gatherings of believers in Ephesus. Because he lacked the strength for long or complex preaching, he would simply address the church with the same words every week: "Little children, love one another." Growing weary of hearing the exact same phrase week after week, the disciples finally asked him, "Master, why do you always say this?" St. John replied, "Because it is the Lord's command, and if this only is done, it is enough."

In today's gospel, Jesus presents to us a difficult and a radical act of love, which is to make humbling personal extra efforts to seek reconciliation. St. Paul refers to this spiritual maturity as "becoming a fool for Christ" (1 Corinthians 4:10). It takes prayer and God's graces of humility, courage, and perseverance to follow the four steps of seeking reconciliation which Jesus commands: Step one: Don't presume, don't rumor, don't gossip, don't grudge, don't malign, don't slander, don't conclude. Initiate a private meeting for reconciliation. If the private meeting fails, don't give up, proceed to step two: Make a second attempt with one or two mediators. If the second attempt fails, still don't give up, proceed to step three: Bring the matter to the leadership or the community. After these three steps and the person still refuses reconciliation, then step four: "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you" (Matthew 5:44). This means that we do not fight or retaliate against someone who remains unreconciled. We are to pray for the person and treat the person with empathy.

Jesus continues in today's gospel, "Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:18-20).

Prophet Amos asks, "Do two journey together unless they have agreed?" (Amos 3:3). The answer is, "No." Therefore, let us be in agreement and journey together and watch over one another. Then, there will be the positive energy of doing things together, praying together, and binding and loosing in Jesus' name, and we will experience his presence in our midst. The psalmist exclaims, "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! ... For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore" (Psalm 133:1-3).

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, September 5, 2026 (<i>Vigil Mass</i>) St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners Living & Deceased	5:00 PM
Sunday, September 6, 2026 † Thomas Craig Rich II requested by Martina Sassau & Family T. Roy & Mae Hypolite - 60 th Wedding Anniversary † Helen Mitchell requested by Deacon John & Antoinette Goodly	8:00 AM
Sunday, September 6, 2026 † Magdeline Sias requested by Sisters of the Holy Family Houston Associates † Rita Bernard requested by Clarice Campbell † Yolande & † Curley Hypolite, Sr. requested by Barbara Joseph & Family	11:00 AM
Monday, September 7, 2026 Max Murphy requested by Veronica Murphy	7:00 AM
Tuesday, September 8, 2026 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Wednesday, September 9, 2026 Karter Smith requested by Veronica Murphy	7:00 AM
Thursday, September 10, 2026 † Gene Anthony Phillips, Sr. requested by Elsa Phillips & Family † Jason Simpson & Ms. Delores Guillory requested by Veronica Murphy	7:00 AM
Friday, September 11, 2026 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Saturday, September 12, 2026 † Manuel & † Mary Aguilar requested by Mary Helen & Cameron	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: stfrancisofassisihoustontx@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.

TMO 2026 Candidate Accountability Session Sunday - October 4, 2026 - 3:00 PM



Congregation Beth Israel, 5600 N. Braeswood Blvd. Houston TX
TMO leaders will ask all the candidates for Harris County Judge and Commissioners, and candidates for US and Texas House of Representatives to commit to their agenda around fair treatment of immigrants, food security, access to healthcare, Social Security and flooding. Register at www.tmo-houston.org or use the QR Code. All are encouraged to attend.

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. 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.

Ouzenne Construction Firm, LLC

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Patricia Ouzenne
Office Manager

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