

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.

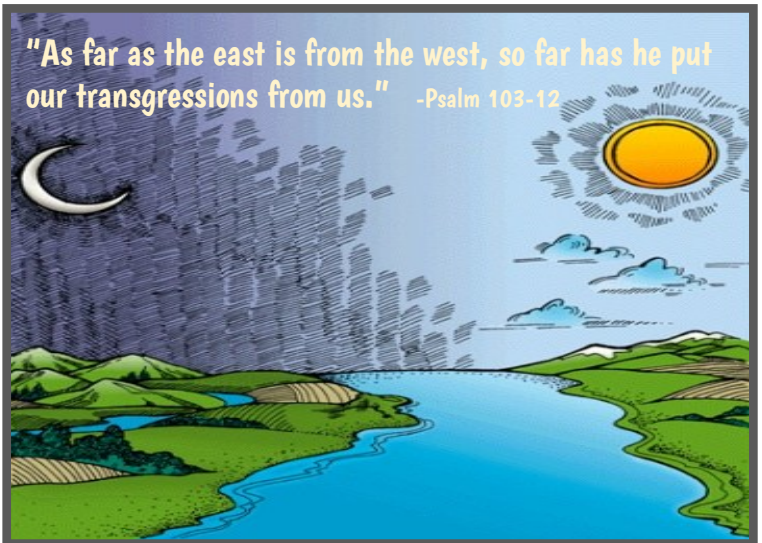
Amen.

St. Francis of Assisi Parish Marian Chapel

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

September 13, 2026

*"As far as the east is from the west, so far has he put
our transgressions from us." -Psalm 103-12*



Happy Grandparents and Cherished Elderly Day



*We pray for all grandparents and the elderly, that God
may bless them with long life, happiness, and health.*

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 6, 2026

Offerings (Mail In/Drop Off)	\$710.00
Offerings (Mass)	\$6,125.00
Online Giving Offerings	\$600.00
Zelle Offerings	\$660.00
Total	\$8,095.00

University of St. Thomas Collection \$391.00

Thank you for your generosity
May God bless you



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%



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, Chris Simpson.

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

Homily of Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, 2026

Sirach 27:30-28:7; Psalm 103:1-4, 9-12; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35

Christianity is the most radical of all religions because of its teaching on forgiveness. No other religion has so much emphasis on forgiveness as in Christianity. Retaliation and revenge are clearly enshrined in the spirituality of some religions and many cultures, and deep in the way of life of many men and women. The first reading says, "Anger and wrath are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight." The reading explains how forgiveness is important to our prayer life and our relationship with God: "Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven. Could anyone nourish anger against another and expect healing from the Lord? Could anyone refuse mercy to another like himself; can he seek pardon for his own sins?" Jesus emphasizes this teaching on forgiveness in Mark 11:25-26, "And when you stand to pray, if you have anything against anyone, forgive, so that your heavenly Father may also forgive your sins." We pray in the Lord's Prayer, "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us" (Matthew 6:12). The first reading admonishes us, "Remember the last days, set enmity aside; remember death and decay, and cease from sin!"

One of the lessons we can draw from today's gospel parable is that we sin against God every day but he does not treat us according to our sins. Today's Psalm says, "Who pardons all your iniquities, and heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction and crowns you with kindness and compassion. He will not always chide nor does he keep his wrath forever, not according to our sins does he deal with us, nor does he requite us according to our crimes. For as the heavens tower over the earth, so surpassing is his kindness towards those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he put our transgressions from us."

Yet, many times we are very unforgiving to one another, even over minor offenses. At the end of the Lord's Prayer Jesus cautions us, "If you forgive others their wrongdoings, your Father in heaven will also forgive yours. If you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive you either" (Matthew 6:14-15). St. James further warns us, "For the judgment is merciless to one who has not shown mercy" (James 2:12). This is repeating the message of the first reading.

However, we must not confuse justice with forgiveness. Justice aims to correct a wrong through lawful or restorative means. Justice aims to protect others and seek lawful accountability without being driven by hatred or a desire for revenge. Evil breeds and flourishes where there is no justice. To expect forgiveness in the middle of an on-going assault or aggression does not make sense. For forgiveness to be truly meaningful and for healing to occur, the aggression must first stop, regardless of whether there is an apology or justice. That is why we have the Defense Department and Law Maintenance and Law Enforcement Departments. That is why the Catholic Church Just War Doctrine defines the conditions under which force can be used to halt aggression and protect a victim or victims. We continue to pray for the repentance of those who inflict pain on others.

When an assault or an aggression is over (regardless of whether there is an apology or justice), forgiveness follows, and healing is possible. Forgiveness is a personal choice to let go of bitterness, hatred, and the desire for personal revenge so that the victim can find inner peace. Deacon Ignatius Joseph says, "If you do not confess your sins, you keep your sins." In the same sense, if you do not forgive the sins against you, you keep them with you. That is to say, you keep the hurt, the pain, and the grief. Depending on the depth of the hurt, healing after forgiveness can be a gradual process. It requires prayer and patience.

Sometimes, we ask, "I have forgiven someone, yet I still remember the offense. Does it mean that I have not forgiven the person?" We must not underestimate the immense power of memory. Some experiences can remain in our memory for a very long, and sometimes forever. However, prayer, time, and goodwill can heal and erase the hurt, even if we still do remember the experience. When this happens, the offense may be remembered, but faintly.

We know that forgiveness and healing have taken place:

1. When the offense is no longer vivid in our mind. We have forgotten the details.
2. When we no longer make reference to the offense to support any kind of claim or reason for our actions.
3. When we are no longer upset when we remember the offense or the offender.
4. When we, in no way, wish to retaliate or wish misfortune to the offender.
5. When we treat the offender with acceptance, understanding, and kindness.
6. When we remember the offense, we are grateful for the lesson or lessons we learned from the experience.
7. When we remember the offense, we acknowledge that we have, also, offended other people many times and in many ways. We, also, are in need of forgiveness.

Let us conclude with words of St. Paul (Ephesians 4:32), "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." May God grant us the grace to reconcile, the grace to forgive, and the grace to be healed. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, September 12, 2026 (<i>Vigil Mass</i>) St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners Living & Deceased	5:00 PM
Sunday, September 13, 2026 † Virgil & † Cecil J. Gonzales requested by the Gonzales & Everett Families Sloan & Labrie Families requested by Paul & Gloria Sloan † Gene Anthony Phillips, Sr. requested by Elsa Phillips & Family	8:00 AM
Sunday, September 13, 2026 † Ralph Murray requested by Patricia Murray & Family † Helen Celestine requested by Laura & James Boudreaux † Virgis Wiltz, † Anna Roberts & † Corine Berard requested by Mary V. Charles	11:00 AM
Monday, September 14, 2026 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Tuesday, September 15, 2026 † Souls in Purgatory requested by A Friend	7:00 AM
Wednesday, September 16, 2026 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Thursday, September 17, 2026 Private Intention	7:00 AM
Friday, September 18, 2026 Bertha Pappion requested by Clarice Campbell	7:00 AM
Saturday, September 19, 2026 † Alphonse Tamnou & † Micheline Watchueng requested by Christelle Kamssu † Lynwood Colin & † Ruth Gayden requested by Veronica Murphy	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.

Parent Orientation will be on 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.

On Sept. 18, the Archbishop Emeritus of Assisi will bring sacred relics of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Clare of Assisi and St. Carlo Acutis to the University of St. Thomas. The relics will be unveiled at 10 am followed by public veneration and 12:20 pm Mass celebrated by Archbishop Sorrentino. The visit will conclude with a public lecture at 6:30 p.m. in Jones Hall Doherty Library. Free event and open to the public but RSVP is required.



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".

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.

Join **Annunciation Rosary Center** on Saturday, September 19th for Mass at 8am at The Church of the Annunciation (1618 Texas Ave., Houston TX) followed by a Rosary Procession around Discovery Green Park. The mission is to promote and encourage praying the Holy Rosary, who is our perpetual intercessor to her divine son, Our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Patricia Ouzenne
Office Manager

Commercial & Residential
BANK APPROVED CONTRACTOR



11322 Sandstone Canyon Drive
Humble, TX 77396-1955
Office Cell: 281-536-4833

www.ouzenne.com
ocfirm@ouzenne.com

Ross Mortuary

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<http://www.rossmortuaryinc.com>

3618 Lyons Avenue, Houston TX 77020
(713)-223-8071

