# 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 Marian Chapel**

*1st Sunday of Advent, Year B*

**November 29, 2026**



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.



## Hope

*"In his name, the nations will put their hope"*

*-Matthew 12:21*

## Congratulations
## 2026 Benemerenti Award Recipients

### Service Awards

Carlette Ledet ▪ Vicky Heileman Pink
Paul & Patricia Ouzenne ▪ Malane Morris
Renetta Sampson ▪ Carolyne Mbong ▪ Floyd Jordan
Eugene & Stephanie White ▪ Rita Crane
Jerome & Elizabeth Anderson

### Service Medallions

Rose Espree ▪ Carol Beaudion ▪ Chelsea Neille

## 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.**



**"Special Jubilee Year of St. Francis of Assisi"**
*Commemorating the*
*800th Anniversary of his Death*
**Traveling Statue & Relic**
is with
***Lesbia Rocha & 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?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

**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.

**Diocesan Services Fund (DSF) 2026**
Parish Goal: 26,875.00
Total Amount Paid: $17,165.00
Total Number of Donors: 53
Percentage Paid: 63.87%

**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

## *Sacrificial Offerings*

**November 22, 2026**

| | |
|---|---|
| Offerings (Mail In/Drop Off) | $839.00 |
| Offerings (Mass) | $3,733.00 |
| Online Giving Offerings | $1,140.00 |
| Zelle Offerings | $755.00 |
| **Total** | **$6,467.00** |

***Thank you for your generosity***
***May God bless you***

Prayer Request

**Annie Marie Joubert, Mercedes Arline, Amelie Marie Murphy, Dorothy Meyers, Gustavia LaBlanc, Joseph Gallagher, Barbara Calhoun, Enola Zenon, Emma Filer, 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 First Sunday of Advent, Year B, 2026

Isaiah 63:16-17, 19, 64:2-7; Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Gospel 13:33-37

This Sunday marks the beginning of the Advent season and a new liturgical year. We are, now, in Cycle B.

Prior to Vatican II, the same set of texts was read each Sunday throughout the year and repeated the following year. There were no readings for daily Mass. The Sunday readings were read through the week. Following the reforms of Vatican II (1962–1965), the Catholic liturgical year and lectionary were divided into a three-year cycle (A, B, and C) in order to provide a broader reading of Scripture over a three-year period, enabling the faithful to read, hear, and know the word of God more deeply.

Many churches are decorated with Advent wreath from this first Sunday of Advent. Decoration with Advent wreaths began long before its use in churches. The use of Advent wreath in churches is said to have begun among the Lutherans in the 16th century, and spread to other churches. Advent wreath further explains the meaning of Advent season:

The green wreath in circle shape symbolizes God's eternity and everlasting life. The candle light symbolizes Jesus, the light of the world. The four candles symbolize the four weeks of Advent. The first purple candle is called Candle of Hope. Jesus is the Hope that does not disappoint. The second purple candle is called Candle of Peace. He is our Peace. The third candle, pink in color, is called Candle of Joy. Jesus is the joy of the world. The fourth candle, is called Candle of Love. Jesus the fulfilment of God's love for us.

The word Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, which means *coming*. St. Bernard of Clairvaux writes about the three comings of Christ. Unlike the other two, which are visible, the third coming lies invisibly between them. In his first coming, Christ came in our flesh, dwelling among men and women. In the final coming, he will be seen in glory and majesty. In the middle (third) coming, he comes in spirit and in power.

The Advent season prepares us for the celebration of Christ's first coming. It is a penitential, soul-searching, and spiritual reawakening journey to renew us to welcome the "Word Made Flesh." The purple color of the Advent season reminds us that the season is a penitential and a sobering journey. The purple color also foreshadows the sovereignty and the royalty of Christ. Purple was a kingly color.

Almost everybody, Christians, and non-Christians alike, in one way or another, prepare for Christmas celebration. The commercialization of Christmas is well known. However, for us Catholics, the spiritual preparation is more important. A good spiritual preparation makes every Christmas become the first Christmas. That is why the first reading from Isaiah is an invitation for repentance and a pleading for God's mercy and forgiveness. "Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful; all of us have become like unclean people, all our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves and our guilt carries us away like the wind. … Yet, O Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you are the potter; we are the work of your hands." Therefore, we are to acknowledge our sins and have a true repentance. The Sacrament of Reconciliation helps us to prepare spiritually.

Our spiritual preparation for Christmas is an essential way to welcome the "revelation of Jesus Christ" in our present life "in spirit and in power;" and in our final time, "in glory and majesty." His coming may be in the evening, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. No matter the time, Jesus tells us, "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know the time."

Some spiritual steps to a good Advent season:

- Earnestly pray with and meditate on the themes of the four weeks of Advent season: hope, peace, joy, and love.
- Participate in parish or group or community Advent season spiritual exercises such as retreat, revival, novena, prayer service, Penitential Service, Confession, etc.
- Perform personal acts of penance.
- Make spiritual resolutions to be closer to God.
- Try to reconcile with those you have a strained relationship with.
- Do works of charity.

Isaiah prays "O Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you are the potter; we are the work of your hands." If you have ever visited a blacksmith, or a sculptor, or a potter at work, you would understand Isaiah's prayer. What you see is the total surrender of iron to the blacksmith, of wood to the sculptor, and of clay to the potter. This brings to mind Isaiah question in 45:9, "Shall the clay say to the potter, "What are you doing?" or, "What you are making has no handles"? A song paraphrased from Luke 10:39 says, "Lose yourself in me, and you will find yourself."

Prayer of Losing oneself to God:

O Lord, grant that I may see what you want me to see,
That I may hear what you want me to hear,
That I may think what you want me to think,
That I may speak what you want me to speak,
That I may be where you want me to be,
That I may do what you want me to do,
That I may become who you want me to become,
That your will be done, not mine. Amen.

We wish one another a fruitful and Spirit-filled Advent season.

**Fr. Martin Eke, MSP**

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, November 28, 2026** (*Vigil Mass*) **5:00 PM**
**St. Francis of Assisi Parishioners Living & Deceased**

**Sunday, November 29, 2026** **8:00 AM**
**† Thomas K. White, Sr., † Dorothy White, & † Bessie Clement** requested by Eugene & Stephanie White
**† Nedia Virginia Haydel** requested by Elsa Phillips & Family
**St. Thecla & Daughters of Divine Love** requested by Patricia Chavis

**Sunday, November 29, 2026** **11:00 AM**
**† 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
**† Dalton & † Theresa Belson** requested by Antoinette Goodly
**† Virginia Kately, † L. Willis, & † Joseph Dauphine** requested by Augustine Dauphine

**Monday, November 30, 2026** **7:00 AM**
**Private Intention**

**Tuesday, December 1, 2026** **7:00 AM**
**† Catherine Veazie** requested by John Boxie

**Wednesday, December 2, 2026** **7:00 AM**
**† Elizabeth Paez**

**Thursday, December 3, 2026** **7:00 AM**
**Brandon 'BJ' Smith** requested by Veronica Murphy

**Friday, December 4, 2026** **7:00 AM**
**Associate Missionaries of St. Paul**

**Saturday, December 5, 2026** **7:00 AM**
**† Emily Bourda** requested by Jackie Smith
**Mitzi Murphy**

**OFFERINGS & DONATIONS:** Weekly Offerings and Donations may be mailed, dropped off a t 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** for all grades has begun. 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.

**Texas Catholic Herald :** Check out the digital edition of the Texas Catholic Herald! Read the latest issue online now at **www.archgh.org/digitaleditions** or visit **www.archgh.org/tch**.

### St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church Advent Revival

*"Together in Faith, Waiting for Christ"*

The revival begins Sunday, December 13th @ 9:00 a.m. Mass and continues Monday through Wednesday, December 14th–16th at 6:30 p.m. Fr. Kevin Fausz will serve as the revivalist. All are welcome to join them in prayer as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ.

### Pope's Prayer Intention for November 2026

***For the proper use of wealth.*** Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service [of] the common good and solidarity of those who have less. **- 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** |
| December 12, 2026 Saturday | **Parish Christmas Party** *Home for the Holidays* | 6:30 - 10:00 PM |
| December 19, 2026 Saturday | **Christmas Confession** | 10 AM - 12 PM |
| December 24, 2026 Thursday | **Christmas Eve** Posadas 6:45 PM | Mass 8:00 PM |
| December 25, 2026 Friday | **Christmas Day** The Nativity of the Lord | Masses 8:00 & 11:00 AM |
| January 1, 2027 Friday | **New Year's Day** Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God | Mass 10:00 AM |
| January 17, 2027 Sunday | **Kwanzaa Celebration** | 11:00 AM Mass |
| January 17, 2027 Sunday | **MLK Mass of Remembrance** Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart | 3:00 PM |

**Saturday, December 12, 2026:** ***"Home for the Holidays"***
St. Francis of Assisi and the Pastoral Council will host our annual parish Christmas Appreciation Party on Saturday, December 12th from 6:30 PM to 10:00 PM.
**Please reserve your tables by Monday, November 30**
Contact the parish office or Adrian Sloan at 281-831-8572 or email **pastoralcouncilsfachurch@gmail.com**.
***When making your reservation, please include the number of tables you need and the total number of guests.***
The parish hall will be open for table decorating on:
- Thursday, December 10th & Friday, December 11th - 5:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday, December 12th - 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Let's have a fabulous time celebrating together as *one family, one love*!

**22nd Annual Steps for Students 5K Run/Walk**
**Saturday, February 13, 2027**
*Support **Sister Thecla and St. Christopher Catholic School** in this annual event benefiting Catholic education.*
To donate, **scan the QR code.**
Checks may also be made payable to **St. Christopher Catholic School**.
Please write **"Steps for Students - Attn: Sr. Thecla"** on the memo line.
*Thank you for your generosity and support!*

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:** the Altar Society has ordered 75 poinsettias to decorate the altar for Christmas in memory or in honor of loved ones. They are $10.00 each and will be reserved on a first come first serve basis. The deadline to order is Sunday, December 13th. The order forms are on the information table in church. The order forms and payments may be put in the collection basket, mailed, dropped off, or put in the parish office or the rectory mail box. For more information, you may contact Mrs. Mary Robertson at 832-790-8124 or call the parish office.

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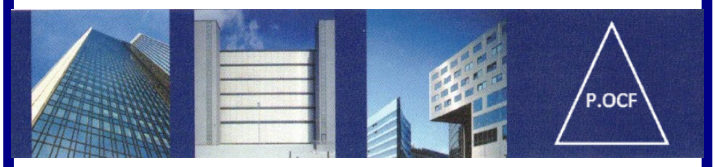


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**ocfirm@ouzenne.com**

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**(713)-223-8071**