



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

April 28th 2024

*In Thee, O Lord, have I put my  
hope. Let me never be confounded.*

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ≈ FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER**

The Apostles were sad at hearing Jesus say to them: I go. Are not we so, too? we who, thanks to the sacred Liturgy, have been in such close company with him ever since the day of his birth at Bethlehem. Yet a few days, and he is to ascend into heaven, and our year is to lose the charm it possessed of following, day by day, the actions and words of our Emmanuel. Still, he would have us moderate our sadness. He tells us that in his stead the Paraclete, the Comforter, is about to descend upon the earth, and abide with us to the end of time, in order that he may give us light and strength. Let us make good use of these last hours with our Jesus: we shall soon have to be preparing for the divine Guest who is to take his place.

By these words, which were spoken shortly before his passion, our Savior does more than tell us of the coming of the Holy Ghost; he also shows us how terrible this coming will be to them that have rejected the Messias. His words are unusually mysterious: let us listen to the explanation given of them by St. Augustine, the Doctor of doctors. When the Holy Ghost is come, says our Lord, he will convince the world of sin, because they believed not in me. How great must, indeed, be the responsibility of them that have been witnesses of Jesus' wonderful works, and yet will not receive his teaching!

Jerusalem will be told that the Holy Ghost has come down upon the disciples: and she will receive the news with the same indifference as she did the miracles which proved Jesus to be her Messias. The coming of the Holy Ghost will serve as a sort of signal of the destruction of the deicide city.



Continued on last Page.....

## On the Vine :Reflection for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that He is the true vine that God intended Israel to be—the source of divine life and wisdom for the nations (see Sirach 24:17–24).

In Baptism, each of us was joined to Him by the Holy Spirit. As a branch grows from a tree, our souls are to draw life from Him, nourished by His word and the Eucharist.

Paul in today's First Reading seeks to be grafted onto the visible expression of Christ the true vine—His Church. Once the chief persecutor of the Church, Paul encounters initial resistance and suspicion. But he is known by his fruits, by his powerful witness to the Lord working in his life (see Matthew 7:16–20).

We too are commanded today to bear good fruits as His disciples so that our lives give glory to God. Like Paul's life, our lives must bear witness to His goodness.

Jesus cautions us, however, that if we're bearing fruit, we can expect that God will “prune” us—as a gardener trims and cuts back a plant so that it will grow stronger and bear even more fruit. He is teaching us today how to look at our sufferings and trials with the eyes of faith. We need to see our struggles as pruning, by which we are being disciplined and trained so that we can grow in holiness and bear fruits of righteousness (see Hebrews 12:4–11).

We need to always remain rooted in Him, as today's Epistle tells us. We remain in Him by keeping His commandment of love, by pondering His words, letting them dwell richly in us (see Colossians 3:16), and by always seeking to do what pleases Him. In everything we must be guided by humility, remembering that apart from Him we can do nothing.

As we sing in today's Psalm, we must fulfill our vows, turning to the Lord in worship, proclaiming his praises, until all families come to know His justice in their lives.

*Dr. Scott Hahn*



The parish staff knows of the following who are ill, in retired living accommodations, etc. **If you are aware of others, please let Father or the parish office know:** Carl Burrell, Bella Mally, Jane Soars, Eleanor Finley, Susan Fisher, Gerri Allen, Kathy McCarthy, Ken Keyes,, Mildred Crawford, and the residents of Franklin Hills Care Center and Cherrywood Place.

Prayers for the infirm and homebound are a work of mercy.

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Saturday

3pm – Confessions (St. Francis Xavier)

4pm – Vigil Mass (St. Francis Xavier)

Sunday

7:30am – Holy Mass,  
(St. Francis Xavier)

9:00am – Holy Mass (St. Patrick)

11:00am – Holy Mass,  
(St. Francis Xavier)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Daily Mass is celebrated in the Convent at St. Patrick's, Monday through Friday at 7:00 a.m.

School Mass at St. Patrick's is celebrated at noon Monday through Friday.

Please contact the parish office by email to arrange a baptism, marriage, or funeral, or to request a certificate.

To request the offering of the Holy Mass for your intention, please email the office or leave your intention in the Sunday collection basket.

St. Francis Xavier can be found online at [sfxspokane.org](http://sfxspokane.org) or at [facebook.com/sfxspokane](https://www.facebook.com/sfxspokane)

Our Mailing Address is:

P.O. Box 7179, Spokane, WA, 99207

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Office Hours.

Tuesday—Thursday 9am-12pm.

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, APRIL 29TH

5:30pm Mass *Patty Underwood*

TUESDAY, APRIL 30TH

8:00am , Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1ST

4:30 pm, Confessions

5:30 pm, Mass *Our Priest*

THURSDAY, MAY 2ND

8:00am , Mass *Holy Souls in Purgatory*

FRIDAY, MAY 3RD

5:30pm First Friday Mass and Adoration

SATURDAY, MAY 4TH

3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Pro Populo*

SUNDAY, MAY 5TH

7:30 am, Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00 am, Mass *Pro Populo*



## Volunteers Needed

**Ushers:** Help collect Offering and count attendance at the your Mass.

**Altar Flowers:** Would you like to provide flowers to add beauty to the altar?

It can be for just one time, or on the regular schedule.

**Please let the office know if you would like to volunteer or need more information.**

## Seven Sisters Apostolate

The parish is looking for volunteers who would be interested in participating in the “Seven Sisters Apostolate.” This Apostolate seeks to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed every day for the intention of the parish priest.

The Apostolate is for women, and involves a commitment of praying in the church one day a week. If you are interested, please contact Patty Parra at (509)993-2864.

## Women of St Francis Xavier

In an effort to cultivate more community at St Francis Xavier, the women of the parish have formed the group: the “Women of St X”.

All women - retired, widowed, single and married - are invited to join.

Activities and volunteer possibilities include:

- Contributing to food prep for after mass socials during the warm months
  - Organizing parish picnics + potlucks
- Organizing + providing food for catechesis nights for children and adults
  - Formation of Bible studies + small groups
  - Corporal works of mercy for the sick and elderly
  - Other misc. needs of the parish

If you are interested in taking an active role in creating a vibrant parish community, please see the girls in the back with the email signup sheets + clipboards after mass on 4/14, 4/21, & 4/28 or email [women.of.st.x@gmail.com](mailto:women.of.st.x@gmail.com).

## Refreshments will be served after the 11am Mass, on the lawn in front of the rectory.

Please let the Women of Saint Francis Xavier (info on the middle page) know if you would like to help with food or beverages.

### Continued From Cover....

Jesus adds: The Paraclete will convince the world of justice, because I go to the Father, and ye shall see me no longer. The Apostles, and they that believe their word, shall be just and holy by faith: they will believe in him that is gone to the Father—in him whom they are to see no longer in this world. Jerusalem, on the contrary, will remember him only to blaspheme him: the holiness, the faith, the justice of them that shall believe, will be her condemnation, and the Holy Ghost will leave her to her fate. Jesus continues: the Paraclete will convince the world of judgment, because the prince of this world is already judged. They that follow not Christ Jesus, follow Satan: he is their prince, but his judgment is already pronounced. The Holy Ghost warns the followers of the world that their leader is already in eternal torments. Let them reflect well upon this; for, as St. Augustine observes, “the pride of man has no right to reckon upon indulgence; let it but think of the hell into which even the angels were cast because they were proud.”

*Commentary from The Liturgical Year by Dom Prosper Guéranger O.S.B. (1805-1875)*

### St. Pius V, Pope April 30th

Michael Ghislieri was born in Italy in 1504. His whole life was always guided by the most perfect maxims of Christian piety. At the age of fifteen he received the Dominican habit, and at once became a model of religious perfection. In 1528, he was ordained priest, and then taught philosophy and theology for sixteen years. He also filled other important positions in his Order.

Pope Paul IV in 1556 promoted Michael to the united Bishoprics of Nepi and Sutri in the Papal States, and in 1557 the same Pope created him Cardinal, but his humility and other virtues only became more conspicuous in this exalted position. Pius IV, who succeeded Paul IV in 1559, moved Michael to the diocese of Mondori in Piedmont. At the conclave that was held on the death of Pius IV, St. Charles Borromeo united the suffrages in favor of Cardinal Alexandrinus, as Ghislieri was called, and he became Pope under the title of Pius V in 1566.

Michael's life as Sovereign Pontiff was as exemplary as it had been while he was a simple Dominican Friar. With great piety and apostolic fervor, and in accord with the Decrees of the Council of Trent, he fostered Divine worship, Christian doctrine, and ecclesiastical discipline and also promoted the propagation of the Faith.

It was also during his pontificate that the celebrated victory of Lepanto was gained against the Turks under Don John of Austria. As a result of this victory he ordered the feast of the Holy Rosary to be observed on the first Sunday of October. He died in the year after this victory, on May 1, 1572, and was canonized in 1712 by Pope Clement XI.

**PRAYER:** God, You providently raised up St. Pius in Your Church for the defense of the Faith and for more suitable Divine worship. Through his intercession, help us to participate in Your mysteries with a livelier Faith and a more fruitful love. **Amen.**





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