



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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

## THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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## THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



“Many shall come from the east and the west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into the exterior darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. By these words our Lord wished to signify that many persons born in infidelity shall be saved, and enjoy the society of the saints, and that many who are born in the bosom of the Church shall be cast into Hell, where the worm of conscience, by its gnawing, shall make them weep bitterly for all eternity.

Let us examine the remorses of conscience which a damned Christian shall suffer in Hell: the remorse arising from the thought of the little which he was required to do in order to save his soul; from the remembrance of the trifles for which he lost his soul; from the knowledge of the great good which he has lost through his own fault.... Each of the reprobate will say for eternity: If I abstained from such a gratification; if in certain circumstances I overcame human respect; if I avoided such an occasion of sin, such a companion, I should not now be damned; if I had frequented some pious sodality; if I had gone to confession every week; if in temptations I had recommended myself to God, I would not have relapsed into sin. I have so often proposed to do these things, but I have not done them. I began to practice these means of salvation, but afterwards gave them up; and thus I am lost.

This torment will be increased by the remembrance of the good example given them by some young companions who led a chaste and pious life even in the midst of the world. It will be still more increased by the recollection of all the gifts which the Lord had bestowed upon them, that by their cooperation they might acquire eternal salvation; the gifts of nature — health, riches, respectability of family, talents; all gifts granted by God, not to be employed in the indulgence of pleasures and in the gratification of vanity, but in the sanctification of their souls, and in becoming saints.

## “History Redeemed” : Reflection on The Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

Today’s Liturgy gives us a lesson in ancient Israelite geography and history.

Isaiah’s prophecy in today’s First Reading is quoted by Matthew in today’s Gospel. Both intend to recall the apparent fall of the everlasting kingdom promised to David (see 2 Samuel 7:12–13; Psalm 89; Psalm 132:11–12).

Eight centuries before Christ, that part of the kingdom where the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali lived was attacked by the Assyrians, and the tribes were hauled off into captivity (see 2 Kings 15:29; 1 Chronicles 5:26).

It marked the beginning of the kingdom’s end. The Davidic empire finally crumbled in the sixth century BC, when Jerusalem was seized by Babylon and the remaining tribes were driven into exile (see 2 Kings 24:14).

Isaiah prophesied that Zebulun and Naphtali, the lands first to be degraded, would be the first to see the light of God’s salvation. Jesus today fulfills that prophecy—announcing the restoration of David’s kingdom at precisely the spot where the kingdom began to fall.

His gospel of the Kingdom includes not only the twelve tribes of Israel but all the nations—symbolized by the “Galilee of the Nations.” Calling His first disciples, two fishermen on the Sea of Galilee, He appoints them to be “fishers of men,” gathering people from the ends of the earth.

They are to preach the gospel, Paul says in today’s Epistle, to unite all peoples in the same mind and in the same purpose—in a worldwide kingdom of God.

By their preaching, Isaiah’s promise has been delivered. A world in darkness has seen the light. The yoke of slavery and sin, borne by humanity since time began, has been smashed.

And we are able now, as we sing in today’s Psalm, to dwell in the house of the Lord, to worship Him in the land of the living.

*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:** Bella Mally, Jim Moore, Jane Soars, 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

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](http://facebook.com/sfxspokane)

Our Mailing Address is:

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

## SFX DIRECTORY

**Office Telephone:** (509) 487-6363

**Sacramental Emergencies:** (509) 866-6098

**Father Semple:** [pastor@sfxspokane.org](mailto:pastor@sfxspokane.org)

**Office Email:** [office@sfxspokane.org](mailto:office@sfxspokane.org)

**Office Hours.**

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

9AM-12PM

## THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

### NO DAILY MASS

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 31ST

3:00pm Confessions

4:00pm Mass *Pro Populo*

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST

7:30 am, Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00 am, Mass *Pro Populo*





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### St. Angela Merici, Virgin January 27th

Born in 1474 at Desenzano on the shore of Lake Garda, Italy, St. Angela Merici became a tertiary of St. Francis at fifteen years of age. In a vision God revealed to her that she would establish a “company” to promote the welfare of souls. At Desenzano she established a school for the instruction of young girls and a second school at Brescia. She gathered around her twelve religious companions and founded the Ursulines at Brescia.

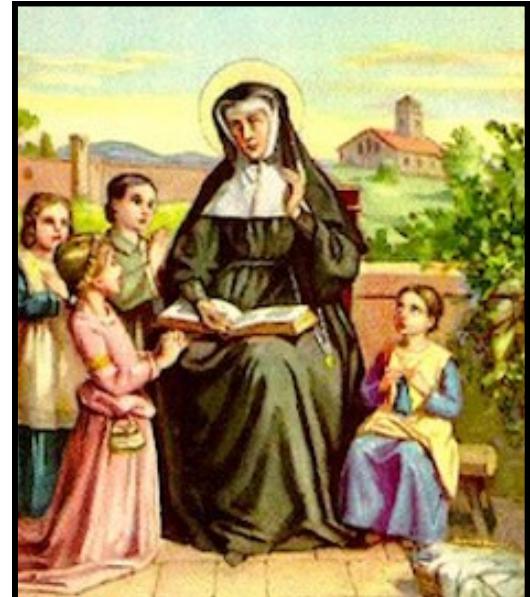
St. Angela was of a reflective bent and possibly the first to grasp the changed role of women in the society

transformed by the Renaissance. She envisaged that those who joined her would remain in the world but devote themselves to every type of corporal and spiritual work of mercy, with special emphasis on education.

However, her idea of education was very different from that of a convent school. The Saint preferred to send her followers to teach girls in their own families. Through this she hoped to effect an improvement in social conditions. For it was her belief that “disorder in society is the result of disorder of the family.” Her idea of a religious order of women without distinctive habit and without solemn vows and enclosure was also in advance of her times—although her Order was obliged to adopt the canonical safeguards then required of all nuns. On November 25, 1535, the solemn canonical institution of the company of St. Ursula took place in the Oratory of the Piazza del Duomo. As a patron, St. Angela chose St. Ursula because ever since her martyrdom St. Ursula was regarded as the ideal type of Christian virginity.

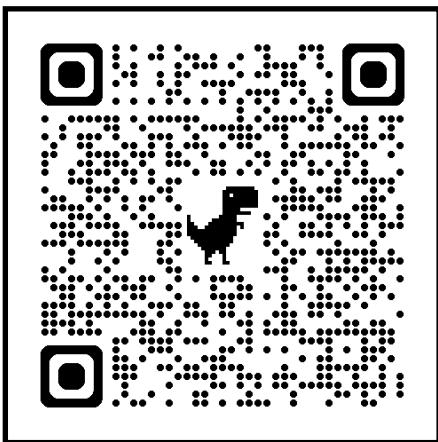
In the year of Angela’s death, 1540, it was estimated that at least half the town of Brescia was Lutheran or Calvinist. However, the schools of the Ursulines did their share in strengthening and extending Catholicism and in safeguarding Italy from what is now termed “modern unbelief.” She was canonized in 1807 by Pope Pius VII.

**Prayer:** Lord, let St. Angela never cease commanding us to Your kindness. By always imitating her charity and prudence may we succeed in keeping Your teaching and preserving good morals.  
**Amen.**





## Confirmation Registration



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# *The Beloved Hearts Ball*

Saturday February 14, 2026  
Davenport Grand Ballroom

COCKTAILS AT 5PM  
DINNER & LIVE AUCTION AT 6PM  
MUSIC & DANCING AT 8PM



## Calling All Families!

St. Francis Xavier's Catechism and Sacramental Preparation classes are beginning THIS MONTH!

**Class Dates & Time: 1/24, 2/21, 3/28, 4/18 at 9:00am-11:30am**

Classes will take place at St. Thomas More: 505 W St. Thomas More Way Spokane, WA 99208

Classes are divided by "Pre", "Post", and "Prep" for sacraments. Ages are flexible depending on the needs of the student.

Sacrament Date: Confirmation and First Communion- **Monday April 13 at 5:30pm at St. X**

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*Jeffrey Byrd*

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