



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

February 25th , 2024

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

The Second Sunday of Lent is called, from the first word of the Introit, Reminiscere; and also Transfiguration-Sunday, on account of the Gospel which is read in the Mass.

Jesus selects three out of the number, who are especially dear to him: Peter, whom he has made the Rock, on which his Church is to be built, and to whom he has promised the Keys of the kingdom of heaven; James, the son of Thunder, who is to be the first Martyr of the Apostolic College; and John, James' brother, and his own Beloved Disciple. Jesus has resolved to take them aside, and show them a glimpse of that glory, which until the day fixed for its manifestation, he conceals from the eyes of mortals.

He therefore leaves the rest of his Disciples in the plain near Nazareth, and goes in company with the three privileged ones, towards a high hill, called Thabor, which is a continuation of Libanus, and which the Psalmist tells us was to rejoice in the Name of the Lord [Ps. lxxxviii. 13]. No sooner has he reached the summit of the mountain, than the three Apostles observe a sudden change come over him; his Face shines as the sun, and his humble garments become white as snow. They observe two venerable men approach, and speak with him upon what he was about to suffer in Jerusalem. One is Moses, the lawgiver; the other is Elias, the Prophet, who was taken up from earth on a fiery chariot, without having passed through the gates of death. These two great representatives of the Jewish Religion, the Law and the Prophets, humbly adore Jesus of Nazareth. The three Apostles are not only dazzled by the brightness which comes from their Divine Master; but they are filled with such a rapture of delight, that they cannot bear the thought of leaving the place. Peter proposes to remain there for ever and build three tabernacles, for Jesus, Moses, and Elias. And whilst they are admiring the glorious sight, and gazing on the beauty of their Jesus' human Nature, a bright cloud overshadows them, and a voice is heard speaking to them: it is the voice of the Eternal Father, proclaiming the Divinity of Jesus, and saying: This my beloved Son!



Continued on Last Page

Bonds Loosed : Reflection on the Second Sunday of Lent

The Lenten season continues with another story of testing. Last Sunday, we heard the trial of Jesus in the desert. In this week's First Reading, we hear of how Abraham was put to the test.

The Church has always read this story as a sign of God's love for the world in giving His only-begotten son.

In today's Epistle, Paul uses exact words drawn from this story to describe how God, like Abraham, did not withhold His only Son, but handed Him over for us on the Cross (see Romans 8:32; Genesis 22:12,16).

In the Gospel today, too, we hear another echo. Jesus is called God's "beloved Son"—as Isaac is described as Abraham's beloved son.

These readings are given to us in Lent to reveal Christ's identity and to strengthen us in the face of our afflictions.

Jesus is shown to be the true son that Abraham rejoiced to see (see Matthew 1:1; John 8:56). In His transfiguration, He is revealed to be the "prophet like Moses" foretold by God—raised from among their own kinsmen, speaking with God's own authority (see Deuteronomy 18:15, 19).

Like Moses, He climbs the mountain with three named friends and beholds God's glory in a cloud (see Exodus 24:1, 9, 15). He is the one prophesied to come after Elijah's return (see Sirach 48:9–10; Malachi 3:1, 23–24).

And, as He discloses to the Apostles, He is the Son of Man sent to suffer and die for our sins (see Isaiah 53:3).

As we sing in today's Psalm, Jesus believed in the face of His afflictions, and God loosed Him from the bonds of death (see Psalm 116:3).

His rising should give us the courage to face our trials, to offer ourselves totally to the Father—as He did, as Abraham and Isaac did.

Freed from death by His death, we come to this Mass to offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and to renew our vows—as His servants and faithful ones.

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 or at [facebook.com/sfxspokane](https://www.facebook.com/sfxspokane)

Our Mailing Address is:

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Office Email: office@sfxspokane.org

Office Hours.

Tuesday, Thursday 9am-12pm.

Wednesday 9am-11am

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH

5:30pm Mass *Leslie & Karen Kilgore*

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH

8:00am , Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

4:30 pm, Confessions

5:30 pm, Mass *Peter Schmitt*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH

8:00am , Mass *Vocations*

FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST

5:30pm , First Friday Mass

Approx 6:15pm Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, MARCH 2ND

3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Pro Populo*

SUNDAY, MARCH 3RD

7:30 am, Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00 am, Mass *Pro Populo*



Organ Project Fundraising

The church website now has a page for the organ project and pictures of work to this point.

Online List of Organ ranks for adoption as part of the fundraiser, with sound samples are coming soon.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of giving.

We are now in Lent, so the organ will be silent on Sundays, with the exception of Laetare Sunday March 10th.

Continued from Cover

This transfiguration of the Son of Man, this manifestation of his glory, lasted but a few moments; his mission was not on Thabor; it was humiliation and suffering in Jerusalem. He therefore withdrew into himself the brightness he had allowed to transpire; and when he came to the three Apostles, who, on hearing the voice from the cloud, had fallen on their faces with fear, - they could see no one save only Jesus. The bright cloud was gone; Moses and Elias had disappeared. What a favour they have had bestowed upon them! Will they remember what they have seen and heard? They have had such a revelation of the Divinity of their dear Master! - is it possible, that when the hour of trial comes, they will forget it, and doubt his being God? and, when they see him suffer and die, be ashamed of him and deny him? Alas! the Gospel has told us what happened to them.



St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows, Cleric

Patron of Clerics and Youth

Born in 1838, this Saint of modern times was originally named Francis after the great Saint of his native city Assisi. He attended the Jesuit college of Spoleto, where was a great favorite with his fellow students and professors. Fastidious in manner and dress, he was fond of literature and the theater. However, he decided to leave the world after being miraculously cured from two bouts of illness.

Francis was guided by our Lady into the Passionist Institute, where he took the name Gabriel and became a veritable Apostle of her Sorrows. In 1862, at twenty-four years of age, he died of tuberculosis, having already attained to a heroic degree of sanctity by a life of self-denial and great devotion to Our Lord's Passion. He was canonized in 1920 by Pope Benedict XV and is the Patron of youth, especially of young religious.

Gabriel, in life, did not perform any miraculous events, but after his death (in 1862) many miracles occurred at his tomb in Isola di Gran Sasso, Italy.

PRAYER: Lord, You inspired St. Gabriel of our Lady of Sorrows with a special love for Your Mother and compassion for her sorrows. Through her, You raised him to the heights of holiness. Grant us great devotion to her sorrows, that we may know her as our loving Mother. Amen.





March 28 • 4 pm - March 30 • 1 pm
Men's and Women's Holy Week Retreat
 The Triduum in Light of the Holy Year of Prayer:
 Praying the Three Days of the Pascal Mystery with Fr. Roger Keeler

ihrc.net/events
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Individuals: \$240, Couples: \$395 (includes lodging & 5 meals)
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