



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

March 2nd, 2025

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

## THE EIGHT SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



## QUINQUAGESIMA SUNDAY

Kindness stops the torrent of angry passion, takes the sting from failure, and kindles courageous ambition. It lifts the unfortunate, leads back the wayward, and walks in the steps of our Savior.

Kindness is too often left uncultivated because people do not sufficiently understand its value. Men may be charitable, merciful, and self-sacrificing, yet not kind. Kindness, as a grace, is not always sufficiently cultivated even among some devout people. Many devout people are unkind. There is sometimes a sort of spiritual selfishness in their devotion, which may interfere with kindness. This calls for much vigilance...

In the course of the ages, there appeared only one who embodied all the characteristics of a perfect gentleman, and that was Jesus Christ. In all His career of thirty-three years, not a single instance of unkindness can be discovered. The sweetness of His smile, the glint of His eye, the sympathy that crept into His face as He consoled, comforted, or encouraged someone in need of help—all bespoke real kindness and affection for His fellowman. Even when He chided hypocrites, He was impelled by love for those whom He saw exploited. Gentleness, respect for the feelings of others, and consideration of their circumstances are the chief qualities of a gentleman or a lady. To be gentle and courteous is to imitate Christ. Our Lord said, "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

Commentary from *Kindness*  
by Fr. Lawrence G. Lovasik  
(1913-1986)



## Heart and Mouth : Reflection on The Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time

In today's readings we hear Jesus speaking in Galilee as well as a Jewish sage named Sirach writing in Jerusalem more than a century earlier. The two of them touch upon a single truth: The words that come out of us make known the hidden thoughts within us. Speech reveals the secrets of the heart.

Sirach teaches that speaking is “the test of men” and their character. One who is upright will utter words that are truthful and encouraging to others. But one whose heart is cluttered with “refuse” will be exposed, since the “fruit” of his mouth speaks volumes about the “tree” that produces it. Sirach also compares the testing of our words to clay fired in a kiln—if properly prepared, a useful vessel emerges; but if the clay is not fully dried, it will break apart in the extreme heat.

In a similar way, Jesus insists that a person speaks “out of the abundance of the heart.” He too compares our speech, whether good or bad, to what grows on a tree: “For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit.”

Both readings urge us to make wholesome speech a habit. After all, much about who we are is brought to light through what we say. But there's an additional step: The Lord is asking us to look inward, to examine our hearts and fill them with the “good treasure” that God desires.

Why do purity of heart and speech matter so much? Because, as Jesus declares elsewhere: “by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned” (Matthew 12:37). They matter because they help to decide our final judgment, and this is where the Second Reading comes in. Paul reminds us that God will destroy death forever, and if we are to share in this victory and live forever with the Lord, then we must take all steps necessary to give our hearts and lips to what is good.

*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:** 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)

## SFX DIRECTORY

Office Telephone: (509) 487-6363

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Office Hours.

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

9AM-12PM

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

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

## THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

### MONDAY, MARCH 3RD

5:30pm, Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

### TUESDAY, MARCH 4TH

8:00am, Mass *Priests in Purgatory*

### ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5TH

4:30 pm, Confessions

5:30 pm, Latin Mass with imposition of ashes

### THURSDAY, MARCH 6TH

8:00am, Mass *Priests in purgatory*

### FRIDAY, MARCH 7TH

5:30pm, Stations of the Cross (Mary Queen Parish)

### SATURDAY, MARCH 8TH

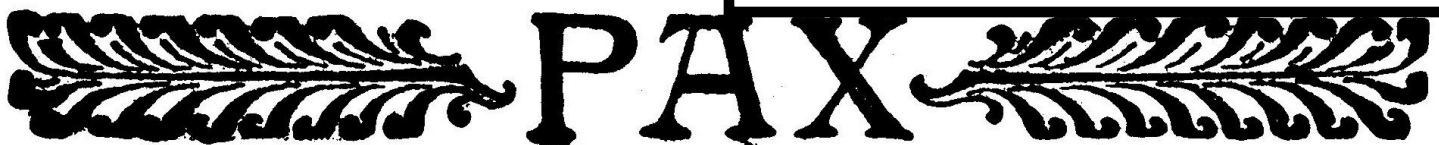
3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Pro Populo*

### SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH

7:30 am, Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00 am, Mass *Pro Populo*



## 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) 362-8646

### St. Cunegundes, Empress

#### Patroness of Lithuania March 3rd

The Father of St. Cunegundes was Sigfrid, first Count of Luxemburg. After a pious education, she was married to St. Henry, Duke of Bavaria, who, upon the death of Emperor Otho III, was chosen King of the Romans. St. Cunegundes was crowned at Paderborn in 1002.

In 1014, the Saint went with her husband to Rome and became Empress, receiving together with him the imperial crown from the hands of Pope Benedict VIII. Though married, she lived in continence, for, with her husband’s consent, she had made a vow of virginity before her marriage.

Henry II died in 1024, leaving his widow comparatively poor, for she had given away nearly all her wealth in charitable works.



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In 1025, on the anniversary of his death, and on the occasion of the dedication of a monastery that she had built for Benedictine nuns at Kaffungen, Cunegundes clothed herself with a poor habit, adopted the veil, which she received from the hands of the Bishop, and entered that same monastery. She spent the last fifteen years of her life in prayer, reading, and manual labor. She died about 1040.

**PRAYER:** God, You inspired St. Cunegundes to strive for perfect charity and so attain Your Kingdom at the end of her pilgrimage on earth. Strengthen us through her intercession that we may advance rejoicing in the way of love. **Amen**



# Upcoming events

## Ash Wednesday March 5th

12:15pm Mass St Patrick (*English*)

5:30pm Mass St Francis Xavier (*Latin*)

## St. Patrick's Patronal Feast

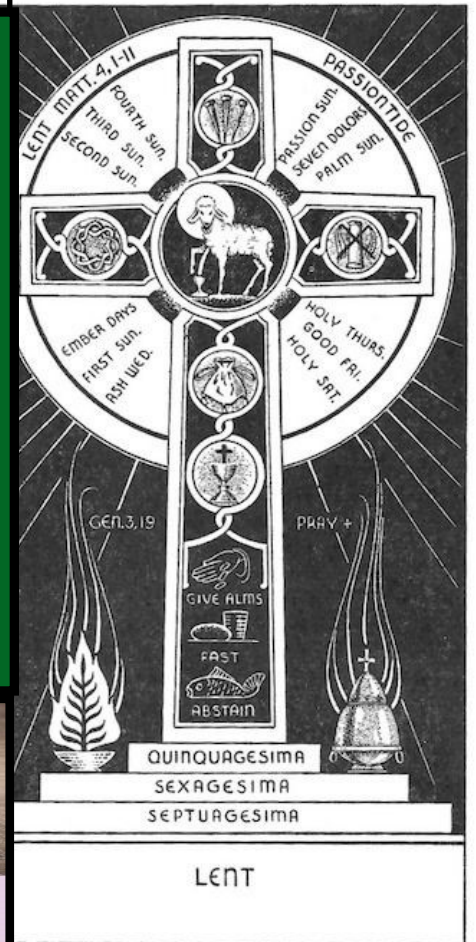
Saturday March 15 at 5:30pm

School Hall

Traditional Irish Dinner

Live Music provided by  
The Morgan Brother's Band

Crafts, Face Painting, Family Fun



## Stations of the Cross

AND LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS  
5:30pm at Mary Queen - Hillyard

St. Francis Xavier and St. Patrick are joining Mary Queen to bring this Lenten tradition to all our families.

Each parish will take turns volunteering to bring soup. Please see the dates and sign up in the vestibule to bring a meatless soup to share. From a different parish? Bring your favorite soup and join us!



March 7

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

March 14

ST. PATRICK

March 21

MARY QUEEN

March 28

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

April 4

ST. PATRICK

April 11

MARY QUEEN



Questions? Email [women.of.st.x@gmail.com](mailto:women.of.st.x@gmail.com)