



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

April 7th, 2024

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Mercy thrives in the souls of those alone who visualize everything in conspectu Dei; who, in full awakens, measure everything by supernatural standards. It also presupposes an inward suppleness and fluidity; a thoroughly melted, quickened, liberated heart. Every inward scar, as it were — every “hardening,” every “incrustation” brought about by an experience we have failed to rectify before God — dams up the flux of mercy.

Nay, the path of mercy is thwarted by every kind of inner unfreedom: by our bondage, for example, to anxiety or to disgust; to the rancor evoked in us by an insult; and in general to every over-emphatic preoccupation. For everything that stunts our freedom tends to make us self-conscious and to deprive us of the capacity, implied in mercy, of taking our stand “above the situation.”

He alone who has attained the supernatural sovereignty that results from true freedom and that is reserved for those who seek only the kingdom of God and His justice, who expects nothing of his own forces but everything of God — he alone can participate in the specifically divine virtue of mercy.



*Commentary from Transformation in Christ by Dietrich von
Hildebrand (1889-1977).*

The Day the Lord Made : Reflection for Divine Mercy Sunday

Three times in today's Psalm we cry out a victory shout: "His mercy endures forever."

Truly we've known the everlasting love of God, who has come to us as our Savior. By the blood and water that flowed from Jesus' pierced side (see John 19:34), we've been made God's children, as we hear in today's Epistle.

Yet we never met Jesus, never heard Him teach, never saw Him raised from the dead. His saving Word came to us in the Church—through the ministry of the apostles, who in today's Gospel are sent as He was sent.

He was made a life-giving Spirit (see 1 Corinthians 15:45) and He filled His apostles with that Spirit. As we hear in today's First Reading, they bore witness to His resurrection with great power. And through their witness, handed down in the Church through the centuries, their teaching and traditions have reached us (see Acts 2:42).

We encounter Him as the apostles did—in the breaking of the bread on the Lord's day (see Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2; Revelation 1:10).

There is something liturgical about the way today's Gospel scenes unfold. It's as if John is trying to show us how the risen Lord comes to us in the liturgy and sacraments.

In both scenes it is Sunday night. The doors are bolted tight, yet Jesus mysteriously comes. He greets them with an expression, "Peace be with you," used elsewhere by divine messengers (see Daniel 10:19; Judges 6:23). He shows them signs of His real bodily presence. And on both nights the disciples respond by joyfully receiving Jesus as their "Lord."

Isn't this what happens in the Mass—where our Lord speaks to us in His Word, and gives himself to us in the sacrament of His body and blood?

Let us approach the altar with joy, knowing that every Eucharist is the day the Lord has made—when the victory of Easter is again made wonderful in our eyes.

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:

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

SFX DIRECTORY

Office Telephone: (509) 487-6363

Sacramental Emergencies: (509) 866-6098

Father Semple: pastor@sfxspokane.org

Office Email: office@sfxspokane.org

Office Hours.

Tuesday—Thursday 9am-12pm.

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, APRIL 8TH

5:30pm Mass *Peter Schmitt*

TUESDAY, APRIL 9TH

8:00am , Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10TH

4:30 pm, Confessions

5:30 pm, Mass *Religious*

THURSDAY, APRIL 11TH

8:00am , Mass *Vocations*

SATURDAY, APRIL 13TH

3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Pro Populo*

SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH

7:30 am, Mass *Pro Populo*

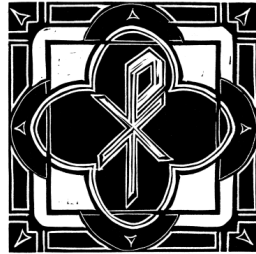
11:00 am, Mass *Pro Populo*



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
with sound samples, and info on how to give
are **coming soon.**



Volunteers Needed

Ushers

Altar Flowers

Money Counters

Coffee and Donut setup and/or take down

Please let the office know if you are interested or would like
more information.

St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr April 11th

St. Stanislaus was born in July 26, 1030, at Sezepanow in the diocese of Krakow, Poland. In his childhood were laid the foundation of his future sanctity. After an early training in the schools of his native country and at the university of Gnesna, he was sent to Paris, where he spent seven years in the study of Canon Law and Theology. Out of humility he refused the degree of Doctor and returned home.

On the death of his parents Stanislaus gave away his ample fortune to the poor, and received the order of priesthood from the Bishop of Krakow, who made him canon of the cathedral and, soon afterward, preacher and vicar-general. His sermons produced a wonderful reformation of manners. After death of the Bishop he was unanimously chosen to succeed him in 1072.

Boleslaus II, then King of Poland, was leading an infamous life. The Saint reproached him in private with the irregularity of his conduct. The King at first seemed to repent, but he soon broke out again into enormous excesses. The Saint again remonstrated, and threatened excommunication. The King became enraged.

Finally, in 1079, after much patience, the Bishop pronounced upon the King the sentence of excommunication. This cost him his life, for while he was in a small chapel outside of Krakow the King and his guard entered. When the guards refused to obey the wicked order of the King to put the Bishop to death, the impious King murdered the holy Bishop with his own hands.

PRAYER: God, for Your honor the holy Bishop Stanislaus fell before the swords of his persecutors. Grant that we may be strong in the Faith and persevere until death. Amen.

