



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER—GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

The practice for this holy Season mainly consists in the spiritual joy, which it should produce in every soul that is risen with Jesus. This joy is a foretaste of eternal happiness, and the Christian ought to consider it a duty to keep it up within him, by ardently seeking after that life which is in our divine Head, and by carefully shunning sin which causes death. During the last nine weeks, we have mourned for our sins and done penance for them; we have followed Jesus to Calvary; but now, our holy Mother the Church is urgent in bidding us rejoice. She herself has laid aside all sorrow; the voice of her weeping is changed into the song of a delighted Spouse.

In order that she might impart this joy to all her children, she has taken their weakness into account. After reminding them of the necessity of expiation, she gave them forty days wherein to do penance; and then, taking off all the taint of Lenten mortification, she brings us to Easter as to a land where there is nothing but gladness, light, life, joy, calm, and the sweet hope of immortality. Thus does she produce, in those of her children who have no elevation of soul, sentiments in harmony with the great Feast, such as the most perfect feel; and by this means, all, both fervent and tepid, unite their voices in one same hymn of praise to our risen Jesus.

The great Liturgist of the 12th century, Rupert, Abbot of Deutz, thus speaks of the pious artifice used



by the Church to infuse the spirit of Easter into all: “There are certain carnal minds, that seem unable to open their eyes to spiritual things, unless roused by some unusual excitement; and for this reason, the Church makes use of such means. Thus, the Lenten Fast, which we offer up to God as our yearly tithe, goes on till the most sacred night of Easter; then follow fifty days without so much as one single Fast.. Hence it happens, that while the body is being mortified, and is to continue to be so till Easter Night, that holy night is eagerly looked forward to even by the carnal minded; they long for it to come; and, meanwhile, they carefully count each of the forty days, as a wearied traveler does the miles. Thus, the sacred Solemnity is sweet to all, and dear to all, and desired by all, as light is to them that walk in darkness, as a fount of living water is to them that thirst, and as “a tent which the Lord hath pitched” for wearied wayfarers.”

The above is taken from an essay “Practice on Paschal Time” by Dom Prosper Guéranger, Abbot of Solesmes.

In these times, always recall that until the Feast of the Ascension in the last week of May, we are engaged in the most joyous period of the liturgical year, the Eastertide, the forty days of the Resurrected Lord.

A COMMENTARY FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

EMMAUS AND US

We should put ourselves in the shoes of the disciples in today's Gospel. Downcast and confused, they're making their way down the road, unable to understand all the things that have occurred.

They know what they've seen—a prophet mighty in word and deed. They know what they were hoping for—that He would be the redeemer of Israel. But they don't know what to make of His violent death at the hands of their rulers.

They can't even recognize Jesus as He draws near to walk with them. He seems like just another foreigner visiting Jerusalem for the Passover.

Note that Jesus doesn't disclose His identity until they describe how they found His tomb empty but "Him they did not see." That's how it is with us, too. Unless He revealed Himself, we would see only an empty tomb and a meaningless death.

How does Jesus make Himself known at Emmaus? First, He interprets "all the Scriptures" as referring to Him. In today's First Reading and Epistle, Peter also opens the Scriptures to proclaim the meaning of Christ's death according to the Father's "set plan"—foreknown before the foundation of the world.

Jesus is described as a new Moses and a new Passover lamb. He is the one of whom David sang in today's Psalm, whose soul was not abandoned to corruption but was shown the path of life.

After opening the Scriptures, Jesus at table took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples—exactly what He did at the Last Supper (see Luke 22:14–20).

In every Eucharist, we reenact that Easter Sunday at Emmaus. Jesus reveals Himself to us in our journey. He speaks to our hearts in the Scriptures. Then at the table of the altar, in the person of the priest, He breaks the bread.

The disciples begged Him, "Stay with us." So He does. Though He has vanished from our sight, in the Eucharist—as at Emmaus—we know Him in the breaking of the bread.

- 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, Daniel Lander, 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

Our office is open Tuesday-Thursday from 8:00a.m. to 12:00p.m.

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, APRIL 24TH

No Mass

TUESDAY, APRIL 25TH

No Mass

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26TH

No Confessions

No Mass

THURSDAY, APRIL 27TH

8:00 am, Mass *Thomas Osten*

SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH

3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Eva Baillie*

SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH

7:30 am, Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00 am, Mass *Poor Souls in Purgatory*



PARISH EVENTS & NOTIFICATIONS

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

The parish is in need of young men willing to train as acolytes. Some Latin comprehension, moral discipline, and a well kept appearance are required. Please email the office.

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.

MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY

If you desire consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, please contact the sisters at 487-3963.

Every Friday evening at St. Patrick's from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., the sisters pray for our families and friends who are not in full communion with the Catholic church and no longer practicing their Catholic faith. Please join us.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

NFP uses the physical signs placed by God within each woman's body to identify when pregnancy can occur. Monthly classes for three months. Tuition \$95.00 for the series. Classes are currently conducted virtually. Contact the Women's Health Center: 509-474-2400

REMEMBER OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

We continue to distribute food through the Missionaries of Charity and Caritas services. Please leave your donations of nonperishable items by the doors of the church.

Diocesan news
to your inbox
every Friday

SCAN TO SIGN UP



SpokaneDiocese.flocknote.com/DiocesanUpdates



GRADUAL FOR VIGIL MASS

Alleluia, alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia

V. Cognoverunt discipuli Dominum
Jesum in Fractione panis.

V. The disciples knew the Lord
Jesus in the breaking of the bread.

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr

St. Fidelis was born in 1577 at Sigmaringen, a town in the principality of Hohenzollern. In 1612, he received Holy Orders and soon afterward entered the Capuchin Order at Fribourg, changing his baptismal name, Mark, to Fidelis.

At the request of the Congregation of The Doctrine of the Faith the Saint undertook, with eight Fathers of his Order, the mission among the Calvinists in the Canton of the Grisons in Switzerland, although his life was threatened. In spite of opposition he gained many converts. He spent much time at the foot of the altar or before crucifix, preparing himself for the martyrdom of which he had a premonition.

On April 24, 1622, Fidelis made his confession, celebrated Mass, and preached at Gruch. At the end of sermon he seemed in an ecstasy and foretold his death to several persons. From Gruch he went to Sewis where he was fired upon by a Calvinist, though without effect.

On his way back to Gruch, the Saint was attacked by an angry mob. He died praying for his attackers and with Names of Jesus and Mary on his lips.

PRAYER: God, You were pleased to adorn St. Fidelis, burning with love for You, with the palm of martyrdom in the propagation of the Faith. By his intercession grant that we may be grounded in love, and experience together with him the power of Christ's Resurrection. Amen.



We give thanks to God always for you all; making a remembrance of you in our prayers without ceasing, (1 Thessalonians 1:2)



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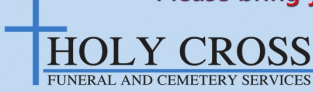
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**Memorial Day Mass
with Bishop Daly**

**Monday, May 29
10 a.m.
at
Holy Cross Cemetery**
7200 N. Wall Street, Spokane

***Please bring your own chairs.**



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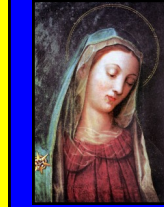
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