



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

April 24th, 2022

*In Thee, O Lord, have I put my
hope. Let me never be confounded.*
- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY ~ LOW SUNDAY

Today, for Divine Mercy Sunday, please turn your attention to this passage on mercy from the theologian Dietrich von Hildebrand's 1948 work *Transformation in Christ*.

“Mercy thrives in the souls of those alone who visualize everything *in conspectu Dei*; who, in full awareness, 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.”



Pay special attention to von Hildebrand's injunction against a “hardened” heart. This phrase recurs in countless variations throughout the Old and New Testaments, e.g. “Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy. Blessed is the one who fears the Lord always, but whoever hardens his heart will fall into calamity” (Proverbs, 28:13-14) or “And Jesus ... said to them, “Why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened?” (Mark, 8:17).

In both of those passages, we see the damage that can be done by the internal spiritual blockages that we inflict upon ourselves, and how these blockages deny us Christ's boundless mercy. Proverbs demonstrates the danger of holding onto our transgressions and defects, and the Gospel of Mark demonstrates that when we focus solely on our own concerns, we lose sight of the Kingdom of God.

If we wish to live in the Kingdom of God, we must orient ourselves properly to his mercy. Hostility, selfishness, dishonesty, and all forms of interior bondage will deny us the fruits which Christ has so freely, and at such great cost, given to us.

A COMMENTARY FOR SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

BREATH OF NEW LIFE

The prophet Daniel in a vision saw “One like the Son of Man” receive everlasting kingship (see Daniel 7:9–14). John is taken to heaven in today’s Second Reading where he sees Daniel’s prophecy fulfilled in Jesus, who appears as “One like a Son of Man.”

Jesus is clad in the robe of a High Priest (see Exodus 28:4; Wisdom 18:24) and wearing the gold sash of a king (see 1 Maccabees 10:89). He has been exalted by the right hand of the Lord, as we sing in today’s Psalm.

His risen body, which the Apostles touch in today’s Gospel, has been made a life-giving Spirit (see 1 Corinthians 15:45).

As the Father anointed Him with the Spirit and power (see Acts 10:38), Jesus pours out that Spirit on the Apostles, sending them into the world “as the Father has sent Me.” Jesus “breathes” the Spirit of His divine life into the Apostles—as God blew the “breath of life” into Adam (see Genesis 2:7), as Elijah’s prayer returned “the life breath” to the dead child (see 1 Kings 17:21–23), and as the Spirit breathed new life into the slain in the valley of bones (see Ezekiel 37:9–10).

His creative breath unites the Apostles—His Church—to His body, and empowers them to breathe His life into a dying world, to make it a new creation.

In today’s Gospel and First Reading, we see the Apostles fulfilling this mission with powers only God possesses—the power to forgive sins and to work “signs and wonders,” a biblical expression only used



to describe the mighty works of God (see Exodus 7:3; 11:10; Acts 7:36).

Thomas and the others saw “many other signs” after Jesus was raised from the dead. They saw and they believed.

They have been given His life, which continues in the Church’s Word and sacraments, so that we who have not seen might inherit His blessings and “have life in His name.”

- 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, Rose Zinkgraf, Bella Mally, Jane Soars, Eleanor Finley, Susan Fisher, Gerri Allen, Peggy Cloke, Kathy McCarthy, Ken Keyes, Wayne Anderson, 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

8am – Daily Mass followed by Confessions
(**St. Patrick**)

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**)

9:00am – Holy Mass, Extraordinary Form
(**St. Francis Xavier**)

11:00am – Holy Mass, Extraordinary Form
(**St. Francis Xavier**)

*On most Sundays, Confessions are heard during the
9am & 11am Holy Masses*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

School Mass for Chesterton Academy is open to the
public, and is celebrated at St. Patrick's Monday
through Friday at 12:00 p.m. during the school year.

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.

Please contact Jackie Silvey for prayer requests.
She can be reached at (509) 483-3109

St. Francis Xavier can be found online at
sfxspokane.org or at
facebook.com/sfxspokane

Our Mailing Address is:
P.O. Box 7179, Spokane, WA, 99207

SFX DIRECTORY

Office Telephone: (509) 487-6363

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Father Semple: pastor@sfxspokane.org

Office Email: office@sfxspokane.org

**Our office is open on Saturdays
from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, APR. 25TH

Latin Mass, 5:30 p.m. *Paul Semple* +

TUESDAY, APR. 26TH

Latin Mass, 8:00 a.m., *Carol Semple* +

WEDNESDAY, APR. 27TH

Confessions, 4:30 p.m.

English Mass, 5:30 p.m. *Sherry Janon*

THURSDAY, APR. 28TH

English Mass, 8:00 a.m., *Sherry Janon*

SATURDAY, APR. 30TH

Confessions, 3:00 p.m.

English Vigil Mass, 4:00 p.m., *Kopczynski Family*

SUNDAY, MAY 1ST

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER &

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

English Mass, 7:30 a.m. *Pro Populo*

Latin Low Mass, 9:00 a.m. *Private Intention*

Latin Sung Mass, 11:00 a.m. *Poor Souls*



PARISH EVENTS & NOTIFICATIONS

SINGERS AND SERVERS NEEDED

As we look to expand liturgical practice in our Extraordinary Form Masses, the parish is in need of singers for our schola, as well as young men willing to train as acolytes. Some Latin comprehension, moral discipline, and a well-kempt appearance are required. Please email the office.

NORTHSIDE CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

Weekly youth group ministry is back on for the school year.

High School meets on Tuesdays from 6:30-8pm at the St. Charles Youth Room. Middle School on meets on Wednesdays from 7-8:30pm at the St. Thomas More gym.

Visit “ncymspokane.com” for more details, or contact the Youth Ministry Coordinator, JJ Nazzaro, at “jnazzaro@dioceseofspokane.org”

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.

BEATRICE CO-OPERATIVE ACADEMY

Beatrice Co-Operative Academy is a home education community looking for amateurs (lovers of arts) and students wanting to develop via Classical Studies. We have a weekly Mass emphasizing the Source and Summit of our Faith, followed by a study of the Great Souls of the Saints; with a community, brown-bag lunch.

We are ready to expand to other activities of enrichment in classic arts and handicrafts. Let us know if you would like to serve by sharing your talent and passion, or if you are a family looking for such a community. Please contact Michael d'Esterre, at beatriceacademy@gmail.com or 509-903-3315

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.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Greater Spokane County Meals on Wheels needs drivers county wide, this need is particularly desperate in the north and central areas of the City of Spokane. As a Meals on Wheels volunteer, you are delivering much more than a hot meal - you are providing a human connection. A typical volunteer route takes about an hour to an hour and a half to complete. For many of our home-bound neighbors, A MOW volunteer will be the only person they will see or speak with all day. If you have an hour or two a week, month, or something in between to spare, please consider being a volunteer. Please contact Donna Ennis, our Volunteer Coordinator at 509-924-6976 for more information or apply on our website at <https://gscmealsonwheels.org/volunteer/>

REMEMBER OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

During the pandemic, 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.

LOVE AND RESPONSIBILITY

All young adults in their 20s and 30s are welcomed to join a reading group on St. John Paul II's 'Love and Responsibility'. Weekly discussions will explore the Catholic understanding of human sexuality through the words of St. John Paul II. To join and receive updates, please contact Evan Schmittgen: emschmittgen@gmail.com or 614-598-4378

LESSER ALLELUIA FOR THE 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

FOR USE AT VIGIL MASS

Alleluia

In die resurrectionis meae dicit Dominus
Pracedam vos in Galilaeam

Alleluia

Alleluia

On the day of my resurrection, says the
Lord,

I will go before all of you into Galilee

Alleluia

A PRAYER FOR HOLY COMMUNION

TRUSTING in Your goodness and great mercy, O Lord, I come as one sick to the Healer, as one hungry and thirsty to the Fountain of life, as one in need to the King of heaven, a servant to his Lord, a creature to his Creator, a soul in desolation to my gentle Comforter.

But whence is this to me, that You should come to me? Who am I that You should offer Yourself to me? How dares the sinner to appear in Your presence, and You, how do You condescend to come to the sinner? You know Your servant, and You know that he has nothing good in him that You should grant him this.

I confess, therefore, my unworthiness. I acknowledge Your goodness. I praise Your mercy, and give thanks for Your immense love. For it is because of Yourself that You do it, not for any merit of mine; so that Your goodness may be better known to me, that greater love may be aroused and more perfect humility born in me. Since, then, this pleases You and You have so willed it, Your graciousness pleases me also. Oh, that my sinfulness may not stand in the way!

O most sweet and merciful Jesus, what great reverence, thanks, and never ending praise are due to You for our taking of Your sacred body, whose dignity no man can express!

But on what shall I think in this Communion, this approach to my Lord, Whom I can never reverence as I ought, and yet Whom I desire devoutly to receive? What thought better, more helpful to me than to humble myself entirely in Your presence and exalt Your infinite goodness above myself? I praise You, my God, and extol You forever! I despise myself and cast myself before You in the depths of my unworthiness.



Are You Prepared? End of Life Workshop

Planning for Your Spiritual & Corporal Needs

Saturday, May 14 • 10:30am – 2:00pm

St. Thomas More Parish

(515 W. St. Thomas More Way, Spokane, WA 99208)

NO CHARGE

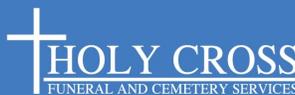
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Any dead fish can go with the stream, but only a living one can go against it. G.K. CHESTERTON

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