



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

May 15th, 2022

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

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ 4TH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

As we continue the Easter season, please reflect on this sermon from St. Alphonsus Ligouri, on the continuing importance of repentance, and the miserable state of those who relapse in sin.



I hope, my dear Christians, that, as Christ is risen, you have in this holy paschal time, gone to confession, and have risen from your sins. But, attend to what St. Jerome teaches: many begin well, but few persevere. Now, the Holy Spirit declares that he who perseveres in holiness to death, and not simply they who begin a good life, shall be saved: "But he that shall persevere to the end, he shall be saved." (Matt. 24:13.)

The crown of Paradise, says St. Bernard, is promised to those who commence, but it is given only to those who persevere. Since, brothers, you have resolved to give yourselves to God, listen to the admonition of the Holy Spirit: "Son, when thou comes to the service of God, stand in justice and in fear, and prepare thyself for temptation" (Eccl. 2:1). Do not imagine that you shall have no more temptations, but prepare yourself for the combat, and guard against a relapse into the sins you have confessed; for, if you lose the grace of God again, you shall find it difficult to recover it.

Since, then, dearly beloved Christians, you have made a sincere confession of your sins, Jesus Christ says to you what he says to the paralytic: "Behold, thou art made whole. Sin no more, lest some worse thing happen to thee" (John 5:14). By the confessions which you have made your souls are healed, but not as yet saved; for, if you return to sin, you shall be again condemned to hell, and the injury caused by the relapse shall be far greater than that which you sustained from your former sins.

If a man recover from a mortal disease, and afterwards fall back into it, he shall have lost so much of his natural strength, that his recovery from the relapse will be impossible. This is precisely what will happen to relaxing sinners; returning to the disease, taking back into the soul the sickness vomited forth in confession, they shall be so weak, that they will become objects of amusement to the devil. St. Anselm says that the devil acquires a certain dominion over them, so that he makes them fall, and fall again as he wishes. Hence the miserable beings become like birds with which a child amuses himself. He allows them, from time to time, to fly to a certain height, and then draws them back again when he pleases, by means of a cord made fast to them. Such is the manner in which the devil treats relapsing sinners.

A COMMENTARY FOR FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

NEW FOR ALL AGES

By God's goodness and compassion, the doors of His kingdom have been opened to all who have faith, Jew or Gentile.

That's the good news Paul and Barnabas proclaim in today's First Reading. With the coming of the Church—the new Jerusalem John sees in today's Second Reading—God is “making all things new.”

In His Church, the “old order” of death is passing away and God for all time is making His dwelling with the human race, so that all peoples “will be His people and God Himself will always be with them.” In this the promises made through His prophets are accomplished (see Ezekiel 37:27; Isaiah 25:8; 35:10).

The Church is “the kingdom for all ages” that we sing of in today's Psalm. That's why we see the Apostles, under the guidance of the Spirit, ordaining “presbyters” or priests (see 1 Timothy 4:14; Titus 1:5).

Anointed priests and bishops will be the Apostles' successors, ensuring that the Church's “dominion endures through all generations” (see Philippians 1:1, note that the New American Bible translates episcopos, the Greek word for bishops, as “overseers”).

Until the end of time, the Church will declare to the world God's mighty deeds, blessing His holy name and giving Him thanks, singing of the glories of His kingdom.

In His Church, we know ourselves as His “faithful ones,” as those Jesus calls “My little children” in today's Gospel. We live by the new law, the “new commandment” that He gave in His final hours.



The love He commands of us is no human love but a supernatural love. We love each other as Jesus loved us in suffering and dying for us. We love in imitation of His love.

This kind of love is only made possible by the Spirit poured into our hearts at Baptism (see Romans 5:5), renewed in the sacrifice His priests offer in every Mass.

By our love we glorify the Father. And by our love all peoples will know that we are His people, that He is our God.

- 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](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 on Saturdays
from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

THERE WILL BE NO DAILY MASSES OR CONFESSIONS THIS WEEK DUE TO FATHER'S ANNUAL VACATION

SATURDAY, MAY 21ST

Confessions, 3:00 p.m.

English Vigil Mass, 4:00 p.m., *Fr. David Kruse*

SUNDAY, MAY 22ND

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER &

5TH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

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 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

FOR USE AT VIGIL MASS

Alleluia

Alleluia

Dextera Dei fecit Virtutem

The right hand of God makes strength

Dextera Domini exaltavit me

The right hand of the Lord raises me

Alleluia

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)

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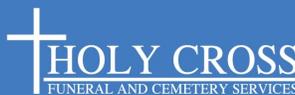
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