



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

May 29th, 2022

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

ASCENSION OF THE LORD & SUNDAY AFTER THE ASCENSION

The central idea in the liturgy today is the raising of our hearts toward heaven, so that we may begin to dwell in spirit where Jesus has gone before us. “Christ’s ascension,” says St. Leo, “is our own ascension; our body has the hope of one day being where its glorious Head has preceded it.”



In fact, Our Lord has already said in His discourse after the Last Supper, “I go to prepare a place for you. And if I shall go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to Myself; that where I am, you also may be” (Jn. 14:2-3).

Thus, the Ascension is a feast of joyful hope, a sweet foretaste of heaven. By going before us, Jesus our Head has given us the right to follow Him there some day, and we can even say with St. Leo, “In the person of Christ, we have penetrated the heights of heaven.” As in Christ Crucified we die to sin, as in the risen Christ we rise to the life of grace, so too, we are raised up to heaven in the Ascension of Christ.

This vital participation in Christ’s mysteries is the essential consequence of our incorporation in Him. He is our Head; we, as His members, are totally dependent upon Him and intimately bound to His destiny. “God, who is rich in mercy,” says St. Paul, “for His exceeding charity wherewith He loved us ... hath quickened us together in Christ ... and hath raised us up ... and hath made us sit together in the heavenly places through Christ Jesus” (Eph. 2:4-6). Our right to heaven has been given us, our place is ready; it is for us to live in such a way that we may occupy it someday.

A COMMENTARY FOR THE ASCENSION

THE GOOD NEWS

In today's First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, St. Luke gives the surprising news that there is more of the story to be told. The story did not end with the empty tomb, or with Jesus' appearances to the Apostles over the course of forty days. Jesus' saving work will have a liturgical consummation. He is the great high priest, and He has still to ascend to the heavenly Jerusalem, there to celebrate the feast in the true Holy of Holies.

The truth of this feast shines forth from the Letter to the Hebrews, where we read of the great high priest's passing through the heavens, the sinless intercessor's sacrifice on our behalf (see Hebrews 4:14–15).

Indeed, His intercession will lead to the Holy Spirit's descent in fire upon the Church. Luke spells out that promise in the First Reading for the feast of the Ascension: "in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 1:5). The Ascension is the preliminary feast that directs the Church's attention forward to Pentecost. On that day, salvation will be complete; for salvation is not simply expiation for sins (that would be wonder enough), but it is something even greater than that. Expiation is itself a necessary precondition of our adoption as God's children. To live that divine life we must receive the Holy Spirit. To receive the Holy Spirit we must be purified through Baptism.

The Responsorial Psalm presents the Ascension in terms familiar from the worship of the Jerusalem Temple in the days of King Solomon: "God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord" (Psalm 47). The priest-king takes his place at the head of the people, ruling over the nations, establishing peace.

The Epistle strikes a distinctively Paschal note. In the early Church, as today, Easter was the normal time for the baptism of adult converts. The sacrament was often called "illumination" or "enlightenment" because of the light that came with God's saving grace (see, for example, Hebrews 10:32). Saint Paul, in his Letter to the Ephesians, speaks in terms of glory that leads to greater glories still, as Ascension leads to Pentecost: "May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened," he writes, as he looks to the divinization of the believers. Their "hope" is "his inheritance among the holy ones," the saints who have been adopted into God's family and now rule with Him at the Father's right hand.

This is the "good news" the Apostles are commissioned to spread—to the whole world, to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem—at the Ascension. It's the good news we must spread today.

- 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

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

MONDAY, MAY 30TH

Latin Mass, 5:30 p.m. *Lilley Family*

TUESDAY, MAY 31ST

QUEENSHIP OF MARY

Latin Mass, 8:00 a.m., *Lilley Family*

WEDNESDAY, JUN 1ST

ST. JUSTIN, MARTYR

Confessions, 4:30 p.m.

English Mass, 5:30 p.m., *People of Ukraine*

THURSDAY, JUN 2ND

English Mass, 8:00 a.m., *People of Ukraine*

SATURDAY, JUN 4TH

Confessions, 3:00 p.m.

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

SUNDAY, JUN 5TH

PENTECOST SUNDAY

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

There is no weekly youth ministry during the summer. Middle school students are invited to sign up for our 2nd annual summer camp August 14th-19th and high school students are invited to the Steubenville Conference taking place here in Spokane from July 29th-July 31st.

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.

FR. JOSEPH WEITENSTEINER'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

Saturday, June 4, 2022 at 2:00p.m.
at St. Patrick's Holy Names Hall.

RSVPs would be helpful for planning, but are not required. To RSVP, text or call Mary Roach 509-998-4301 or Irene Cleveland 509-599-8072 Please feel free to leave a message.

LESSER ALLELUIA FOR THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

FOR USE AT VIGIL MASS

Alleluia

Alleluia

Ascendit Deus in iubilatione

God has ascended with jubilation,

Et Dominus in voce tubae

And the Lord with the sound of trumpets

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.



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HOLY CROSS

FUNERAL AND CEMETERY SERVICES

Holy Cross Funeral and Cemetery Services will be hosting GriefShare™ at Immaculate Heart Retreat Center Tuesday afternoons for 13 weeks:

May 10 - August 2 • 1 - 3 pm

GriefShare™ is a scripture-based support group for those grieving the loss of a loved one. Participate in some or all sessions.

To register please call IHRC at (509)448-1224

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We do not want a Church that will move with the world. We want a Church that will move the world.
- G.K. Chesterton -



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