



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

June 18th, 2023

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

In the Gospels, Jesus' heart is moved with pity for the crowds (see Mt 9:36) and He tells us that He is gentle and humble of heart (Mt 11:29). The Sacred Heart of Jesus that began beating in the womb of the Blessed Virgin more than 2,000 years ago still beats today in the glorified humanity of the Risen Christ. And it will pulsate forever, pumping out the grace, mercy and life of God to all of humanity. In the Heart of the Lord, we experience the overwhelming mercy of God and His infinite desire to be in relationship with us.

As St. John reminds us, God is love (see 1 Jn 4), the One who empties himself out for others, desiring our eternal salvation, seeking out the lost and carrying the wandering sheep home. The life of Christ is a mission of mercy, as the Son, in radical obedience to the Father, becomes incarnate in our flesh — preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom, healing the sick, forgiving the sinner, feeding the hungry and, ultimately, offering His life on the cross. Every word, action, gesture and attitude of Jesus manifests a perfect, pure and selfless love for each human person. We see the perfection of charity in the burning heart of Christ.

Lest we think that such a love is naive, simplistic or easy, the Sacred Heart shines forth, crowned with thorns, pierced and bleeding. The crucifixion of Christ is the terrifying path through the valley of darkness and evil which God himself walks, embracing everything sinful, broken and dead that ensnares and destroys us. By remaining silent before His persecutors, praying for His killers, loving a dying thief and asking forgiveness for sinners, Jesus shows that the unconditional, infinite and divine love of His heart is the only force that can heal the world of its hatred, sin and rejection of God. By taking upon himself the totality of human evil committed by every person of every time, Christ refracts this overwhelming darkness into the light of the Resurrection.

Facing the endless and fearful violence of terrorism, mass shootings, civil unrest, drug addiction, abuse of all kinds and a profound disrespect for the sanctity of human life, our contemporary society will only find hope, healing and peace through the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ.



A COMMENTARY FOR THE 11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

KINGDOM OF PRIESTS

The words God speaks to Israel in today's First Reading are intended for us as well.

The Church is the fulfillment of God's covenant promises to Israel—a kingdom of priests and a holy nation (see Deuteronomy 26:19; Isaiah 62:12).

In the Church, we have been gathered as the new “Israel of God” (see Galatians 6:16). He has made us His own people, the flock He tends, as we sing in today's Psalm.

Moses was Israel's first shepherd (see Exodus 3:1). With the Promised Land in view, he prayed that God would raise up a successor so that God's people would not be left as sheep without a shepherd (see Numbers 27:17).

These same words are used in today's Gospel to describe Jesus' pity for the crowds, who are “troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd.”

Israel's shepherds—the Pharisees and scribes—had abandoned and misled the people through their hypocrisy and spiritual blindness (see Matthew 23:1–36; Jeremiah 50:6).

But God had long before promised that He Himself would come and save His sheep—searching over the whole earth where they had been scattered “for lack of a shepherd” (see Ezekiel 34:1–24).

Jesus is the new Moses and new David promised by the prophets, a divine shepherd-king sent to restore God's priestly kingdom (see John 10:11).

As Moses commissioned Joshua as his successor, so we see Jesus today giving the Twelve His powers and authority (see Matthew 9:35; 10:1). In God's plan, they are to seek out the lost sheep of Israel first and then bring all nations into the fold (see Acts 13:46; Romans 1:16).

Together we have been saved and reconciled to God, as we hear in today's Epistle. As He delivered Israel, He has also made us a kingdom of priests in the Church (see Revelation 1:6).

So we come in this Mass to serve Him with gladness, to praise His kindness, which endures forever.

- 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

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Office Telephone: (509) 487-6363

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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, JUNE 19TH

5:30pm, Mass *Priests of the Diocese*

TUESDAY, JUNE 20TH

8:00am Mass, *Catherine Semple*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21ST

No mass

THURSDAY, JUNE 22ND

No mass

SATURDAY, JUNE 24TH

3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Religious*

SUNDAY, JUNE 25TH

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.

COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS AFTER 11AM MASS

Anyone who wants to help set up and/or take down the folding chairs and tables, or provide the refreshments please call or email the office. We would like to involve as many people as we can to get this going strong so we can continue it as long as possible.

Thanks, Taylor



GRADUAL FOR VIGIL MASS

Protector noster aspice, Deus, et respice
super servos tuos.

Behold, O God our protector, and look on thy
servants.

V. Domine, Deus virtutem, exaudi preces
servorum tuorum.

V. O Lord God of Hosts, give ear to the prayers
of thy servants.

Saint Paulinus of Nola June 22nd

Anyone who is praised in the letters of multiple saints undoubtedly must be of extraordinary character. Such a person was Paulinus of Nola, correspondent and friend of Saints Augustine, Jerome, Melania, Martin, Gregory and Ambrose.

Born in 353 at Bordeaux, Gaul, of a senatorial family, St. Paulinus was educated under the poet Ausonius. He married a Spanish Christian lady named Therasia and for fifteen years displayed his talents in honorable employment in Gaul, Italy, and Spain. Paulinus became successively a Roman senator, consul, and governor of Campania.

His conversation with St. Ambrose at Milan, St. Martin whom he met at Vienne, and St. Delphinus, Bishop of Bordeaux, resulted in his being baptized by the latter in 390.

After the death of his only child the Saint and his wife took a vow of chastity, gave away their considerable wealth, and retired to Spain to embrace the religious life. Because of his widespread reputation for holiness, he was made Bishop of Nola in 409.

He had an intense devotion to the Saints and respect for their relics. His poetic works, many of them in honor of St. Felix, place him beside Prudentius as one of the foremost Christian Latin poets of the patristic age. He died in 431.

PRAYER: God, You willed that St. Paulinus, Your Bishop, should shine forth with pastoral solicitude and compassion for the poor. Help us who celebrate his merits to imitate the example of his charity. Amen.





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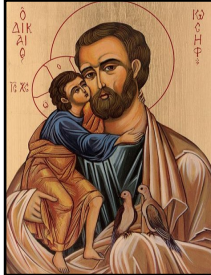
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