



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

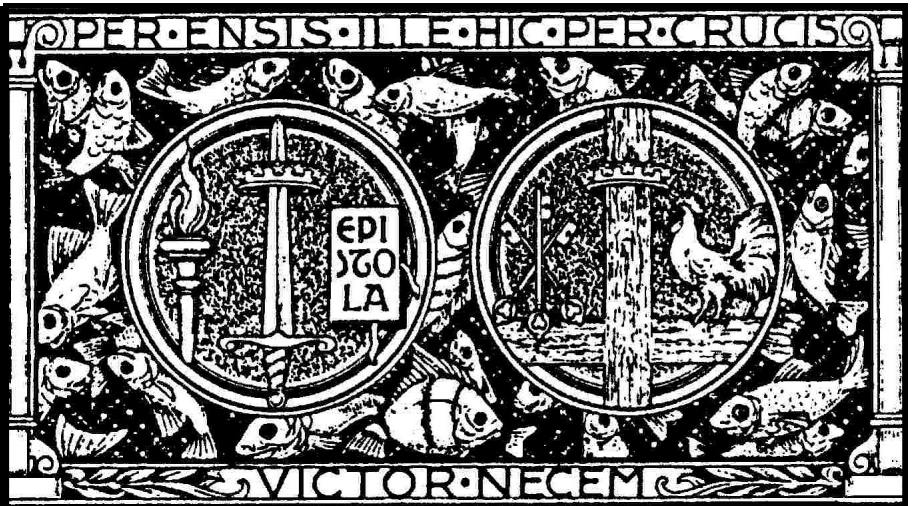
June 29th, 2025

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

FEAST OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

The Apostles Peter and Paul are the two Princes of the Apostles, the foundations of the Church, on which she is firmly established as on a rock. This Feast is almost entirely devoted to St. Peter, the Bishop of Rome, the great Apostle of the Gentiles being more specially honored on June 30. The lessons and prayers of this Mass describe how his Lord and Master Jesus Christ prepared the fervent Apostle, St. Peter, for the supreme office of the Papacy.

After the Descent of the Holy Ghost St. Peter preached the Gospel in Judea and was cast into prison by Herod Agrippa. He was miraculously delivered by an Angel and established his see first at Antioch, and then finally at Rome, where the first Pope exercised for twenty-five years the Supreme Authority vested in him by Christ Himself. Then he was arrested, and like St. Paul suffered martyrdom, A.D. 65. This Feast marks the day of the translation of their relics.



Reflection on the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul

Allow me a complaint about the way we remember the past. Our tendency today is to lead by leveling. So when we speak of extraordinary figures — whether Martin Luther King or Thomas Jefferson — we don't begin with their accomplishments. We start by cataloging their faults and sins, and soon we wonder why these people are worth remembering at all. We forget the ways they changed our world for the better.

It's far worse when people apply the same diminishing critique to the saints. I know that every saint (with the exception of Mary) committed sins. I'm also aware that some overly pious biographies gild the lily and make sainthood seem inimitable and even unattractive.

But let's get real. Saints, like other heroes, remain in our memory after hundreds of years precisely because they did things that were extraordinary. They sacrificed for the sake of their love and ideals. They undertook hard labors. They overcame intimidating odds. And they inspired others to do the same.

I'm not the first to complain about the modern resistance to veneration. C.S. Lewis did it in the last century — and he was a Protestant, congenitally resistant to some Catholic practices. But he told his readers that “the great apostles ... affected him like mountains.”

That's how I feel every year as the feast of Saints Peter and Paul approaches. Both Scripture and history testify to the heroism of these men and detail their accomplishments. Between them they converted thousands, and under their leadership the faith spread to the ends of the known world. The momentum from their work carried the Church forward for centuries — until the Roman Empire itself became Christian.

Twenty years ago, on June 29, the common feast of these men, I was in Rome and was surprised by the magnitude of the celebration. It's a holiday, and most workers get the day off.

Archbishops come from all over the world to receive the pallium, the distinctive garment of their office. The pope celebrates a colorful Mass with hymns and prayers in many languages.

It made me wish we, in my country, did more to honor the apostles. So I try to do more myself to remember Peter and Paul on their feast day. It's on a Sunday this year. Maybe you can do something special with your family.

In our love for Peter and Paul, we'll keep good company. St. Thomas Aquinas called them the “princes of the Apostles” and “lights of the Church.”

In the second century, St. Irenaeus referred to them as co-founders of the Church in Rome, emphasizing their martyrdom there as the ultimate witness.

St. Augustine saw Peter and Paul as two pillars of the Church, complementary in their mission: “One day is consecrated to the passion of two apostles. But these two were one.”

Did they have flaws? Of course they did! We know that from Scripture. But they laid the foundations of our Church — or, rather, they are the foundations of our Church, established as such by Christ himself. And they consecrated our Church with their very blood.

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:** 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**)

SFX DIRECTORY

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Office Hours.

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

9AM-12PM

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

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

Our Mailing Address is:

P.O. Box 7179, Spokane, WA, 99207

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, JUNE 30TH

5:30pm Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

TUESDAY, JULY 1ST

NO MASS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2ND

NO MASS

THURSDAY, JULY 3RD

NO MASS

SATURDAY, JULY 5TH

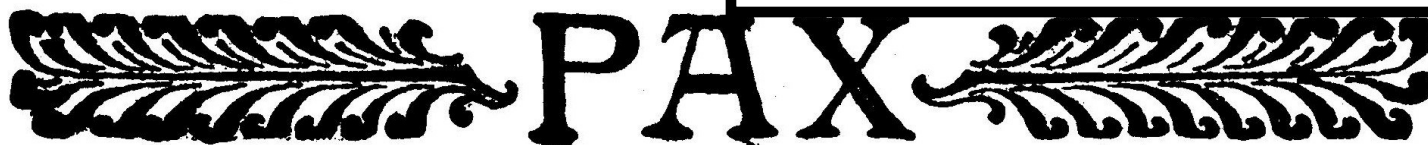
3:00pm Confessions

4:00pm Mass *Pro Populo*

SUNDAY, JULY 6TH

7:30 am, Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00 am, Mass *Pro Populo*



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) 362-8646**

Women of St Francis Xavier

In an effort to cultivate more community at St Francis Xavier, the women of the parish have formed the group: the "Women of St X".

All women - retired, widowed, single and married - are invited to join.

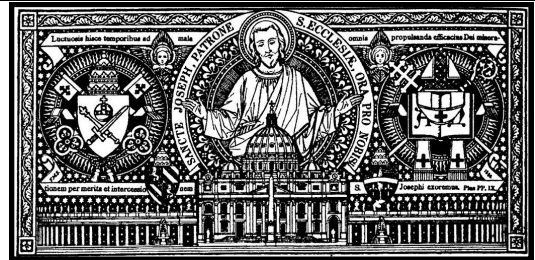
Activities and volunteer possibilities include:

- Contributing to food prep for after mass socials during the warm months
 - Organizing parish picnics + potlucks
- Organizing + providing food for catechesis nights for children and adults
 - Formation of Bible studies + small groups
 - Corporal works of mercy for the sick and elderly
 - Other misc. needs of the parish

If you are interested in taking an active role in creating a vibrant parish community, please email **women.of.st.x@gmail.com**.



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Under our Organ Fundraiser page you will find descriptions and recordings of all the Ranks in the Organ awaiting adoption.

St. Junipero Serra, Priest July 1st

Miguel José Serra was born on the island of Majorca on November 24, 1713, and took the name of Junipero when in 1730 he entered the Franciscan Order. Ordained in 1737, he taught Philosophy and Theology at the University of Padua until 1749.

At the age of 37, Junipero landed in Mexico City on January 1, 1750, and spent the rest of his life working for the conversion of the peoples of the New World.

In 1768, Father Serra took over the missions of the Jesuits (who had been wrongly expelled by the government) in the Mexican province of Lower California and Upper California (modern California). An indefatigable worker, the holy man was in large part responsible for the foundation and spread of the Church on the West Coast of the United States when it was still mission territory.

Father Serra founded twenty-one missions and converted thousands of Indians. The converts were taught sound methods of agriculture, cattle raising, and arts and crafts.

Junipero was a dedicated religious and missionary. He was imbued with a penitential spirit and activities. On August 28, 1784, worn out by his apostolic labors, Father Serra was called to his eternal rest. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II on September 25, 1988 and canonized in September 23, 2015, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C., by Pope Francis. His statue, representing the State of California, is in National Statuary Hall.

PRAYER: Almighty, eternal God, You dedicated the joy of this day to the glorification Blessed Junipero. Mercifully grant that we may strive to retain and complete by our works that faith which he continually proclaimed with insatiable zeal. **Amen.**



Father Semple will be gone July 1st—July 4th. There will be **No mass** on those days, and **No First Friday devotion**.

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