



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

July 20th, 2025

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

## 16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Seven is the number of divine rest; it was also to be that of the fruitful rest of the sons of God, of perfect souls, in that peace which makes love secure, and is the source of the invincible power of the bride, as mentioned in Canticles 8:10. It is for this reason that the Man-God, when proclaiming on the mount the beatitudes of the law of love, attributed the seventh to the peacemakers, or peaceable, as deserving to be called, most truly, the sons of God. It is in them alone that is fully developed the germ of divine sonship, which is put into the soul at Baptism....

“Rightly, then,” says St. Ambrose, “the seventh beatitude is that of the peaceful; to them belong the seven baskets of the crumbs that were over and above. This bread of the Sabbath, this sanctified bread, this bread of rest, is something great; and I even venture to say, that if, after thou hast eaten of the five loaves, thou shalt have eaten also of the seven, thou hast no bread on earth that thou canst look forward to.”

But take notice of the condition specified in our Gospel, as necessary for those who aspire to such nourishment as that. “It is not,” says the Saint, “to lazy people, nor to them that live in cities, nor to them that are great in worldly honors, but to them that seek Christ in the desert, that is given the heavenly nourishment: they alone who hunger after it are received by Christ into a participation of the Word and of God’s kingdom.” The more intense their hunger, the more they long for their divine object and for no other, the more will the heavenly food strengthen them with light and love, the more will it satiate them with delight.

*Commentary from The Liturgical Year by  
Dom Prosper Guéranger (1805-1875).*



PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING

*Father Richard Semple's*

**SILVER  
JUBILEE**

*July 25, 2025 at 5:30pm*

*Celebration of the Holy Mass at*

*St. Francis Xavier*

545 E PROVIDENCE AVE | SPOKANE WA 99207

*Buffet Reception to follow*

SMART CASUAL ATTIRE

RSVP TO KATE LAWHON KMLAWHON@GMAIL.COM

## Waiting on the Lord: Reflection on the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

God wants to dwell with each of us personally, intimately—as the mysterious guests once visited Abraham’s tent, as Jesus once entered the home of Mary and Martha.

By his hospitality in this week’s First Reading, Abraham shows us how we are to welcome the Lord into our lives. His selfless service of his divine guests (see Hebrews 13:1) stands in contrast to the portrait of Martha drawn in this week’s Gospel.

Where Abraham is concerned only for the well-being of his guests, Martha speaks only of herself—”Do you not care that my sister has left me by myself . . . ? Tell her to help me.” Jesus’ gentle rebuke reminds us that we risk missing the divine in the mundane, that we can fall into the trap of believing that God somehow needs to be served by human hands (see Acts 17:25).

Our Lord comes to us not to be served but to serve (see Matthew 20:28). He gave His life that we might know the one thing we need, the “better part,” which is life in the fellowship of God.

Jesus is the true Son promised today by Abraham’s visitors (see Matthew 1:1). In Him, God has made an everlasting covenant for all time; He has made us blessed descendants of Abraham (see Genesis 17:19, 21; Romans 4:16–17, 19–21).

The Church now offers us this covenant, bringing to completion the word of God, the promise of His plan of salvation, what Paul calls “the mystery hidden for ages.”

As once He came to Abraham, Martha, and Mary, Christ now comes to each of us in Word and Sacrament. As we sing in this week’s Psalm: He will make His dwelling with those who keep His Word and practice justice (see also John 14:23).

If we do these things, we will not be anxious or disturbed. We will not have our Lord taken from us. We will wait on the Lord, Who told Abraham and Who tells each of us: “I will surely return to you.”

*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, 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

Office Telephone: (509) 487-6363

Sacramental Emergencies: (509) 866-6098

Father Semple: [pastor@sfxspokane.org](mailto:pastor@sfxspokane.org)

Office Email: [office@sfxspokane.org](mailto:office@sfxspokane.org)

Office Hours.

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

9AM-12PM

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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](http://sfxspokane.org) or at  
[facebook.com/sfxspokane](https://facebook.com/sfxspokane)

Our Mailing Address is:

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

### THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

#### MONDAY, JULY 21ST

5:30pm Mass *Lydia McLeod*

#### TUESDAY, JULY 22ND

8:00am Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 23RD

4:30pm Confessions

5:30pm Mass *Richard Parra*

#### THURSDAY, JULY 24TH

8:00am Mass *Priests in Purgatory*

#### SATURDAY, JULY 26TH

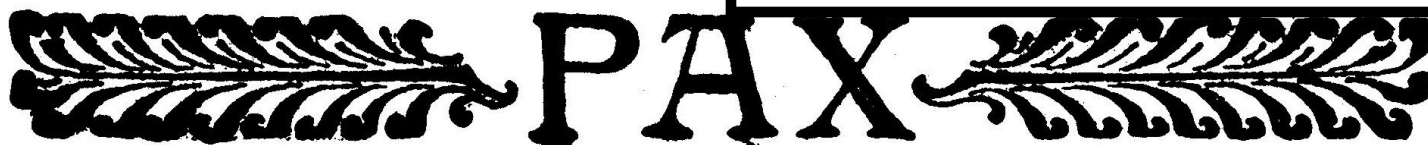
3:00pm Confessions

4:00pm Mass *Pro Populo*

#### SUNDAY, JULY 27TH

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.

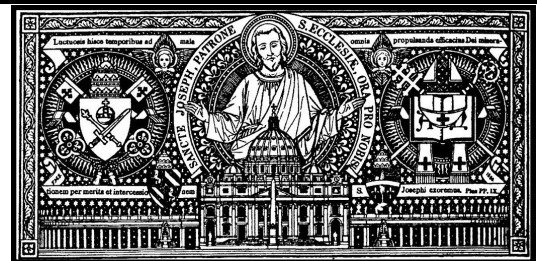
### Activities and volunteer possibilities include:

- 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**.



**Give Online!!**  
**Just Scan the QR Code**  
**Above**



## Pipe Organ fundraiser Adopt a Rank

**Available now at our church website**  
**sfxspokane.org, or in person by**  
**appointment!!!**

We still have Ranks in our Organ left to adopt each giving its own color and voice to the ensemble.

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



## St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church July 21st

St. Lawrence was born at Brindisi, Italy, and at age of sixteen entered the Capuchin Franciscan community at Verona. At the University of Padua he made rapid progress in his studies of Philosophy and Theology and showed a remarkable facility for languages. He mastered Greek, Latin, Hebrew, French, Spanish, German, and Bohemian and acquired a wide knowledge of the Scriptures. After his ordination he labored as a domestic missionary and was called to Rome by Clement VIII to work for the conversion of the Jews.

In 1598, St. Lawrence was sent with eleven other Capuchins to establish Capuchin community throughout Germany and Austria which were threatened by Lutheranism at that time. While in the imperial realm, the fame of his holiness, wisdom, and administrative ability led the Emperor Rudolf II, to appoint him to organize the Catholic princes against the invading Turks. At the Battle of Stuhlweissenburg, though the Christians were outnumbered four to one, St. Lawrence roused the low spirits of the soldiers with a powerful oration, mounted a horse and rode before the army with a crucifix held high. The Turks repulsed and Europe was saved.

At the successful conclusion of his other German projects, the Saint returned to seek seclusion in Italy, only to find that he had been elected the Minister General of the Order. He died in 1619 at Lisbon, Portugal, while on mission to present the grievances of the people of Naples to their sovereign, King Philip III of Spain. Though he was a very active person, St. Lawrence was also a man of prayer as well as of deep learning. He was canonized in 1881 by Pope Leo XIII, and in 1960 he was made a Doctor of the Church by Pope John XXIII.

**PRAYER:** God, for the glory of Your Name and the salvation of souls, You favored St. Lawrence, Your Priest, with the spirit of wisdom and fortitude. Grant that the same spirit we may recognize our obligations and with his help carry them out. **Amen.**

