



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

July 24th, 2022

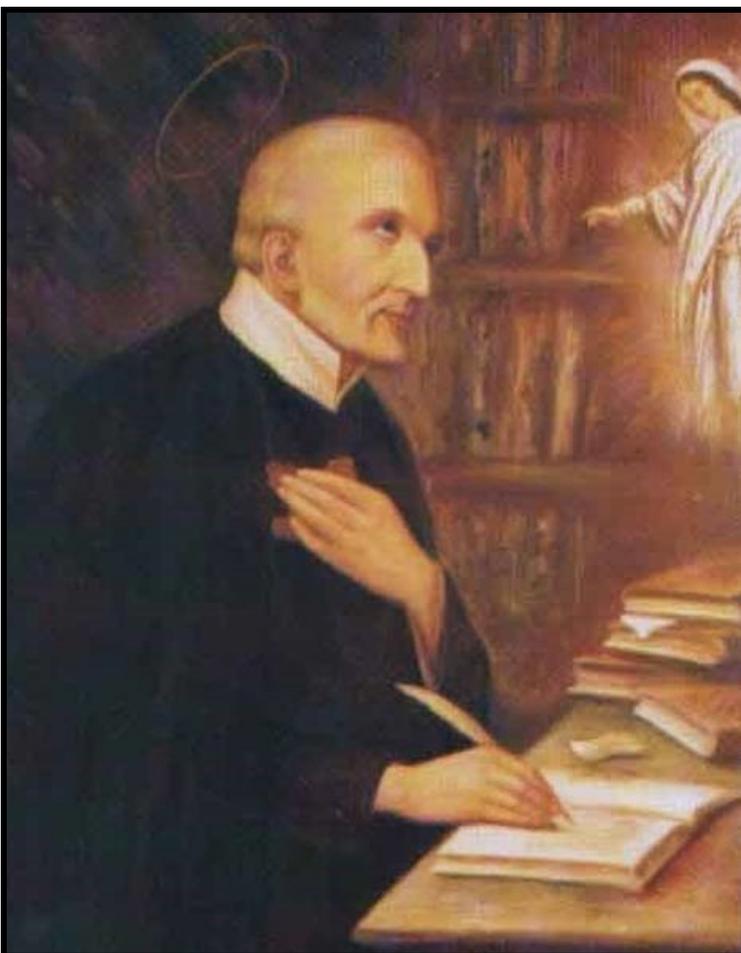
*In Thee, O Lord, have I put my
hope. Let me never be confounded.*
- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Today we will examine St. Alphonsus of Ligouri, whose feast day will be celebrated next week on either the 1st or 2nd depending on the calendar. St. Alphonsus was a priest, bishop, teacher, theologian, poet, composer, confessor, and author. The breadth of Liguori's works and acts is quite impressive, and today we will address some of the areas in which he had the greatest success.

St. Alphonsus was born outside Naples in 1696 to a noble but impoverished family. He trained to be a lawyer, and at 18 started a successful legal career. He abandoned the law at 27 after losing an important case and undergoing a process of conversion, having heard an interior voice speaking to him saying "Leave the world, and give yourself to me." He studied for the priesthood and was ordained in 1726 at the age of 30.

St. Alphonsus spent the first years of his priesthood living among the poor and homeless of Naples. In some ways, he was the first youth minister. He spent much time reaching out to the street children of the city, and founded chapels managed by these poor youths— by the time of his death, there were 72 such chapels and over 10,000 active participants. He was noted for his effective



preaching, and was able to connect with the uneducated. He once said that "I have never preached a sermon which the poorest old woman in the congregation could not understand." He founded the congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, and was appointed Bishop of Sant'Agata de' Goti in 1762.

St. Alphonsus' three most prominent works are his *Moral Theology*, *The Glories of Mary*, and *The Way of the Cross*. His *Moral Theology* was derived from his ample experience with the practical concerns of life. He paid particular attention to problem of conscience, and how Catholics are supposed to act in difficult situations. He is also a father of modern Mariology, with his work *The Glories of Mary* being a defense of the utility and importance of Marian devotions. Finally, *The Way of the Cross* is one of the most widely used versions of the stations of the cross in use today, and is the version which we have used here at St. Francis Xavier.

A COMMENTARY FOR THE 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ASKED AND ANSWERED

Though we be “but dust and ashes,” we can presume to draw near and speak boldly to our Lord, as Abraham dares to do in this week’s First Reading.

But even Abraham—the friend of God (see Isaiah 41:8), our father in the faith (see Romans 4:12)—did not know the intimacy that we know as children of Abraham, heirs of the blessings promised to his descendants (see Galatians 3:7, 29).

The mystery of prayer, as Jesus reveals to His disciples in this week’s Gospel, is the living relationship of beloved sons and daughters with their heavenly Father. Our prayer is pure gift, made possible by the “good gift” of the Father—the Holy Spirit of His Son. It is the fruit of the New Covenant by which we are made children of God in Christ Jesus (see Galatians 4:6–7; Romans 8:15–16).

Through the Spirit given to us in Baptism, we can cry to Him as our Father—knowing that when we call He will answer.

Jesus teaches His disciples to persist in their prayer, as Abraham persisted in begging God’s mercy for the innocent of Sodom and Gomorrah.

For the sake of the one just Man, Jesus, God spared the city of man from destruction (see Jeremiah 5:1; Isaiah 53), “obliterating the bond against us,” as Paul says in this week’s Epistle.

On the Cross, Jesus bore the guilt of us all. He canceled the debt we owed to God, the death we deserved to die for our transgressions. We pray as ones who have been visited in our affliction and saved from our enemies, as ones who have been spared.

We pray always a prayer of thanksgiving, which is the literal meaning of “Eucharist.” We have realized the promise of this week’s Psalm: we worship in His holy temple, in the presence of angels, hallowing His name.

In confidence we ask, knowing that we will receive, that He will bring to completion what He has done for us—raising us from the dead, bringing us to everlasting life along with Him.

- 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, Kathy McCarthy, Ken Keyes, Daniel Lander, 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

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.

During the summer, there will be no daily
School Mass at St. Patrick's.

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

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Father Semple: pastor@sfxspokane.org

Office Email: office@sfxspokane.org

**Our office is open on Fridays
from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, JULY 25TH

ST. JAMES

Latin Mass, 5:30 pm, *Peggy Cloke* +

TUESDAY, JULY 26TH

ST. ANNE

Latin Mass, 8:00 am, *Nancy Piper* +

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27TH

Confessions, 4:30 pm

English Mass, 5:30 pm, *Frederic Ward* +

THURSDAY, JULY 28TH

English Mass, 8:00 am, *David Metzger* +

SATURDAY, JULY 30TH

Confessions, 3:00 pm

English Vigil Mass, 4:00 pm, *Kopczynski Family*

SUNDAY, JULY 31ST

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME &

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

English Mass, 7:30 am, *Pro Populo*

Latin Mass, 9:00 am, *Private Intention*

Latin Mass, 11:00 am, *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 kept 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.

We are currently looking for more volunteers to expand the ministry to include prayers for Fr. Slattery.

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.

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

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.

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/>

DISCALED CARMELITE RETREAT

From September 22nd to 25th a retreat will be held at Immaculate Heart Retreat Center by Fr. Jerome Earley, O.C.D.

Fr. Earley is a Discalced Carmelite Friar who serves as the superior of Marylake Monastery in Little Rock, Arkansas. The retreat will focus on the Indwelling Presence of the Holy Spirit.

For further information, please contact Dave Rinaldi, O.C.D.S. at (208) 664-0455 or rinaldi1430@gmail.com



GRADUAL FOR THE 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FOR USE AT VIGIL MASS

In Deo speravit cor meum
et adiutus sum, et reפורuit caro mea,
et ex voluntate mea confitebor illi.

Ad te, Domine, clamavi:
Deus Meus ne sileas: ne discedas a me

My heart hopes in God
And I am helped, and my heart blooms
And with my will I give praise to Him
To you, God, I cry
My God is not silent, and does not leave me

IMITATING CHRIST AND DESPISING ALL VANITIES ON EARTH

FROM THE IMITATION OF CHRIST, BY THOMAS KEMPIS

“He who follows Me, walks not in darkness,” says the Lord. By these words of Christ we are advised to imitate His life and habits, if we wish to be truly enlightened and free from all blindness of heart. Let our chief effort; therefore, be to study the life of Jesus Christ.

The teaching of Christ is more excellent than all the advice of the saints, and he who has His spirit will find in it a hidden manna. Now, there are many who hear the Gospel often but care little for it because they have not the spirit of Christ. Yet whoever wishes to understand fully the words of Christ must try to pattern his whole life on that of Christ.

What good does it do to speak learnedly about the Trinity if, lacking humility, you displease the Trinity? Indeed it is not learning that makes a man holy and just, but a virtuous life makes him pleasing to God. I would rather feel contrition than know how to define it. For what would it profit us to know the whole Bible by heart and the principles of all the philosophers if we live without grace and the love of God? Vanity of vanities and all is vanity, except to love God and serve Him alone.

This is the greatest wisdom -- to seek the kingdom of heaven through contempt of the world. It is vanity, therefore, to seek and trust in riches that perish. It is vanity also to court honor and to be puffed up with pride. It is vanity to follow the lusts of the body and to desire things for which severe punishment later must come. It is vanity to wish for long life and to care little about a well-spent life. It is vanity to be concerned with the present only and not to make provision for things to come. It is vanity to love what passes quickly and not to look ahead where eternal joy abides.

Often recall the proverb: "The eye is not satisfied with seeing nor the ear filled with hearing." Try, moreover, to turn your heart from the love of things visible and bring yourself to things invisible. For they who follow their own evil passions stain their consciences and lose the grace of God.



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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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