

August 27th, 2023



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

**21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ≈ 13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

The Epistle reminds us of the true relation between Judaism and Christianity. The institutions of Judaism were intended as a preparation for the coming of Christ, and were to be abrogated when He should appear. Salvation was not to be dependent on the established usages of a single people, nor to be imparted in view of membership of any race or nation; it was promised to the Seed and through the Seed of Abraham, but the true Seed of Abraham were not to be merely his racial descendants, but all those who should accept, as he accepted, by faith the promised Messiah. The “Seed” of Abraham to which the Promise primarily made reference, was indeed to be, in a true sense, bodily genuine descendants of Abraham (cf. Hebrews vii), but there was to be added to, and mysteriously united with, the “Seed” an uncountable multitude from every race and clime—whose inner bond of union would be acceptance of Jesus as the promised Savior, and the practical attitude which would logically follow from that acceptance. Neither race nor blood nor soil has, then, anything to do with justification and salvation, but only faith in Jesus Christ and the fulfillment of His will.

To St. Luke, the physician, the incident described in the Gospel is of special importance, because it depicts Jesus as the Great Physician before whom Jew and non-Jew are of like value. As the genuine physician cares not whence his patient comes, or what is his point of view, so Jesus, the Physician of souls and bodies, is ready to receive all who come to Him to be healed. He makes no distinctions of race or origin in those who come confidently to seek His help. Today’s Gospel, then, reminds us, above all, that Jesus is our Physician. We are sick. The whole world is sick—diseased with the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life. We all have sinned and all of us need the touch of the Physician. Let us go to Him and cry with the lepers (symbols, as they are, of us who are tainted with the leprosy of sin): “Master, have pity on us!”



*Msgr. Patrick Boylan*

(1879-1974).

## A COMMENTARY FOR THE 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### OH, THE DEPTHS!

“Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!” Paul exclaims in today’s Epistle. Today’s Psalm, too, takes up the triumphant note of joy and thanksgiving. Why? Because in the Gospel, the heavenly Father reveals the mystery of His kingdom to Peter.

With Peter, we rejoice that Jesus is the anointed Son promised to David, the one prophesied to build God’s temple and reign over an everlasting kingdom (see 2 Samuel 7).

What Jesus calls “my Church” is the kingdom promised to David’s son (see Isaiah 9:1–7). As we hear in today’s First Reading, Isaiah foretold that the keys to David’s kingdom would be given to a new master, who would rule as father to God’s people.

Jesus, the root and offspring of David, alone holds the kingdom’s keys (see Revelation 1:18; 3:7; 22:16). In giving those keys to Peter, Jesus fulfills that prophecy, establishing Peter—and all who succeed him—as holy father of His Church.

His Church, too, is the new house of God, the spiritual temple founded on the “rock” of Peter and built up out of the living stones of individual believers (see 1 Peter 2:5).

Abraham was called “the rock” from which the children of Israel were hewn (see Isaiah 51:1–2). And Peter becomes the rock from which God raises up new children of God (see Matthew 3:9).

The word Jesus uses—“church” (ekklesia in Greek)—was used in the Greek translation of the Old Testament for the “assembly” of God’s children after the Exodus (see Deuteronomy 18:16; 31:30).

His Church is the “assembly of the firstborn” (see Hebrews 12:23; Exodus 4:23–24), established by Jesus’ exodus (see Luke 9:31). Like the Israelites, we are baptized in water, led by the Rock, and fed with spiritual food (see 1 Corinthians 10:1–5).

Gathered at His altar, in the presence of angels, we sing His praise and give thanks to His holy name.

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

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

Office Hours. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
8am-12pm.

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, AUGUST 28TH

5:30 pm, Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29TH

8:00am , Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30TH

4:30pm, Confessions

5:30 pm, Mass *Priests*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31ST

8:00am, Mass *Pro populo*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST

5:30pm, 1st Friday Devotion

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND

3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Religious*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD

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.

We are looking for Volunteers to help get Coffee and Donuts started again in September. If you are interested please let the office know.

Would you like to help with the altar flowers? We are trying to get a few people to take turns.

Thanks, Taylor



*Spiritus*  
A HOMESCHOOL MOM'S RETREAT

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER EMILY BROWN**  
Life Coach for Catholic Homeschooling Mothers

Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral  
Spokane, WA

September 30  
9 - 3:30

Registration \$35



*Sacraments - Community - Reflection - Resources*

## August 30th

### St. Fiacre, Hermit

St. Fiacre was born in Ireland around the beginning of the 7th century and traveled to Europe in the wake of St. Columban. He was accorded a kind reception by St. Faro, Bishop of Meaux, France, who provided him with a plot of land for a hermitage, and Fiacre began to lead the religious life he had led in Ireland.

Soon, the people of the surrounding regions began coming in droves to learn about Christian faith from this man of God. Seeing their plight far from their homes and without shelter, Fiacre had compassion on them and determined to help them. With the aid of another grant of land from St. Faro, the saintly hermit himself chopped down trees to build a hospice to shelter them and cleared the soil in order to grow corn and vegetables to feed them.

The Saint's dedication and self-sacrifice brought about the conversion of the whole surrounding district and he was held in high esteem for his work with the spade. After his holy death about 670, St. Fiacre's cult grew steadily and reached its height in 17th century, a thousand years later, when his shrine was famous for miraculous cures.

The name Fiacre was given to the four-wheeled cab because when it first came into use (in Paris, 1640) its stand was close to the St. Fiacre Hotel so that it might take the pilgrims on the first stage of the journey to St. Fiacre's shrine.

*PRAYER: Lord God, You alone are holy and no one is good without You. Through the intercession of St. Fiacre help us to live in such a way that we may not be deprived of a share in Your glory. Amen.*





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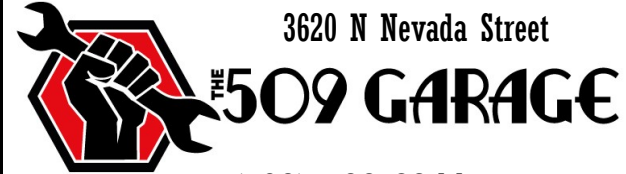
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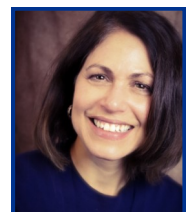
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