



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

September 1st, 2024

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - TWENTYSECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Today we see Jesus work a miracle in order to console a widowed mother; He restores her dead son to life. This was an expression of the delicacy of His love for us; but how many others, less visible perhaps but no less full of love and life, have surged from His heart! “The Gospel speaks of three who were dead and who were visibly restored to life by our Lord,” St. Augustine tells us, “but He has restored thousands invisibly.” When writing these words, the Saint must have recalled with ineffable gratitude the much greater miracle Jesus had wrought for him, making him rise from the death of sin.

St. Augustine and many other saints have been restored to life. If the saints who led lives of innocence attract us so much, those who were brought back from sin have still greater power to encourage us in our struggles. It may be a laborious task for us to overcome pride, sensuality, and all the other passions, but it was no easier for them. They too knew our temptations, struggles and falls; if they overcame them, why cannot we do the same?

Thanks be to God, it is not always a question of having to rise from a life of serious sin, but there is always occasion for a resurrection from our little daily infidelities; if they are not corrected, our fervor in the spiritual life will gradually weaken. In this regard, we need to rise every day, indeed every hour; yet so many times we lack the strength for it. But if we beseech Jesus, our Life, He will touch us with His grace as He once touched the bier of the young man of Naim; He will give us fresh vigor and will put us back again, full of courage, on the way to perfection. The resurrection of the young man was implored by his mother’s tears; let ours be implored every day by the tears of our hearts, by our compunction, humility, and trust.



*Commentary from Divine Intimacy by  
Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen,  
O.C.D. (1893-1953).*

## Pure Religion: Reflection for the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Today's Gospel casts Jesus in a prophetic light as one having authority to interpret God's law.

Jesus' quotation from Isaiah today is ironic (see Isaiah 29:13). In observing the law, the Pharisees honor God by ensuring that nothing unclean passes their lips. In this, however, they've turned the law inside out, making it a matter of simply performing certain external actions.

The gift of the law, which we hear God giving to Israel in today's First Reading, is fulfilled in Jesus' Gospel, which shows us the law's true meaning and purpose (see Matthew 5:17).

The law, fulfilled in the Gospel, is meant to form our hearts, to make us pure, able to live in the Lord's presence. The law was given that we might live and enter into the inheritance promised to us—the kingdom of God, eternal life.

Israel, by its observance of the law, was meant to be an example to surrounding nations. As James tells us in today's Epistle, the Gospel was given to us that we might have new birth by the Word of truth. By living the Word we've received, we're to be examples of God's wisdom to those around us, the "first fruits" of a new humanity.

This means we must be "doers" of the Word, not merely hearers of it. As we sing in today's Psalm and hear again in today's Epistle, we must work for justice, taking care of our brothers and sisters and living by the truth God has placed in our hearts.

The Word given to us is a perfect gift. We should not add to it through vain and needless devotions. Nor should we subtract from it by picking and choosing which of His laws to honor.

"Hear me," Jesus says in today's Gospel. Today, we're called to examine our relationship to God's law.

Is the practice of our religion a pure listening to Jesus, a humble welcoming of the Word planted in us and able to save our souls? Or are we only paying lip service?



*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)

SFX DIRECTORY

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Office Hours.

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

Our Mailing Address is:

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND

No Mass

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD

No Mass

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

4:30 pm, Confessions

5:30 pm, Mass *Peter Schmitt*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

8:00am, Mass *Chris Vass*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

5:30pm First Friday Mass and Adoration

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

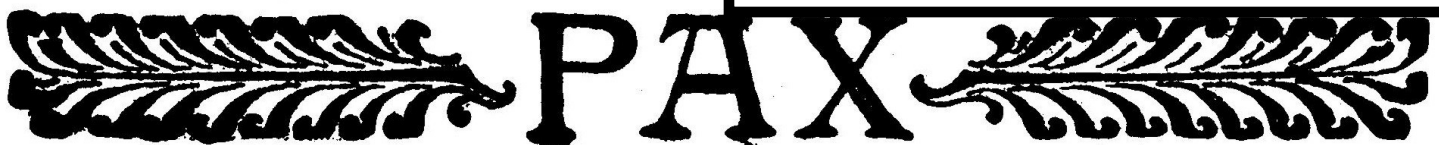
3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Pro Populo*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

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)993-2864.

## Volunteers Needed

**Ushers:** Help collect Offering and count attendance at the your Mass.

**Altar Flowers:** Would you like to provide flowers to add beauty to the altar?  
It can be for just one time, or on the regular schedule.

**Altar Servers:** The parish is in need of young men willing to train as acolytes, to serve at the 7:30am or 11:00am Mass.

## 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](mailto:women.of.st.x@gmail.com).

## St. Bertin, Religious September 5th



St. Bertin was born about the beginning of the 7th century near Constance, France, and received his religious formation at the Abbey of Luxeuil, at that time the model abbey for the rather strict Rule of St. Columban. About 639, together with two other monks, he joined St. Omer, Bishop of Théroutanne, who had for two years been evangelizing the pagan Morini in the low-lying marshy country of the Pas-de-Calais.

In this almost totally idolatrous region, these holy missionary monks founded a monastery that came to be called St. Mommolin after its first Abbot. After eight more arduous years of preaching the faith for Christ, they founded a second monastery at Sithiu dedicated to St. Peter. St. Bertin ruled it for nearly sixty years and made it famous; accordingly, after his death it was called St. Bertin and gave birth to the town of St. Omer.

St. Bertin practiced the greatest austerities and was in constant communion with God. He also traveled much and trained disciples who went forth to preach the faith to others. Among others, he selected St. Winnoc to found a monastery at Wormhoudt, near Dunkirk, and this Saint figures in many medieval English calendars. About the year 698, this zealous preacher of Christ died, surrounded by his monks.

PRAYER: God, You built up Your Church by means of the religious zeal and apostolic care of St. Bertin. Grant by his intercession that she may ever experience a new increase of faith and holiness. Amen



## Pipe Organ fundraiser Adopt a Rank

Available Online now, or in person by appointment!!!

**Rank** – a set of organ pipes of the same kind and tonal color. There is one pipe for each note. So for example, a 'Trumpet 8' on a standard 61 note keyboard will have 61 pipes that make up the rank. We have 41 Ranks in our Organ each giving its own color and voice to the organ.

Under our Organ Project page you will find a link for a descriptions and recordings of all the Ranks in the Organ awaiting adoption.

