



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

September 3rd, 2023

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

**22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ≈ 14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Solicitude, of the sort of which our Lord speaks, would prove the existence of an attachment to earthly things which is not compatible with anything approaching Christian perfection, or to the desire of making progress in the paths of divine union. The unitive way is possible in every state of life; only, there must be one condition observed, and that is, the soul must be detached from every tie that could keep her from going to God. The religious breaks these ties by his three vows, which are in direct opposition to the triple concupiscence of fallen nature.

The layman, who, though he is living in the world, desires to be what his Creator would have him be, must, without the aid of the real separation which the religious makes, be quite as completely detached from his own will, and sensuality, and riches, in order that all his intentions and aspirations may be fixed on the eternal home, where his one infinite, loved treasure is. If he does not bring himself, even in the midst of his riches, to be as poor in spirit as the religious is in deed, his progress will be checked at the very first step he takes in the contemplative life; and, if he allow the obstacle to block up the way, he must give up all idea of rising, in light and love, above the lowly paths of the majority of Christians.



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

## A COMMENTARY FOR THE 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### FOR YOUR LIFE

Today's First Reading catches the prophet Jeremiah in a moment of weakness. His intimate lamentation contains some of the strongest language of doubt found in the Bible. Following God's call, he feels abandoned. Preaching His Word has brought him only derision and reproach.

But God does not deceive—and Jeremiah knows this. God tests the just (see Jeremiah 20:11–12) and disciplines His children through their sufferings and trials (see Hebrews 12:5–7).

What Jeremiah learns is what Jesus states explicitly in today's Gospel. To follow Him is to take up a cross, to deny yourself—your priorities, preferences, and comforts. It is to be willing to give it all up, even life itself, for the sake of His Gospel. As Paul says in today's Epistle, we have to join ourselves to the Passion of Christ, to offer our bodies—our whole beings—as living sacrifices to God.

By His Cross, Jesus has shown us what Israel's sacrifices of animals were meant to teach: we owe to God all that we have.

God's kindness is a greater good than life itself, as we sing in today's Psalm. The only thanks we can offer is our spiritual worship, giving our lives to the service of His will (see Hebrews 10:3–11; Psalm 50:14, 23).

Peter doesn't yet get this in today's Gospel. As it was for Jeremiah, the cross is a stumbling block for Peter (see 1 Corinthians 1:23). This is our natural temptation, as well: to refuse to believe that our sufferings play a necessary part in God's plan.

That's how people think, Jesus tells us today. But we are called to the renewal of our minds—to think as God thinks, to will what He wills.

In the Mass, we once again offer ourselves as perfect and pleasing sacrifices of praise (see Hebrews 13:15). We bless Him as we live, confident that we will find our lives in losing them, that with the riches of His banquet our souls will be satisfied.

-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)

Our Mailing Address is:  
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Father Semple: [pastor@sfxspokane.org](mailto:pastor@sfxspokane.org)

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

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH

5:30 pm, Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

8:00am , Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH

NO MASS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

No Mass

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH

3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Religious*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH

7:30 am, No Mass

11:00 am, Mass *Pro Populo*



## 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*

## St. Peter Claver, Priest September 9th

St. Peter Claver was born at Verdu, Catalonia, Spain, in 1580, of impoverished parents descended from ancient and distinguished families. He studied at the Jesuit College of Barcelona, entered the Jesuit novitiate at Tarragona in 1602, and took final vows on August 8, 1604. While studying Philosophy at Majorca, the young religious was influenced by St. Alphonsus Rodriguez to go to the Indies and save “millions of those perishing souls.”

In 1610, the Saint landed at Cartagena (modern Colombia), the principal slave market of the New World, where a thousand slaves were brought every month. After his ordination in 1616, he dedicated himself to the service of the Black slaves—a work that was to last for thirty-three years. He labored unceasingly for the salvation of the slaves and the abolition of the slave trade, and the love he lavished on them was something that transcended the natural order.

Boarding the slave ship as they entered the harbor, St. Peter would hurry to the revolting inferno of the hold, and offer whatever poor refreshments he could afford. He would care for the sick and dying, and instruct the slaves through Black catechists, before administering the Sacraments. Through his effort three hundred thousand souls entered the Church. Furthermore, he did not lose sight of his converts when they left the ships, but followed them to the plantations to which they were sent, encouraged them to live as Christians, and prevailed on their masters to treat them humanely. He died in 1654 and was canonized in 1888 by Pope Leo XIII.

**PRAYER:** *God of mercy and love, You offer all peoples the dignity of sharing in Your life. By the example and prayers of St. Peter Claver, strengthen us to overcome all racial hatreds and to love each other as brothers and sisters. Amen*





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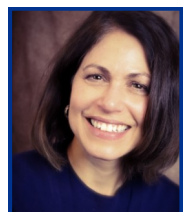
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Is my will Gods will?