



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

September 7th, 2025

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

## 23RD 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 Messias.

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!”

Commentary by Msgr. Patrick Boylan (1879-1974).

## ACA PRIME RIB DINNER

Join us for vespers, dinner, a pie  
auction, and live music as we  
celebrate the parishes of  
St. Patrick, St. Francis Xavier  
and the Diocese of  
Spokane.

Your admission is your  
ACA pledge and a dessert  
to share as we work  
together to reach  
our goal of \$62,000.



**September 13, 2025 at 5PM**  
**St. Francis Xavier Parish**

## Counting the Cost : Reflection on Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Like a king making ready for battle or a contractor about to build a tower, we have to count the cost as we set out to follow Jesus.

Our Lord today is telling us up front the sacrifice it will take. His words aren't addressed to His chosen few, the Twelve, but rather to the "great crowds"—to anyone, to whoever wishes to be His disciple.

That only makes His call all the more stark and uncompromising. We are to "hate" our old lives, to renounce all the earthly things we rely upon, to choose Him above every person and possession. Again He tells us that the things we have—even our family ties and obligations—can become an excuse, an obstacle that keeps us from giving ourselves completely to Him (see Luke 9:23–26, 57–62).

Jesus brings us the saving wisdom we are promised in today's First Reading. He is that saving Wisdom.

Weighed down by many earthly concerns, the burdens of our body and its needs, we could never see beyond the things of this world; we could never detect God's heavenly design and intention. So in His mercy He sent us His Spirit, His Wisdom from on high, to make straight our path to Him.

Jesus Himself paid the price to free us from the sentence imposed on Adam, which we recall in today's Psalm (see Genesis 2:7; 2:19). No more will the work of our hands be an affliction; no more are we destined to turn back to dust.

Like Onesimus in today's Epistle, we have been redeemed. We have been given a new family and a new inheritance, made children of the Father, brothers and sisters in the Lord.

We are free now to come after Him, to serve Him—no longer slaves to the ties of our past lives. In Christ, all our yesterdays have passed. We live in what the Psalm today beautifully describes as the daybreak, ready to be filled with His kindness. For He has given us wisdom of heart and taught us to number our days aright.

*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, Jim Moore, 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**)

## 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** or at  
**facebook.com/sfxspokane**

Our Mailing Address is:

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

## 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**

## THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

5:30pm Mass *Gerson Avila*

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH

8:00am Mass *President of the USA Perpetual Conversion*

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH

4:30pm Confessions

5:30pm Mass *Family Avila Perpetual Conversion*

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH

8:00am Mass *Brian + Julia Hart Wedding Anniversary*

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

3:00pm Confessions

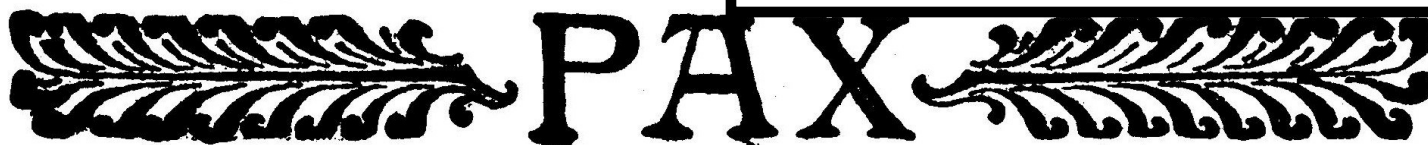
4:00pm Mass *Pro Populo*

5:00PM ACA Dinner

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH

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.

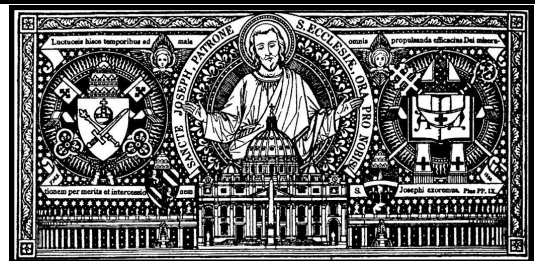
### Activities and volunteer possibilities include:

- 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**.



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## 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. Nicholas of Tolentine, Priest September 10th

Born at St. Angelo, a town near Fermo in Italy, in the year 1245, St. Nicholas was blessed by innocence and the practice of more than ordinary virtue from his early infancy. While he was still a young student, his extraordinary merit caused him to be appointed to a canonry in the Church of Our Savior, a position that was extremely pleasing to him, as it gave him opportunity of being constantly employed in God's service. A sermon preached by an Augustinian friar, on the vanity of the world, persuaded him to enter religion. This was not a passing emotion, but a firm resolution, which he executed by entering the Augustinian Order at Tolentine, a small town in the Papal States.

From this town, where Nicholas spent the great part of his life, he obtained his surname. He made his profession before he had completed his eighteenth year. Then he began to run the giant race of sanctity, in which he soon excelled, distinguishing himself especially by the virtues of humility and meekness. He was sent successively to several convents of his Order, and in that of Cingole he was ordained priest at the hands of the Bishop of Osimo. From that time he was employed in the works of the ministry, preaching, and hearing confessions.

The last thirty years of his life Nicholas spent at Tolentine. His zeal for the salvation of souls produced the most wonderful fruit. God favored the Saint with many heavenly gifts, and the time he could spare from his labors he spent in prayer and contemplation. He had also much to suffer from various painful diseases. He died happily on September 10, 1305, and was canonized in 1446 by Pope Eugenius IV.

**PRAYER:** Almighty God, Your glory has shone upon the Church through the holiness and miracles of St. Nicholas of Tolentine. In answer to his prayers keep Your holy people in peace and unity. **Amen.**

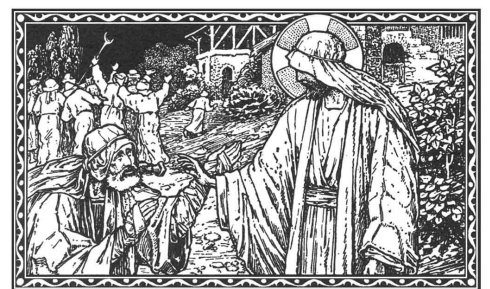


### Cursillo in Christianity

#### Short courses in Christianity

The Catholic community is invited to experience a Cursillo weekend. Please consider this joyful proclamation of being Christians.

For more information contact: Kathilu S. 208-301-0916 or Andrew S. 509-599-4806



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**Are You Prepared?**

**End of Life Workshop**

Planning for Your Spiritual & Corporal Needs

**Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup> - 9 a.m. - Noon**

Mass at 8:30 a.m. (optional)

**St. John Vianney Parish**

503 N. Walnut Rd Spokane Valley 99206

**NO CHARGE**

Join us for this informative workshop and learn  
how to preplan for the end of life.

- light refreshments provided.

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Please RSVP to (509) 467-5496 or [bernadettep@holycrossofspokane.org](mailto:bernadettep@holycrossofspokane.org)



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