



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

October 1st, 2023

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

**26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ≈ EXTERNAL SOLEMNITY OF OUR  
LADY OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY**

In the year 1571 the Moslem Empire of Asia, the Ottoman Empire, had reached a point of great power and military might. Spurred on by the desire for conquest, as well as by hatred of the Christian cross, the Moslem forces had attacked and overcome the outer bastions of the Christian world, and were now making threatening gestures at Italy and the Christian countries bordering the western Mediterranean Sea. Information was at hand that a huge Moslem fleet stood poised and ready to attack.

Pope Saint Pius V, recognizing the danger, organized a papal fleet and found a brave and brilliant commander, Don Juan of Austria, to take command. In the early days of October 1571, he sailed to meet the enemy and encountered them in the Bay of Lepanto.

Knowing that the Christian forces were at a distinct material disadvantage, Pope Pius V called for all of Europe to pray the Rosary for victory, and led a rosary procession in Rome. Although the Christian troops were heavily outnumbered, skill in maneuver, together with the bravery of the Christian troops, brought about a great victory and the Moslem fleet was all but destroyed. They were convinced that the victory at Lepanto was a result of Mary's help. The Pope proclaimed a special feast in honor of Our Lady of Victory, to be celebrated on the first Sunday of October.

In 1573, Pope Gregory XIII changed the name of the feast to Feast of the Holy Rosary, to be celebrated on the first Sunday of October. The Dominican friar Juan Lopez in his 1584 book on the rosary states that the feast of the rosary was offered "in memory and in perpetual gratitude of the miraculous victory that the Lord gave to his Christian people that day against the Turkish armada".

In 1671 the observance of this festival was extended by Clement X to the whole of Spain, and somewhat later Clement XI, after the victory over the Turks gained by Prince Eugene in the Battle of Petrovaradin on 5 August 1716 (the feast of Our Lady of the Snows), commanded the feast of the Rosary to be celebrated by the universal church.

Pius X in 1913 changed the date to 7 October, as part of his effort to restore celebration of the liturgy of the Sundays. In 1960 under Pope John XXIII it is listed under the title Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary of the Rosary.



## A COMMENTARY FOR THE 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### THE HUMBLE PATH

Echoing the complaint heard in last week's readings, today's First Reading again presents protests that God isn't fair. Why does He punish with death one who begins in virtue but falls into iniquity, while granting life to the wicked one who turns from sin?

This is the question that Jesus takes up in the parable in today's Gospel.

The first son represents the most heinous sinners of Jesus' day—tax collectors and prostitutes—who by their sin at first refused to serve in the Lord's vineyard, the kingdom. At the preaching of John the Baptist, they repented and did what was right and just. The second son represents Israel's leaders—who said they would serve God in the vineyard but refused to believe John when he told them they must produce good fruits as evidence of their repentance (see Matthew 3:8).

Once again, this week's readings invite us to ponder the unfathomable ways of God's justice and mercy. He teaches His ways only to the humble, as we sing in today's Psalm. And in the Epistle today, Paul presents Jesus as the model of that humility by which we come to know life's true path.

Paul sings a beautiful hymn to the Incarnation. Unlike Adam, the first man, who in his pride grasped at being God, the New Adam, Jesus, Humbled himself to become a slave, obedient even unto death on the Cross (see Romans 5:12–17). In this He has shown sinners—each one of us—the way back to the Father. We can only come to God to serve in His vineyard, the Church, by having that same attitude as Christ.

This is what Israel's leaders lacked. In their vainglory, they presumed their superiority—that they had no further need to hear God's Word or listen to God's servants. But this is the way to death, as God tells Ezekiel today. We are always to be emptying ourselves, seeking forgiveness for our sins and frailties, confessing on bended knee that He is Lord, to the glory of the Father.

-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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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, OCTOBER 2ND

5:30 pm, Mass *Pro Populo*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD

8:00am , Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4TH

4:30 pm, Confessions

5:30 pm, Mass

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

8:00am , Mass *Religious*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6TH

5:30pm , First Friday Devotion

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7TH

3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Pro Populo*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8TH

7:30 am, Mass *Poor souls*

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.

### 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 with the 11am Mass' Coffee and Donuts. 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

### 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

### FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTION

This coming Friday, the 6th, we will celebrate the First Friday Devotions with Mass at 5:30 p.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration



## GRADUAL FOR VIGIL MASS

Christus factus est pro nobis obédiens usque  
ad mortem, mortem autem crucis.

Christ for our sakes became obedient unto  
death, even to the death of the Cross.

V. Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum: et  
dedit illi nomen, quod est super omne nomen

V. Therefore God exalted him, and gave him  
the name that is above all names.

### St. Bruno

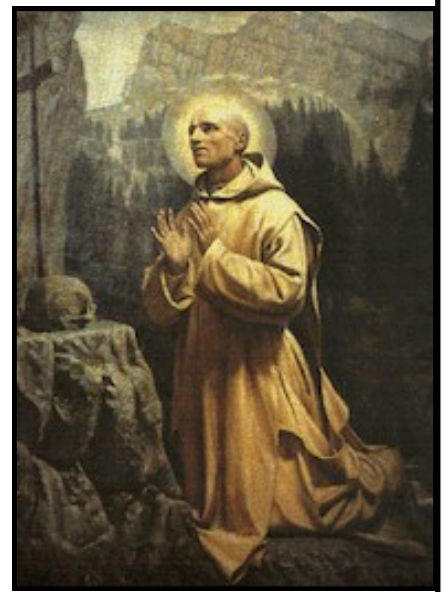
October 6th

St. Bruno, the founder of the illustrious Carthusian Order, was born at Cologne about the year 1033, and educated under the eyes of St. Cunibert, Bishop of that city. He became Canon of the Cathedral, but afterward went to France to continue his studies at Rheims. He was ordained about 1056 and taught Theology at Rheims for twenty years. His abilities so impressed Gervasius, Archbishop of that city, that he shared with him the government of his diocese.

After the death of Gervasius, Manasses, the simoniacal intruder into the See, was deposed and all eyes turned to St. Bruno, but he positively refused the archiepiscopal dignity, and determined to put into execution a project of retreat he had some time before conceived. Together with ten friends, he presented himself to St. Hugh, Bishop of Grenoble, to ask his advice. The holy Bishop pointed out to them the desert of Chartreuse as their abode. There they went and there they began to imitate the lives of the early solitaries, laying the foundations of the Carthusian Order, the mother house of which still exists upon the very same spot.

After spending six years in this retreat, St. Bruno was summoned to Rome by Pope Urban II, who had been his pupil at Rheims. He spent some time at Rome, but having succeeded in obtaining leave to retire, he went to Calabria, where he founded a second monastery. Here the Saint spent the remainder of his life. He died at the Monastery of La Torre on October 6, 1101.

**PRAYER:** God, You called St. Bruno to serve You in solitude. Through his intercession, grant that amidst the many affairs of this world we may always have time for You. **Amen.**





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