



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

October 2nd, 2022

*In Thee, O Lord, have I put my  
hope. Let me never be confounded.*  
- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

**27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**The Precepts of the Church**

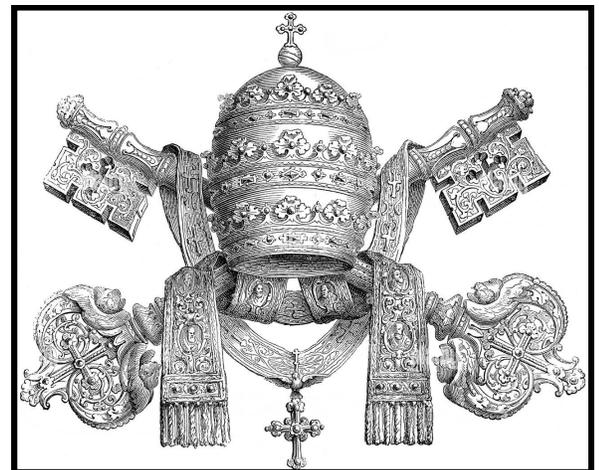
In the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the Code of Canon Law, we encounter a labyrinthine series of rules and regulation, touching on the Sacraments, Matrimony, Supreme and Particular Sees, Jurisprudence, Temporal Goods, Laws of Persons, Procedures, the Norms of Consecrated Life, and many others. Within each of those subjects, there are hundreds of encyclicals, motis propriae, apostolic constitutions, juridical precedents, and congregational documents. No human being is capable of learning and retaining all of these rules, but fortunately, we are not asked to.

As Catholics, the obligations placed on us are not burdensome. While some in the secular world conceive of Catholicism as a heavy weight to bear, our actual obligations are spelled out very cleanly in the Catechism: the five “Precepts of the Church.”

1. You shall attend Holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
2. You shall confess your sins at least once a year
3. You shall humbly receive your creator in Holy Communion at least once during the Easter Season
4. You shall observe the proscribed days of fasting and abstinence
5. You shall help provide for the needs of the Church

These five precepts are the guidelines for our obligations toward the Church. In a way, it is helpful to think of them as the “Five Catholic Commandments”, five additional rules given to us to ensure our salvation. In comparison to the burden of the old Mosaic law, these are not steep requirements.

It is of course preferable to take advantage of confession more frequently than once a year, and communion should be partaken of as often as one is able to (i.e., in a state of grace), but we should not ever think to ourselves that we are being burdened by our faith. God gave us his only Son for our salvation, and Christ has instituted the Holy Catholic Church to ensure that His sacrifice does not become lost to the sands of time (or the theological improvisations of other denominations).



## A COMMENTARY FOR THE 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### LIFE BY FAITH

Because of his faith, the just man shall live. We hear in today's First Reading the original prophetic line made so central by St. Paul (see Romans 1:17; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38).

We are to live by faith in Christ who loved us and gave Himself on the Cross for us (see Galatians 2:20).

The world, though, can seem to us as seventh-century Judah seemed to Habakkuk—in the control of God's enemies. The strife and discord we face in our own lives can sometimes cause us to wonder, as the prophet does, why God doesn't seem to hear or intervene when we cry for help.

We can't let our hearts be hardened by the trials we undergo. As today's Psalm reminds us: Israel forgot His mighty works, lost faith in the sound words of His promise. They tested God in the desert, demanding a sign.

But God didn't redeem Israel from Egypt only to let them die in the desert. And He didn't ransom us from futility only to abandon us in our trials. He is our God and we are the people He shepherds always—though at times His mercy and justice seem long delayed.

If we call on the Lord, as the Apostles do in today's Gospel, He will increase our faith, will stir to a flame the Holy Spirit who has dwelt within us since Baptism.

As Paul tells us in today's Epistle, the Lord will always give us the love and self-control we need to bear our share of hardship for the Gospel—with a strength that can come from God alone. Our task is to continue doing what He has commanded—to love and to build up His kingdom—trusting that His vision still presses on to its fulfillment.

For His vision still has its time. One day, though we are but “unprofitable servants,” we will be invited to eat and drink at our Master's table. It is that day we anticipate with each celebration of the Eucharist.

- 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, Rose Zinkgraf, Bella Mally, Jane Soars, Eleanor Finley, Susan Fisher, Gerri Allen, Kathy McCarthy, Ken Keyes, Daniel Lander, 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, Extraordinary Form  
(**St. Francis Xavier**)

9:00am – Holy Mass (**St. Patrick**)

11:00am – Holy Mass, Extraordinary Form  
(**St. Francis Xavier**)

*On most Sundays, Confessions are heard during the  
9am & 11am Holy Masses*



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Daily Mass is celebrated in the Convent at St. Patrick's, Monday through Friday at 7:00 a.m.

During the summer, there will be no daily School Mass at St. Patrick's.

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.

Please contact Jackie Silvey for prayer requests. She can be reached at (509) 483-3109

St. Francis Xavier can be found online at [sfxspokane.org](http://sfxspokane.org) or at [facebook.com/sfxspokane](https://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)

**Our office is open on Saturdays  
from 12:00p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

## THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 3RD

ST. THERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS  
Latin Mass, 5:30pm, *Homeless Persons*

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4TH

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI  
Latin Mass, 8:00am, *Homeless Persons*

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

ST. FAUSTINA KOWALSKA  
Confessions, 4:30 pm  
English Mass, 5:30 pm, *Homeless Persons*

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6TH

ST. BRUNO  
English Mass, 8:00 am, *Homeless Persons*

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7TH

FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS  
English Mass & Eucharistic Adoration, 5:30pm

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8TH

Confessions, 3:00 pm  
English Mass, 4:00 pm, *Fr David Kruse*

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9TH

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME &  
18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
Latin Mass, 7:30 am, *Pro Populo*  
Latin Mass, 11:00 am, *Poor Souls*

## 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

During the pandemic, 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.

### 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

### 40 DAYS FOR LIFE

St. Francis Xavier and St Patrick parishes are signed up to pray outside of the Spokane Planned Parenthood at 123 E Indiana Ave every Tuesday in October from 4:00-6:00 p.m. during the Fall 40 Days for Life campaign. Those days are October 4, 11, 18, and 25. Everyone is welcome to join us, even if only for part of the time. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring your rosary.

### 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.

### MEALS ON WHEELS

Greater Spokane County Meals on Wheels needs drivers county wide, this need is particularly desperate in the north and central areas of the City of Spokane. As a Meals on Wheels volunteer, you are delivering much more than a hot meal - you are providing a human connection. A typical volunteer route takes about an hour to an hour and a half to complete. For many of our homebound neighbors, A MOW volunteer will be the only person they will see or speak with all day. If you have an hour or two a week, month, or something in between to spare, please consider being a volunteer. Please contact Donna Ennis, our Volunteer Coordinator at 509-924-6976 for more information or apply on our website at <https://gscmealsonwheels.org/volunteer/>

### CHANGE TO OFFICE HOURS

With the school year beginning and Miles returning to the classroom, the office will now be open on Saturdays from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### 2022 CATHOLIC MEN'S RETREAT

From Friday October 14th to Sunday October 16th, the Knights of Columbus annual men's retreat will be held at Camp Lutherhaven on Coeur d'Alene's Mica Bay. The retreat will be led by Fr. Wade Menezes, FOM, and Dr. Ray Guarendi. Cost is \$195 per man, and includes room and board. Register at "www.inwmensretreat.org" or call Mike Anderson at 208-664-1498 for more information.



## GRADUAL FOR THE 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FOR USE AT VIGIL MASS

Domine refugium factus es nobis  
a generatione et progenie

Priusquam montes fierent,  
aut formaretur terra et orbis  
a saeculo et in saeculum tu es Deus

Lord, you have made our refuge,  
from generation to generations

Before the mountains were made,  
or the earth and the world was formed;  
from eternity and to eternity you are God.

### HAVING A HUMBLE OPINION OF SELF

*FROM THE IMITATION OF CHRIST, BY THOMAS KEMPIS*

EVERY man naturally desires knowledge; but what good is knowledge without fear of God? Indeed a humble rustic who serves God is better than a proud intellectual who neglects his soul to study the course of the stars. He who knows himself well becomes mean in his own eyes and is not happy when praised by men.

If I knew all things in the world and had not charity, what would it profit me before God Who will judge me by my deeds?

Shun too great a desire for knowledge, for in it there is much fretting and delusion. Intellectuals like to appear learned and to be called wise. Yet there are many things the knowledge of which does little or no good to the soul, and he who concerns himself about other things than those which lead to salvation is very unwise.

Many words do not satisfy the soul; but a good life eases the mind and a clean conscience inspires great trust in God.

The more you know and the better you understand, the more severely will you be judged, unless your life is also the more holy. Do not be proud, therefore, because of your learning or skill. Rather, fear because of the talent given you. If you think you know many things and understand them well enough, realize at the same time that there is much you do not know. Hence, do not affect wisdom, but admit your ignorance. Why prefer yourself to anyone else when many are more learned, more cultured than you?

If you wish to learn and appreciate something worth while, then love to be unknown and considered as nothing. Truly to know and despise self is the best and most perfect counsel. To think of oneself as nothing, and always to think well and highly of others is the best and most perfect wisdom.

Wherefore, if you see another sin openly or commit a serious crime, do not consider yourself better, for you do not know how long you can remain in good estate. All men are frail, but you must admit that none is more frail than yourself.