



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

October 12th, 2025

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

**28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

No weekday masses this Week, and the office will also be closed all week.

**The Delegation of the Power to Absolve Sins**

Today's Gospel shows us how, in a concrete case, our Lord established His claim to divine character and power by the performance of a miracle. Many miracles like those which our Lord performed were wrought at various times by holy servants of God, so that the miracles, in themselves, would not prove more than that Jesus was a very special instrument of divine power. But when He wrought visible and undeniable miracles as a proof of His claim to the possession of divine power, such miracles actually established the claim. No one but a friend of God could work miracles, and if a friend of God made a claim that was not true, he could not substantiate it by a miracle. Over and over again in His preaching our Lord appealed to the evidence of His works for the truth of His claims and His teaching (cf. Jn. 10:25-32, 38; 14:11; 15:24). Today's Gospel gives us the clearest of all the examples of such appeals to the evidential value of Christ's miracles. Jesus proves, then, that in Himself, as the Messiah, He possesses immediately the power of forgiving sin, and from the Gospels it is certain that He imparted that power to His representatives in the Church. To St. Peter, He promised the power of the Keys at Cæsarea Philippi (Mt. 16:19). To the whole Apostolic College, He later promised the power of binding and loosing (Mt. 18:18), and on the evening of Resurrection Day He actually conferred on the Apostles the power of remitting sin (Jn. 20:21ff).

This wondrous power of remitting sin—a power surpassing every earthly power—belongs to every Catholic priest, however simple and obscure he may be. That Catholic priests have this power is certain with all the certainty of faith, so that in the confessional the work of Jesus at Capharnaum is surely continued.

Apart from the gift of Himself in the Holy Eucharist, this gift of absolving power is the most gracious and beneficent of all the gifts that God has given to His Church. The peace and serenity which the absolution of the priest can give the troubled soul is surely one of the greatest of all the myriad comforts which Jesus has provided for His own.

The people at Capharnaum glorified God because He had given to one, Who seemed to them to be a mere man, power to work a miracle of bodily healing. How greatly, then, should we glorify God and thank Him for the power of absolving which He has given to Catholic priests! And if we rightly rejoice in this gracious gift of God to men, why do we not, at the same time, resolve to make use of that gift as frequently as we can?



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

## Returning Thanks : Reflection on The 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

A foreign leper is cleansed and in thanksgiving returns to offer homage to the God of Israel. We hear this same story in both the First Reading and Gospel today.

There were many lepers in Israel in Elisha's time, but only Naaman the Syrian trusted in God's Word and was cleansed (see Luke 5:12–14). Today's Gospel likewise implies that most of the ten lepers healed by Jesus were Israelites—but only a foreigner, the Samaritan, returned.

In a dramatic way, we're being shown today how faith has been made the way to salvation, the road by which all nations will join themselves to the Lord, becoming His servants, gathered with the Israelites into one chosen people of God, the Church (see Isaiah 56:3–8).

Today's Psalm also looks forward to the day when all peoples will see what Naaman sees—that there is no God in all the earth except the God of Israel.

We see this day arriving in today's Gospel. The Samaritan leper is the only person in the New Testament who personally thanks Jesus. The Greek word used to describe his “giving thanks” is the word we translate as “Eucharist.”

And these lepers today reveal to us the inner dimensions of the Eucharist and sacramental life.

We, too have been healed by our faith in Jesus. As Naaman's flesh is made again like that of a little child, our souls have been cleansed of sin in the waters of Baptism. We experience this cleansing again and again in the Sacrament of Penance—as we repent our sins, beg and receive mercy from our Master, Jesus.

We return to glorify God in each Mass, to offer ourselves in sacrifice—falling on our knees before our Lord, giving thanks for our salvation.

In this Eucharist, we remember “Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David,” Israel's covenant king. And we pray, as Paul does in today's Epistle, to persevere in this faith—that we too may live and reign with Him in eternal glory.

*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**)

### 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

### 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](http://sfxspokane.org) or at  
[facebook.com/sfxspokane](https://facebook.com/sfxspokane)

Our Mailing Address is:

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

### THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

#### NO WEEKDAY MASS.

INTENTIONS WILL BE MOVED TO THE  
NEXT OPENINGS.

#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH

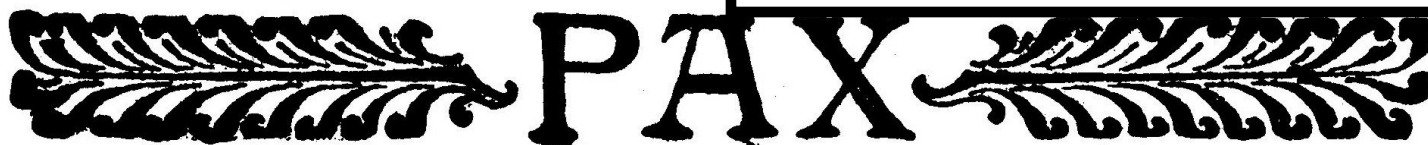
3:00pm Confessions

4:00pm Mass *Pro Populo*

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19TH

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**.



**Give Online!!**  
**Just Scan the QR Code**  
**Above**



## 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. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr October 14th

A Roman by birth, St. Callistus was a slave of a Christian master early in life. After inadvertently losing some of his master's money, he panicked, fled, and was cast into a dungeon when captured. Later, his master freed him in the hope that this honest and intelligent slave would be able to make some money and give back what he had lost. In trying to obtain money from some who had cheated him, the Saint was accused as a Christian and condemned to the Sardinian mines.

Fortunately for Callistus, the kindly Marcia, a favorite of the Emperor, obtained his release, and he was taken into the service of Pope Victor who was impressed by the Saint's constancy in misfortune and devotion to the Sardinian Martyrs. He became a deacon and later secretary to Pope Zephyrinus, who put him in charge of the Christian cemetery on the Appian Way that still bears his name. when Zephyrinus died in 217, Callistus was chosen to be Pope, and he governed the Church for five years and two months.

Throughout his brief reign, which coincided with the rather peaceful reign of Emperor Alexander Severus during which Christians began to build churches for the public exercise of their religion, this Pope displayed the qualities of a wise, firm, and compassionate shepherd. He instituted the fast on Ember Days, decreed that ordinations should be held during the Ember Weeks, and established the practice of absolution of all sins, including those that rigorists considered irremissible. He also founded the Church of St. Mary Beyond the Tiber and provided for the burial of Martyrs. He himself was martyred in 222, probably at the hands of a mob.

**PRAYER:** Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people. Let us be aided by the merits of Pope St. Callistus, at whose passion we rejoice. **Amen.**



ZION LUTHERAN PRESENTS

**Organist Taylor Giese**

**"DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE"**

OCTOBER 26th  
7:00PM

SILENT FILM WITH  
LIVE ORGAN  
ACCOMPANIMENT.

8304 E BUCKEYE AVE, MILLWOOD, WA 99212



**Upcoming Events**

9/26-27: Faithful Foundations Empowering Catholic Parents  
10/3-5: 2025 INW Catholic Men's Retreat with Fr. Peak  
10/4: Memorial for the Unborn @ St. Mary's Catholic Church  
10/4-5: St. Peregrine Fall Artisan Craft Fair @ the Cathedral  
10/19: 2025 WALK FOR LIFE NORTHWEST  
10/22: Silent Day of Prayer on the Archangel Raphael  
10/23-26: 4-Day Silent Retreat



**Monday, November 3 • 5:00 - 9:00 pm**  
**Hope, Peace and Healing**  
*Fundraising Dinner with Bishop Thomas Daly*



**Tickets: \$75**  
 A benefit for Immaculate Heart Retreat Center  
[ihrc.net/events](http://ihrc.net/events) • (509) 448-1224



**Immaculate Heart Retreat Center**  
*A Powerful Place to Pray and Ponder*



**ST. JOSEPH'S FLOORING**  
**509-466-6433**  
 IF YOU HAVE TOO MUCH TO DO, WITH GOD'S HELP YOU WILL FIND THE TIME TO DO IT ALL.  
 SAINT PETER CANISIUS



**B E APPEL**  
 enterprises  
 Bruce Appel - General Contractor  
**Home Remodeling Specialist**  
**509-319-0582**  
[bruceappel.com](http://bruceappel.com)  
 St. Thomas More Parishioner



**Furnaces & Boilers**  
**Plumbing/Heating**  
**Gas Conversions**  
**Air Conditioning**  
**509-489-3860**  
 Larry Andrews - President  
 Catholic Owned & Operated  
[www.andrewsmechanical.com](http://www.andrewsmechanical.com)



**ACORN ELECTRIC**  
**509-808-1925**



**PACE**  
**Plumbing / Heating & AC**  
**509.489-0824**  
[paceplumbingwa.com](http://paceplumbingwa.com)  
 License # PP-970004509



SCAN FOR SERVICE



**HERITAGE**  
 Roofing & Construction  
**509-489-3552**  
[HRCSPokane.com](http://HRCSPokane.com)



**Mike's Mobile Computer Repair**  
 Just Call Mike!  
[Havemikexfixit.com](http://Havemikexfixit.com)

**Networking**  
**Security Cameras**  
**Computer Use Lessons**  
**Custom Computer Builds**  
**(509) 999-0014**



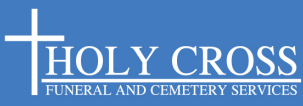
**O'SHAUGHNESSY PAINTING LLC**  
**509-954-0424**  
 100% Customer Satisfaction Guaranteed  
 St Joseph Parishioner

**Are You Prepared?**  
**End of Life Workshop**  
*Planning for Your Spiritual & Corporal Needs*  
**Saturday, November 15 • 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
 Mass at 8:30 (optional)  
**St. John Vianney Catholic Church**  
 503 N. Walnut St., Spokane Valley, WA 99206

**NO CHARGE**

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

Sponsored by:



**HOLY CROSS**  
 FUNERAL AND CEMETERY SERVICES



A NON-PROFIT MINISTRY OF THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SPOKANE

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



**FLOENER ELECTRIC**  
**In need of an Electrician?**  
**509-684-8353**

Leaking pipe repairs  
 Gas line installations  
 Clogged pipe repairs  
 Water line installations  
 Sump pump installations  
 Garbage disposal repairs  
 Water softener installations  
 Plumbing camera inspections  
 Tankless water heater installations



**ONE PLUMBING**  
**Free Quote!**  
**(509) 385-5593**  
 EMERGENCY SERVICE AVAILABLE  
 MON - FRI 7 AM - 5 PM  
 1802 E TRENT AVE SUITE A  
 SPOKANE, WA

**Monday, November 3 • 5 - 9 pm**  
**Fundraising Dinner**  
**Hope, Peace and Healing**  
 with Bishop Thomas Daly  
 (Ages 21+ only)

**Tickets: \$75**



**Immaculate Heart Retreat Center**  
 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd., Spokane, WA 99223



**MY SPOKANE HANDYMAN LLC**  
[myspokanehandyman.com](http://myspokanehandyman.com)

Need something fixed?  
 Call today!  
**509-993-6550**  
[myspokanehandyman@gmail.com](mailto:myspokanehandyman@gmail.com)  
 License: MYSPOSH765B5



**3620 N NEVADA STREET**  
**THE 509 GARAGE**  
**PH (509) 598-8244**  
 MAINTENANCE \* DIAGNOSIS \* BRAKES \* EMISSIONS  
 ENGINES \* TRANSMISSIONS \* HIGH PERFORMANCE

Where Good People Find Good People



**SPOKANE CATHOLIC .COM**

