



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

November 5th, 2023

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ≈ 23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOT

On our part, we must make the effort to approach Christ with the faith of that Galilæan woman, with her humility, with a desire as great as hers to be healed of the evils that beset us. “Who are we, to be so close to him? As with that poor woman in the crowd, He has given us an opportunity. And not just a chance to touch his outer garment a little, to feel for a moment the fringe, the hem of his cloak. We actually have Christ himself. He gives himself to us totally, with his Body, his Blood, his Soul and his Divinity. We consume him each day. We speak to him intimately as one does to a brother, a father, as one speaks to Love itself” [St. Josemaría Escrivá, Friends of God, 199]....

Holy Communion is not a reward for virtue, but rather nourishment provided for those who are weak and in need; for each of us, that is. Mother Church exhorts us to receive Communion frequently, if possible each day, and insists at the same time that we should endeavor to avoid routine in its reception, tepidity, and anything approaching a lack of love. She encourages us to purify our souls from venial sins through acts of contrition and frequent Confession. Above all, she teaches that we should never receive Holy Communion if we have at all incurred the stain of mortal sin, without having first gone to receive the sacrament of reconciliation. Concerning slight faults, Our Lord asks us to do what we can in the way of repentance and the desire to avoid them.



*Commentary from In Conversation with God by Fr.
Francisco Fernández-Carvajal.*

A COMMENTARY FOR THE 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CALLING THE FATHERS

Though they were Moses' successors, the Pharisees and scribes exalted themselves, making their mastery of the law a badge of social privilege. Worse, they had lorded the law over the people (see Matthew 20:25). Like the priests Malachi condemns in today's First Reading, they caused many to falter and be closed off from God.

In a word, Israel's leaders failed to be good spiritual fathers of God's people. Moses was a humble father figure, preaching the law but also practicing it—interceding and begging God's mercy and forgiveness of the people's sins (see Exodus 32:9–14; Psalm 90).

And Jesus reminds us today that all fatherhood—in the family or in the people of God—comes from the Father in heaven (see Ephesians 3:15).

He doesn't mean we're to literally call no man "father." He Himself referred to Israel's founding fathers (see John 7:22); the Apostles taught about natural fatherhood (see Hebrews 12:7–11), and described themselves as spiritual fathers (see 1 Corinthians 4:14–16).

The fatherhood of the Apostles and their successors, the Church's priests and bishops, is a spiritual paternity given to raise us as God's children. Our fathers give us new life in Baptism and feed us the spiritual milk of the Gospel and the Eucharist (see 1 Peter 2:2–3). That's why Paul, in today's Epistle, can also compare himself to a nursing mother.

God's fatherhood likewise transcends all human notions of fatherhood and motherhood. Perhaps that's why the Psalm chosen for today includes one of the rare biblical images of God's maternal care (see Isaiah 66:13).

His only Son has shown us the Father (see John 14:9) coming to gather His children as a hen gathers her young (see Matthew 23:37). We're all brothers and sisters, our Lord tells us today. And all of us—even our spiritual fathers—are to trust in Him, humbly, like children on our mothers' laps.

- 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 or at [facebook.com/sfxspokane](https://www.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

Office Email: office@sfxspokane.org

Office Hours. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9am-12pm.

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH

5:30 pm, Mass *Nicholas Genna*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH

8:00am , Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH

4:30 pm, Confessions

5:30 pm, Mass *Pro Populo*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH

8:00am , Mass *Religious*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Pro Populo*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH

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.

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.

NCYM YOUTH GROUP

Middle School, Tuesdays

6-8pm

High School, Wednesdays

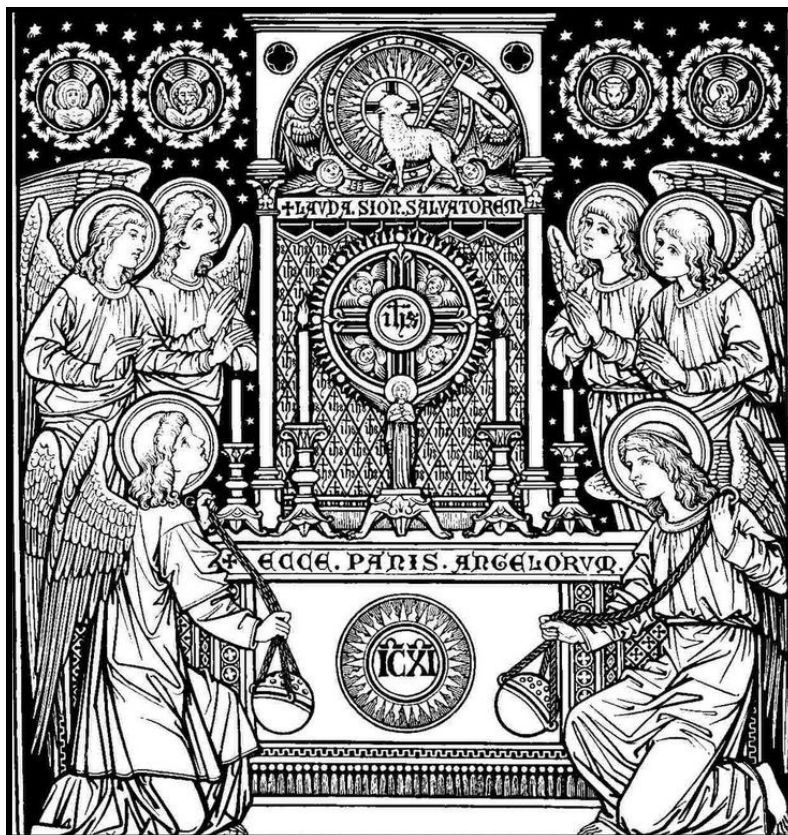
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Fellowship!**

Find us on Instagram @northsidecatholicyouthministry

Text NCYM to 84576 for Flocknote registration



St Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

November 10th

St. Leo the Great was born in Tuscany. As deacon, he was dispatched to Gaul as a mediator by Emperor Valentinian III. He reigned as Pope between 440 and 461. He persuaded Emperor Valentinian to recognize the primacy of the Bishop of Rome in an edict in 445. The doctrine of the Incarnation was confirmed by him in a letter to the Patriarch of Constantinople, who had already condemned Eutyches, who held that Christ had only one nature. At the Council of Chalcedon in 451, this same letter was confirmed as the expression of Catholic Faith concerning the Person of Christ.

All secular historical treatises eulogize Leo's efforts during the upheaval of the 5th century barbarian invasion. His encounter with Attila the Hun, at the very gates of Rome, persuading him to turn back, remains a historical memorial to his great eloquence. When the Vandals under Genseric occupied the city of Rome he persuaded the invaders to desist from pillaging the city and harming its inhabitants. He died in 461, leaving many letters and writings of great historical value.

PRAYER: God, You established Your Church on the solid rock of the Apostles and You will never allow the powers of hell to dominate her. Grant that she may persevere in Your truth and enjoy continual peace through the intercession of Pope St. Leo. **Amen.**





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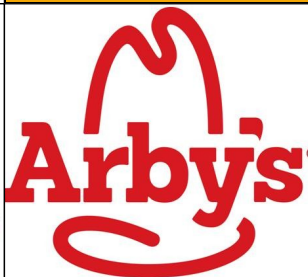
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