



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

November 23rd, 2025

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

24TH AND LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST~ CHRIST THE KING

The number of the Sundays after Pentecost may exceed twenty four, and go as far as twenty-eight, according as Easter is each year more or less near to the vernal equinox. But the Mass here given is always reserved for the last; and the intervening ones, be their number what it may, are taken from the Sundays after the Epiphany, which, in that case, were not used at the beginning of the year. This, however, does not apply to the Introit, Gradual, Offertory, and Communion, which are repeated from the twenty-third Sunday.

We have seen how that Mass of the twenty-third Sunday was regarded, by our forefathers, as really the last of the cycle. Abbot Rupert has given us the profound meaning of its several parts. According to the teaching we have already pondered over, the reconciliation of Juda was shown us as being, in time, the term intended by God: the last notes of the sacred liturgy blended with the last scene of the world's history, as seen and known by God. The end proposed by eternal Wisdom in the world's creation, and mercifully continued, after the fall, by the mystery of Redemption, has now (we speak of the Church's year and God's workings) been fully carried out. This end was no other than that of divine union with human nature, making it one in the unity of one only body. Now that the two antagonistic people, Gentile and Jew, are brought together in the one same new Man in Christ Jesus their Head, the two Testaments, which so strongly marked the distinction between the ages of time, the one called the old, the other the new, fade away, and give place to the glory of the eternal Alliance.



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“Kingdom Of The Son” : Reflection on Christ The King

Week by week, the Liturgy has been preparing us for the revelation to be made on this, the last Sunday of the Church year.

Jesus, we have been shown, is truly the Chosen One, the Messiah of God, the King of the Jews. Ironically, in today’s Gospel we hear these names on the lips of those who don’t believe in Him—Israel’s rulers, the soldiers, a criminal dying alongside Him.

They can only see the scandal of a bloodied figure nailed to a cross. They scorn Him in words and gestures foretold in Israel’s Scriptures (see Psalm 22:7–9; 69:21–22; Wisdom 2:18–20). If He is truly King, God will rescue Him, they taunt. But He did not come to save Himself, but to save them—and us.

The good thief shows us how we are to accept the salvation He offers us. He confesses his sins and acknowledges he deserves to die for them. And he calls on the name of Jesus, seeking His mercy and forgiveness.

By his faith he is saved. Jesus “remembers” him—as God has always remembered His people, visiting them with His saving deeds, numbering them among His chosen heirs (see Psalm 106:4–5).

By the blood of His cross, Jesus reveals His Kingship—not in saving His own life, but in offering it as a ransom for ours. He transfers us to “the kingdom of His beloved Son,” as today’s Epistle tells us.

His kingdom is the Church, the new Jerusalem and House of David that we sing of in today’s Psalm.

By their covenant with David in today’s First Reading, Israel’s tribes are made one “bone and flesh” with their king. By the New Covenant made in His blood, Christ becomes one flesh with the people of His kingdom—the head of His body, the Church (see Ephesians 5:23–32).

We celebrate and renew this covenant in every Eucharist, giving thanks for our redemption, hoping for the day when we too will be with Him in Paradise.

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

Office Email: 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 or at
facebook.com/sfxspokane

Our Mailing Address is:

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH

5:30pm Mass *Lori and Mike Heath*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH

8:00am Mass *Greg Hayward*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH

NO MASS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH

NO MASS, HAVE A BLESSED THANKSGIVING

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH

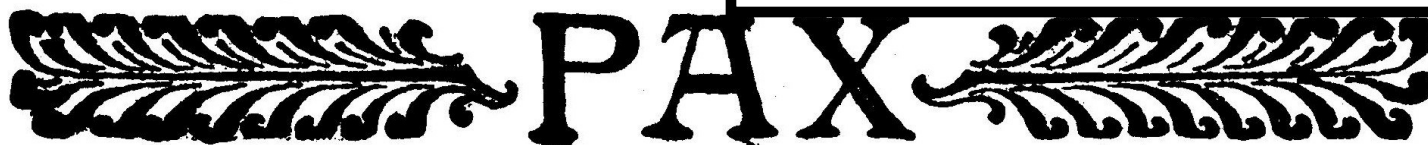
3:00pm Confessions

4:00pm Mass *Pro Populo*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH

7:30 am, Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00 am, Mass *Pro Populo*



Continued from The Cover...

Hence, it was there that mother Church formerly finished her liturgical year. She was delighted at what she had done during all the past months; that is, at having led her children, not only to have a thorough appreciation of the divine plan, which she had developed before them in her celebrations, but moreover, and more especially, to unite them themselves, by a veritable union, to their Jesus, by a real communion of views, and interests, and loves. On this account, it used to be that she did not revert again to the second coming of the God-Man and the last judgment, two great subjects which she had proposed for her children's reflections at the commencement of the purgative life, that is, in her season of Advent. It is only a few centuries ago that, with a view of giving to her year a conclusion more defined and intelligible to the faithful of these comparatively recent times, she chose to conclude the cycle with the prophetic description of the dread coming of her Lord, which is to put an end to time, and to open eternity. From time immemorial, St. Luke had had the office of announcing, in Advent, the approach of the last judgment; the evangelist St. Matthew was selected for this its second, and more detailed, description, on the last Sunday after Pentecost...

Several times during Advent we meditated on the circumstances which are to accompany the last coming of Christ our Lord; and in a few days the same great teachings will be again brought before us, filling our souls with a salutary fear. May we, then, be permitted on this last Sunday of our liturgical year to address ourselves in a prayer of desire and praise to our adorable Lord and King, the solemn hour of whose judgment is to be the consummation of His work, and the signal of His triumph.



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Catechism and Sacramental Preparation

We are pleased to announce that catechism and sacrament preparation classes are in the mornings on **Jan 24th, Feb 21st, March 28th, and April 18th**. First Communion and Confirmation will be celebrated in late April or early May.

To make this program successful, we need dedicated volunteers to serve as catechists and assistants. No previous teaching experience is necessary—just a willing heart and love for the faith.

Training and materials will be provided.

If you feel called to help form our children in their Catholic faith, please contact the parish office. Your gift of time can make an eternal difference in a child's life.

More details about registration and class schedules will be announced soon. Please keep this important ministry in your prayers.



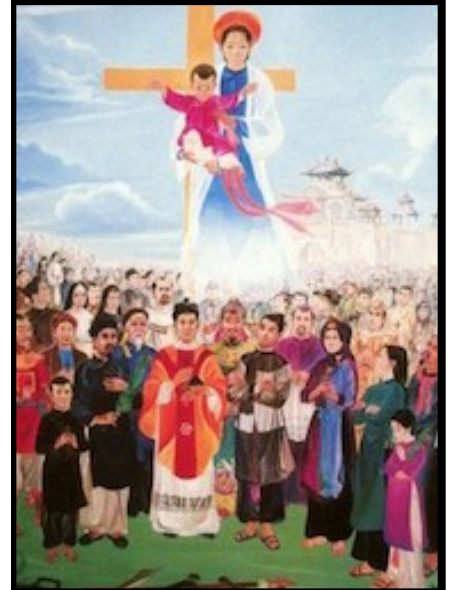
Sts. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest and Companions, Martyrs November 24th

Through the missionary efforts of various religious families beginning in the 17th century (1625) and continuing until 1866, the Vietnamese people heard the message of the Gospel, and many accepted it despite persecution and even death.

On June 19, 1988, Pope John Paul II from the great number of Vietnamese martyrs canonized 117 person martyred in the 18th century. Among these are included 96 Vietnamese, 11 missionaries born in Spain and belonging to the Order of Preachers, and 10 French missionaries belonging to the Parish Foreign Mission Society. Among these Saints are 8 Spanish and French bishops, 50 priests (13 European and 37 Vietnamese), and 59 lay people of every state of life.

These Martyrs gave their lives not only for the Church but for their country as well. They showed that they wanted the Gospel of Christ to take root in their people and contribute to the good of their homeland. On June 1, 1989, these holy Martyrs were inscribed in the liturgical calendar of the Universal Church for November 24.

PRAYER: God, the fount and origin of all fatherhood, You enabled the blessed Martyrs Andrew and his companions to be faithful to the Cross of Your Son even unto the shedding of their blood. Grant through their intercession that we may propagate Your love among our brothers and sisters and not only be called but really be Your children. **Amen.**



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. X PROUDLY SPONSORS:

Catholic Women's

Advent Brunch

Before the chaos of Christmas preparations, let us come together in prayer and gratitude to delight in one another and learn about Advent traditions from our parish families.

Bring your daughters, mother, grandmothers, and friends for a lovely morning as we prepare our hearts and souls for this holy season of Advent. Please bring a dish to share.

women.of.st.x@gmail.com

NOVEMBER | 29 | 9-11 AM

Please RSVP Here

All Ages Welcome
6+ suggested

ST. THOMAS MORE PAC

505 W St. Thomas More Way