



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

December 10th, 2023

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Anglican Ordinariate Mass

Fr Justin Fletcher of Presentation of the Lord parish in Montgomery Texas will offer an extra Mass with a Choir on Monday **Dec 11th at 7pm**

They are a Roman Catholic community of the Ordinariate of the Chair of Saint Peter, and they are gratefully under the leadership of the Holy Father Pope Francis. The mission of the Anglican ordinary of our lady of Wolsingham is to bring Anglicans/ Episcopalians back into the one church of Christ, founded by Saint Peter.

Numerous allusions appear in the Liturgy of this day to Jerusalem and her people. Let us be filled with sentiments of hope and of joy, for the coming of Jesus is nigh. Let us prepare the way in our hearts for the Messiah: Our Lord and Redeemer Jesus Christ.



Commentary by Fr. Sylvester Juergens S.M. (1894-1969)

A COMMENTARY FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

STRAIGHTEN THE PATH

Our God is coming. The time of exile—the long separation of humankind from God due to sin—is about to end. This is the good news proclaimed in today's liturgy.

Isaiah in today's First Reading promises Israel's future release and return from captivity and exile. But as today's Gospel shows, Israel's historic deliverance was meant to herald an even greater saving act by God—the coming of Jesus to set Israel and all nations free from bondage to sin, to gather them up and carry them back to God.

God sent an angel before Israel to lead them in their exodus toward the promised land (see Exodus 23:20). And He promised to send a messenger of the covenant, Elijah, to purify the people and turn their hearts to the Father before the day of the Lord (see Malachi 3:1–4).

John the Baptist quotes these, as well as Isaiah's prophecy, to show that all of Israel's history looks forward to the revelation of Jesus. In Jesus, God has filled in the valley that divided sinful humanity from Himself. He has reached down from heaven and made His glory to dwell on earth, as we sing in today's Psalm.

He has done all this not for humanity in the abstract but for each of us. The long history of salvation has led us to this Eucharist, in which our God again comes and our salvation is near. And each of us must hear in today's readings a personal call. Here is your God, Isaiah says. He has been patient with you, Peter says in today's Epistle.

Like Jerusalem's inhabitants in the Gospel, we have to go out to Him, repenting our sins, all the laziness and self-indulgence that make our lives a spiritual wasteland. We have to straighten out our lives so that everything we do leads us to Him.

Today, let us hear the beginning of the Gospel and again commit ourselves to lives of holiness and devotion.

- 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, Thursday 9am-12pm.

Wednesday 9am-11am

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

5:30 pm, Mass *Pro Populo*

7:00 pm, Ordinariate Mass

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12TH

8:00am , Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH

4:30 pm, Confessions

5:30 pm, Mass *Holy souls in Purgatory*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

8:00am , Mass *Religious*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16TH

3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Pro Populo*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

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.

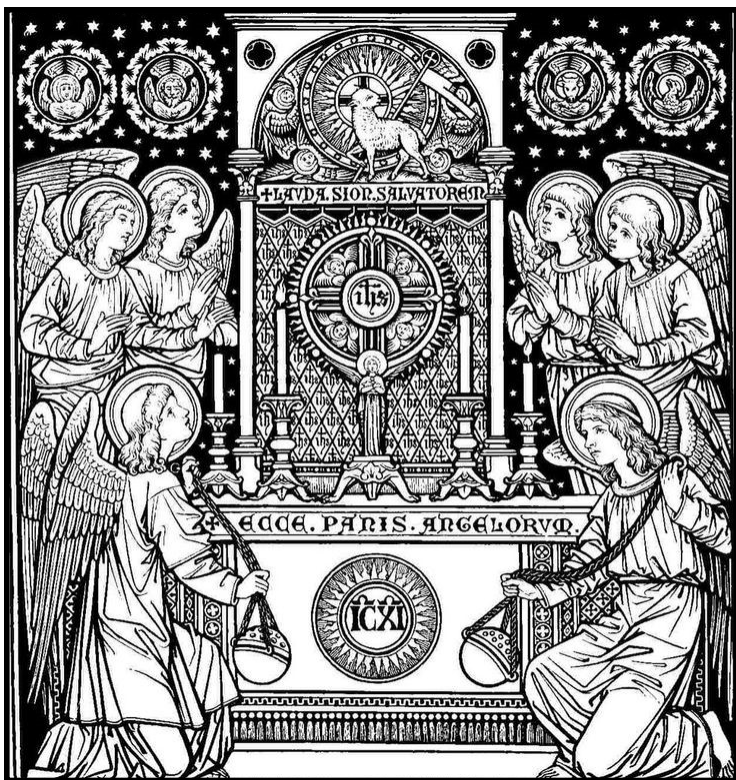
MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY

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



NCYM YOUTH GROUP

Middle School, Tuesdays

6-8pm

High School, Wednesdays

6-8pm

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Find us on Instagram @northsidecatholicyouthministry

Text NCYM to 84576 for Flocknote registration

We Will decorate the Church for Christmas on December 19th at 9:15am after the Daily Mass.

Light Snacks and Hot chocolate provided in the Narthex

If anyone has ideas for decorations along the side isles in the nave, under the windows, let me know this week, so we can get supplies

St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church Dec. 14th

John Yopez was born at Fontiberos in Old Castile, Spain, in 1542. From his tenderest infancy he evinced a marked devotion toward the Blessed Virgin, of whose Order he became one of the brightest ornaments. After studying in a Jesuit college, he took the Carmelite habit, in the monastery of that Order at Medina del Campo in 1563, and practiced the greatest austerities. In 1567, he was ordained a priest.

Shortly after, John met St. Teresa of Avila at Medina del Campo, at which time she interested him in the work of reforming the Order. He entered heartily into her plans, and when the first monastery of Discalced Carmelite Friars was opened at Duruelo, John Yopez (who was to be St. John of the Cross) was its first member.

The saint successively filled the post of superior, prior, vicar-general, and defintor. In the midst of his exterior labors his heart was always intimately united to God; he is known in the Church as one of the great contemplatives and teachers of Mystical Theology.

In his last illness John had a choice between two monasteries; one of them was a pleasant residence and its prior was his intimate friend, but he chose the other, the one of Ubeda, which was poor and where prior was ill-disposed toward him. After much suffering, he died in 1591 and was canonized in 1726 by Pope Benedict XIII.

PRAYER: God, Your Priest St. John became a model of perfect self-denial and showed us how to love the Cross. May we always imitate him and be rewarded with the eternal contemplation of Your glory. Amen.





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THE WORLD IS POISONED BY ERRONEOUS THEORIES, AND NEEDS TO BE TAUGHT SANE DOCTRINES, BUT IT IS DIFFICULT TO STRAIGHTEN WHAT IS CROOKED.

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER CABRINI

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We do not want a Church that will move with the world. We want a Church that will move the world.
 - G.K. Chesterton -



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