



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

January 12th, 2020

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

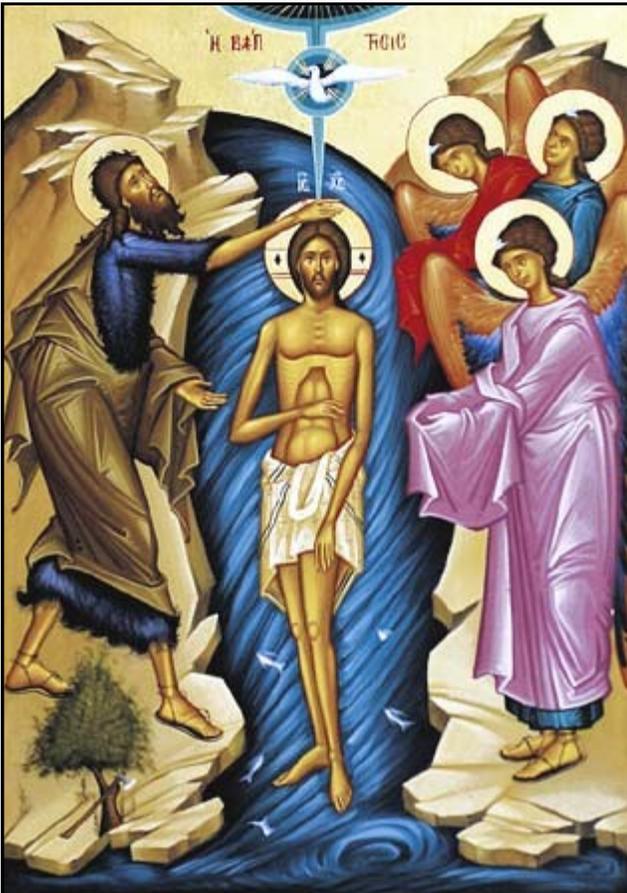
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD & FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Musings from your Parish Priest:

We would like to welcome Fr. William Slattery, Ph.D, Ph.L, & S.T.L, to our community here at St. Francis Xavier Parish. Fr. Slattery was born in Ireland and in 1991 was ordained to the priesthood by Saint John Paul II in St. Peter's Basilica. He is the author of *Heroism and Genius* (Ignatius Press) and *The Logic of Truth* (Leonardo da Vinci Press). Although assigned to St. Francis Xavier, his time is dedicated mostly to preaching retreats outside of the diocese, to lecturing (especially for the promotion of the Traditional Latin Mass), and to completing the other books which he is currently working on.

This week's article will focus on Christmastide, the "Season of Christmas". This season is perhaps one of the most debated in the history of the church, with definitions changing significantly over time. To begin with, the Council of Tours in 567 proclaimed "the twelve days from Christmas to Epiphany as a sacred and festive season"- the origin of "the twelve days of Christmas".

By the medieval period, it became common for the Feast of the Presentation (or Candlemas), February 2nd, to be counted as the end of the Christmas "Cycle". The Feast of the Presentation is the culmination of "Epiphanytide", the Sundays after Epiphany in the old calendar. By conjoining the Christmas Season to the Epiphany Season, a period of 40 days could be set aside to celebrate the birth of our savior.



While the two "seasons" remained distinct, they formed one "cycle". Confusion over the exact length of the season can stem from older writings, such as Dom Prosper Guéranger's *The Liturgical Year*, in which the esteemed abbot used the term "Christmastide" for that whole time period from Christmas to Candlemas. However, in the official rubrics, Christmastide was still defined as "from vespers of Christmas to none on 5th January inclusive."- 12 days.

In 1955, when the calendar was reformed and the "Feast of the Baptism of the Lord" was instituted, the Christmas Season was officially extended to be inclusive of this feast. This definition is used in both the Ordinary and Extraordinary Form calendars. Because the day of the Feast of the Baptism was moved in the liturgical reform, the Season of Christmas is up to 5 days shorter in the new calendar- this year, the season is 19 days, whereas in the old calendar the season is 20 days. Our intention this year is to keep the Nativity decorations up through February 2nd, so as to observe the full 40 days of the *Christmas Cycle*- both the Season of Christmas, and the Season of Epiphany.

In Mary's Immaculate Heart,

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC PARISH
THE SFX YOUTUBE CHANNEL

YOUTUBE.COM/USER/SFXPARISHSPOKANE

ANNOINTED ONES

Jesus presents himself for baptism in today's Gospel not because He is a sinner, but to fulfill the word of God proclaimed by His prophets. He must be baptized to reveal that He is the Christ ("anointed one")—the Spirit-endowed Servant promised by Isaiah in today's First Reading.

His baptism marks the start of a new world, a new creation. As Isaiah prophesied, the Spirit descends upon Jesus like a dove—as the Spirit hovered over the face of the deep in the beginning (see Genesis 1:2).

As it was in the beginning, at the Jordan also the majestic voice of the Lord thunders above the waters. The Father opens the heavens and declares Jesus to be His "beloved son."

God had long prepared the Israelites for His coming, as Peter preaches in today's Second Reading. Jesus was anticipated in the "beloved son" given to Abraham (see Genesis 22:2, 12, 26), and in the calling of Israel as His "first-born son" (see Exodus 4:22–23). Jesus is the divine son begotten by God, the everlasting heir promised to King David (see Psalm 2:7; 2 Samuel 7:14).

He is "a covenant of the people [Israel]" and "a light to the nations," Isaiah says. By the new covenant made in His blood (see 1 Corinthians 11:25), God has gathered the lost sheep of Israel together with whoever fears Him in every nation.

Christ has become the source from which God pours out His Spirit on Israelites and Gentiles alike (see Acts 10:45). In Baptism, all are anointed with that same Spirit, made beloved sons and daughters of God. Indeed, we are Christians—literally "anointed ones."

We are the "sons of God" in today's Psalm—called to give glory to His name in His temple. Let us pray that we remain faithful to our calling as His children, that our Father might call us what he calls His Son—"my beloved . . . in whom I am well pleased."

—Scott Hahn, PhD



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 one of the deacons know: Carl Burrell, Elvira Colistro, Claire Smith, Helen Dietrich, Florence White, Ray Lobdell, Evelyn Miller, Rose Zinkgraf, Bella Mally, Jane Soars, Marge Ivanis, Shirley Donnelly, Eleanor Finley, Virginia Warren, Susan Fisher, Gerri Allen, Fr. Michael Irwin, Peggy Cloke, and the residents of Franklin Hills Care Center and Cherrywood Place.

Prayers for the infirm and homebound are a work of mercy.

SFX TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

Telephone: (509) 487-6363

Extensions: Fr. Gaines: #5 Office: #3 Emergencies: #1

Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday 8:30am-11:30am

Father Gaines: Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30, after mass

SFX can be found online at: sfxspokane.org

E-MAIL

Father Gaines: pastor@sfxspokane.org

Office Matters: office@sfxspokane.org

PRAYER CHAIN

Contact Jackie Silvey for prayer requests or to volunteer, she can be reached at (509) 483-3109

ADORATION SCHEDULE

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament is held
Monday-Friday from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m.

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturdays at 4:00pm, Sundays at 7:30am in the Ordinary
Form, & 11am in the Extraordinary Form.

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday 8:00am

On Holy Days of Obligation Mass is celebrated at 5:30
pm in the Extraordinary Form unless otherwise
indicated.

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 7179

Spokane, WA 99207

CONFESSIONS

Tuesdays 4-5pm

Saturdays 3:00pm

Sundays 10:30am

Or By Appointment

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES,

CONVERSIONS

Please contact the parish office at
“office@sfxspokane.org” to arrange a
baptism or schedule marriage
preparation.

If you are interested in becoming a
Catholic, please contact the parish
office by email

MASS CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

Sat Jan 11 Baptism of the Lord *Peter Schmitt*

Sun Jan 12 Baptism of the Lord *Pro Populo*

Sun Jan 12 Holy Family *Poor Souls*

Mon Jan 13 Weekday *Daniel Lander*

Tue Jan 14 Weekday *Debbie Bailey*

Wed Jan 15 Weekday *Stan Mashburn*

Thu Jan 16 Weekday NO MASS

Fri Jan 17 Weekday NO MASS

Sat Jan 18 2nd Sunday, Ordinary *Peter Schmitt*

Sun

Sun

Jan 19 2nd Sunday, Ordinary *Pro Populo*

Jan 19 2nd Sunday post Epiphany *Poor Souls*

Jan 20 Weekday *Mashburn Family*

Jan 21 Weekday *Czapla Family*

Jan 22 Weekday *Reggie & Lenaya Blacke*

Jan 23 Weekday NO MASS

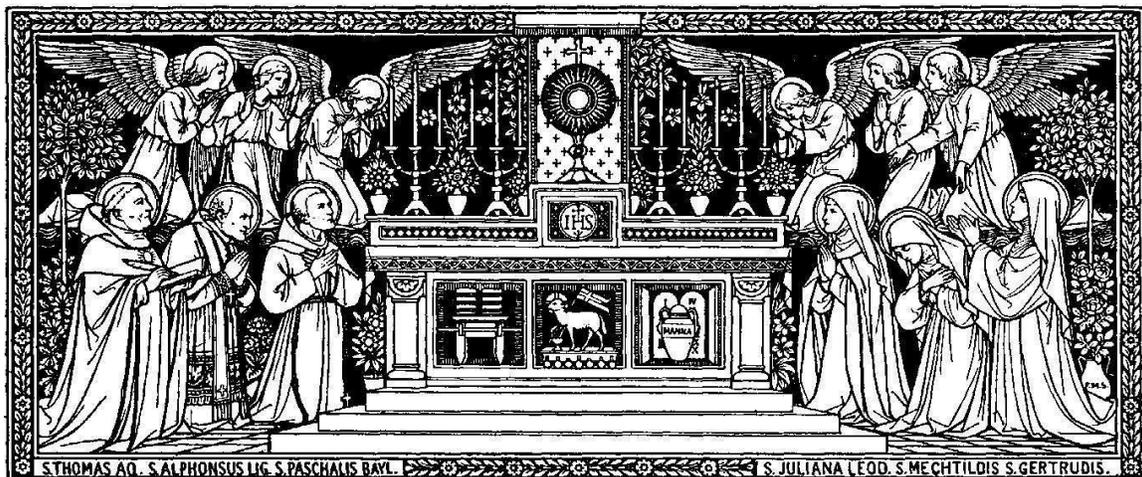
Jan 24 Weekday NO MASS

Jan 25 3rd Sunday, Ordinary *Blacke Family*

Jan 26 3rd Sunday, Ordinary *Pro Populo*

Jan 26 3rd Sunday post Epiphany *Poor Souls*

Masses without intentions are celebrated according to the intention of the priest celebrant. To request the offering of the mass for your intention, please call the parish office or place your request in the Sunday collection



PARISH EVENTS & NOTIFICATIONS

Parish Priest: Fr. David Gaines

Finance Council: Jerry Bluett

Altar Society: Marlene Edwards

Parish Office: Miles Ormsby

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The parish is seeking a volunteer interested in maintaining the flowers surrounding the church building. Additionally, we will require a volunteer to mow the lawns of the parish during the months of June and July this coming year. All necessary equipment will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Tim Lakey at 509-714-0389.

NORTHSIDE CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

Northside Catholic Youth Ministries will be meeting every Tuesday evening, from 6:30-8:30pm at St. Charles Parish. Open for 6th-12th grades.

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. Every first Thursday year-round at 7:30 pm. Contact the Women's Health Center: 509-474-2400

COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS

Are shared after both the 7:30am and 11am Mass. Please join your friends and neighbors.

CHESTERTON ACADEMY GALA

Chesterton Academy of Notre Dame invites you to our first annual Fleur-de-Lis Gala! Join us for a night full of fellowship, dinner, silent & live auctions, & merriment as we celebrate Spokane's first joyfully Catholic, classical high school on February 13, 2020. Purchase your tickets at chestertonacademyofnotredame.org by February 6th. Limited seating available, so purchase your tickets now!

OFFICE HOURS CHANGING

Due to changing schedules, the Parish Office will revert to its original schedule of 8:30am-11:30am, Tuesdays-Fridays.

REMEMBER OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Twice a month St. Peter's Lutheran Community distributes the food we collect. Bins are available at the church doors your for donations of nonperishable food items.



A COMMENTARY FOR THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY BY ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI
ON THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD PREACHING— INSTRUCTIONS TO PREACHERS

St. Thomas of Villanova said, that the words of a sermon should be like so many darts of fire, which would wound and inflame the hearers with divine love. "But how," he subjoined, "can the heart be set on fire by those sermons which, though long and elaborate, issue, notwithstanding, from a frozen heart?" St. Francis de Sales observes, that the tongue speaks to the ear, but the heart speaks to the heart. He proceeds to say, that when the sentiments do not spring from the heart of the preacher, it is with difficulty they draw the hearts of others to divine love; he must himself be first inflamed with it. "Lampades ejus lampades ignis, atque flammaram." (Cant. viii. 6.) He must be first a fire to burn, and afterwards a flame to set others on fire. St. Bernard explained this in other terms, when he said, that he must be first a cistern, and then a canal; first a cistern that is, full of the fervour and zeal which are collected in mental prayer; and then a canal, to communicate it to others.

With regard to the subject matter of sermons. Those subjects should be selected which move most powerfully to detest sin and to love God; whence the preacher should often speak of the last things of death, of judgment, of Hell, of Heaven, and of eternity. According to the advice of the Holy Spirit, "Memorare novissima tua, et in æternum non peccabis," (Eccl. vii. 40,) it is particularly useful often to make mention of death, by delivering several discourses on that subject during the year, speaking at one time on the uncertainty of death, which terminates all the pleasures as well as all the afflictions of this life; at another, on the uncertainty of the time at which death may arrive; now, on the unhappy death of the sinner; and again, on the happy death of the just.

The preacher should often speak of the love which Jesus Christ bears towards us, of the love which we should bear to Jesus Christ, and of the confidence we should have in his mercy whenever we are resolved to amend our lives. It would appear that some preachers do not know how to speak of anything but the justice of God, terrors, threats, and chastisements. There is no doubt but that terrifying discourses are of use to arouse sinners from the sleep of sin; but we should be persuaded at the same time, that those who abstain from sin solely through the fear of punishment, will with difficulty persevere for a long time. Love is that golden link which binds the soul to God, and makes it faithful in repelling temptation and practising virtue. St. Augustine said: "Ama et fac quod vis." He who truly loves God, flies from everything displeasing to Him, and seeks to please Him to the utmost of his power. And here let us cite that remarkable saying of St. Francis de Sales: "The love that does not spring from the passion of Christ is weak." By this the saint gives us to understand that the passion of Christ moves us most effectually to love him.

In a word, let the preacher endeavour, in his sermons, always to insinuate whatever he can that is practical that is, the remedies of the different vices; the means of persevering in a virtuous life; such as, to fly dangerous occasions and bad company; to offer violence to one's self in motions of anger, so as not to break out into injurious actions or words; by suggesting to the hearers some form of expression, to avoid blasphemies or imprecations; for example, "Lord, give me patience!" "Virgin Mary, assist me!" and the like. Let him recommend the people to hear Mass every morning; to read every day some spiritual book; every morning to renew the resolutions of not offending God, and to ask the Divine assistance in order to persevere.



SACRED HEART RADIO

CATHOLIC RADIO FOR SPOKANE

Listen On

AM 970

FM 106.1

Download Our App
and listen anywhere!

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

HOLY CROSS
FUNERAL AND CEMETERY SERVICES

Compassionate pricing with superior service.

(509)467-5496 holycrossofspokane.org 7200 N. Wall, Spokane, WA 99208



HOLY CROSS

ST. JOSEPH

QUEEN OF PEACE

MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE FAITHFUL: FUNERAL | CREMATION | CEMETERY | FAMILY ESTATES



A NON-PROFIT MINISTRY OF THE
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
SPOKANE



Grill & Chill.

Ice Cream
Cakes For Any
Occasion

487-4391

917 E. Wellesley Store

*Is it time for you to
incorporate?
Call Dan.
The answer is may
be easier than you
might think.*

**Income Tax
Services**

Dan Stadtmueller

216-0900



(509) 217-7889

vic@plese.com



Vic Plese
Broker



Have Mike Fix It

**Mikes Mobile
Computer Repair**

Guaranteed Virus Removal

Protect All Your Devices
From Pornography!

Call Mike Today!

509- 999-0014

**New in Spokane!
Medicare Advantage Plans**



We have a plan for you. Call **1-833-949-0268 (TTY: 711)**,
8 a.m. - 8 p.m., seven days a week.

H9047_2020PHAT11_C

**A Catholic
Legacy
for Over
125 Years.**



HENNESSEY
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY

328-2600



100% of Eligible Medical Bills shared
up to \$1 Million Per Incident

**Medical Cost
Sharing for
Catholics**

USE PROMO CODE
5093621556



**NORTH SPOKANE 106
AUTO
Licensing**

10208 N Division Suite 109

509-464-2294

www.northspokaneautolicensing.com

Listing Your
Business Here is
Easy! Call:
509-362-1556

Discounts for
Parishioners

**Spokane Catholic
Business Directory**

Businesses • Mass Times • Daily Readings/Rosary
Catholic Coupons • Discounts & More!

spokanecatholic.net



SACRED HEART RADIO

CATHOLIC RADIO FOR SPOKANE

AM 970 / FM 106.1

Download Our App and listen anywhere!

COONEY
LAW OFFICES, P.S.

Auto Accidents,
Wills & Estate
Planning,
Family Law

509-327-6000

330 W. Indiana Ave

www.jcooney.com



Roofing & Construction

509.489.3552

HRCSPokane.com

#HERITRC951MR



at SOUTH HILL
A PART OF THE AVAMERE FAMILY OF COMPANIES

- Amazing Food
- Home-like Atmosphere
- Awesome Activities

Schedule a visit today!

ASSISTED LIVING DESIGNED FOR COMFORT

509.443.0401 • AvamereatSouthHill.com