



SACRED HEART RADIO

CATHOLIC RADIO FOR SPOKANE

Listen On

**AM 970**

**FM 106.1**

Download Our App  
and listen anywhere!

# Day of Reflection and Planning

*For Your Spiritual and Corporal Needs*

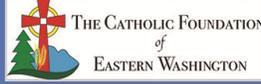
**Saturday, April 4 • 8:00am–1:30pm**  
Immaculate Heart Retreat Center

**FREE**

Please join us for this spiritual day of preparation with multiple speakers on a wide variety of end-of-life topics such as: Preparing for Eternity, Catholic Health Directives, Will Preparation & Estate Planning, Leaving a Legacy, Grieving the Loss of Loved Ones, Finding God's Mercy in Death, and What Do We Do When a Loved One Dies?

Pre-Registration Greatly Appreciated!  
Contact Lindsey Klemmer at  
lklemmer@dioceseofspokane.org  
or 358-7343

Sponsored by:



**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**

**FOR SALE**

**(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.

**509-327-6000**

330 W. Indiana Ave

www.jcooney.com

Auto Accidents,  
Wills & Estate  
Planning,  
Family Law

**HERITAGE**

Roofing & Construction

**509.489.3552**

HRCSPokane.COM

#HERITRC951MR

**AVAMERE**  
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



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

March 22nd 2020

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

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Friends and Parishioners-

We are entering into a very difficult time for the church. There is much panic, fear, and confusion over the COVID-19 pandemic. We were relatively unprepared for the Bishop's announcement that all Holy Masses and public gathering will be suspending until April 6th, and are currently planning the best way to adapt to this tragic situation. We should all use this time of crisis to redouble out Lenten devotions and focus our thoughts toward Christ's saving mystery.

Please sign up for the diocesan FlockNote at "[dioceseofspokane.org/flocknote](http://dioceseofspokane.org/flocknote)", and the parish FlockNote at "[sfxpokane.flocknote.com](http://sfxpokane.flocknote.com)". If you have friends or family members who are not online, please let them know that we are praying for them.

### Devout Affections On The Passion Of Our Lord Jesus Christ

It was revealed to St. Gertrude that reading and meditating on the Passion are far more useful and efficacious than all other spiritual exercises. And, however cold and lukewarm our devotion, Our Lord will look upon us with greater mercy if we never omit the memory of His Passion. There are ten prayers in total; and we will be publishing the remaining prayers in our bulletin over the next two weeks.

#### Fifth Prayer

O Jesus, King most beloved, remember now the mournful desolation of Thy Heart, when Thou, forsaken by all, wert mocked as Thou didst hang on the Cross; when Thou didst find none to comfort Thee but Thy beloved Mother, who stood by Thy Cross to the last, and whom Thou didst commend to Thy disciple, saying: Woman, behold thy son, and to the disciple: Behold thy Mother. I beseech Thee, O compassionate Jesus, by that sword of anguish which then pierced her Heart, do Thou condole with me and console me in all my tribulations. Amen.

#### Sixth Prayer

O Jesus, inexhaustible fountain of pity, remember now that bitterness which Thou didst endure when, Thy strength being exhausted and Thy sacred Body dried up, Thou didst feel that burning thirst, and hadst not one drop of water to cool Thy parched tongue, but only vinegar upon hyssop; I beseech Thee that Thou wouldst extinguish in me the thirst of carnal concupiscence and worldly delights. Amen.

#### Seventh Prayer

O Jesus, mighty King, remember now that when Thou wast plunged into the bitter waters of Thy Passion until they closed over Thy head, Thou wast forsaken not only by men, but by Thy Father also, and didst cry out with a loud voice, saying: My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me? By this Thine anguish and dereliction, I beseech Thee, forsake me not in my last agony. Amen.

#### Eighth Prayer

O Jesus, strong Lion of the tribe of Juda, remember now the sorrow and the woe Thou didst endure, when all the forces of Thy Heart and of Thy Flesh failed Thee utterly, and Thou didst bow Thy Head and cry: It is consummated. By this Thine anguish and Thy woe, have mercy on me at the end of my life, when my soul shall be troubled, and my spirit disquieted within me. Amen.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC PARISH  
THE SFX YOUTUBE CHANNEL

YOUTUBE.COM/USER/SFXPARISHSPOKANE

### SIGHT FOR THE BLIND

God's ways of seeing are not our ways, we hear in today's First Reading. Jesus illustrates this in the Gospel—as the blind man comes to see and the Pharisees are made blind.

The blind man stands for all humanity. "Born totally in sin," he is made a new creation by the saving power of Christ.

As God fashioned the first man from the clay of the earth (see Genesis 2:7), Jesus gives the blind man new life by anointing his eyes with clay (see John 9:11). As God breathed the spirit of life into the first man, the blind man is not healed until he washes in the waters of Siloam, a name that means "sent."

Jesus is the One "sent" by the Father to do the Father's will (see John 9:4; 12:44). He is the new source of life-giving water—the Holy Spirit who rushes upon us in Baptism (see John 4:10; 7:38–39).

This is the Spirit that rushes upon God's chosen king David in today's First Reading. A shepherd like Moses before him (see Exodus 3:1; Psalm 78:70–71), David is also a sign pointing to the good shepherd and king to come—Jesus (see John 10:11).

The Lord is our shepherd, as we sing in today's Psalm. By His death and Resurrection He has made a path for us through the dark valley of sin and death, leading us to the verdant pastures of the kingdom of life, the Church.

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, Ray Lobdell, Evelyn Miller, Rose Zinkgraf, Bella Mally, Jane Soars, Marge Ivanis, Shirley Donnelly, Eleanor Finley, Virginia Warren, Susan Fisher, Gerri Allen, Peggy Cloke, Kathy McCarthy, Larry Pitner, Agnes Tuite, and the residents of Franklin Hills Care Center and Cherrywood Place.

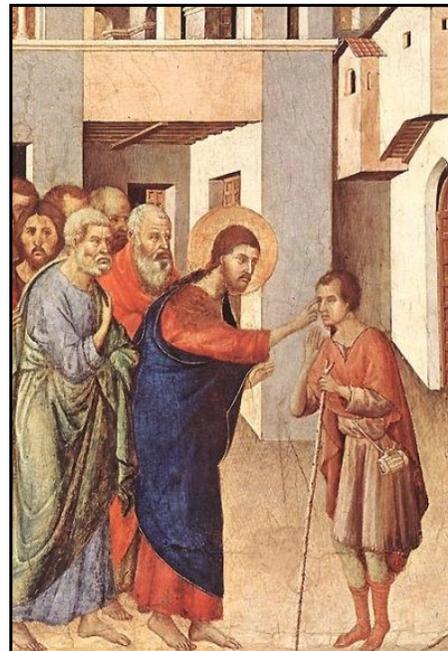
Prayers for the infirm and homebound are a work of mercy.

In the restful waters of Baptism He has refreshed our souls. He has anointed our heads with the oil of Confirmation and spread the Eucharistic table before us, filling our cups to overflowing.

With the once-blind man we enter His house to give God the praise, to renew our vow: "I do believe, Lord."

"The Lord looks into the heart," we hear today. Let Him find us, as Paul advises in today's Epistle, living as "children of light"—trying always to learn what is pleasing to our Father.

—Scott Hahn, PhD



A COMMENTARY FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT BY ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI  
ON OBEDIENCE TO YOUR CONFESSOR

To gain heaven we must walk in the path that leads to Paradise. Many Christians, who have faith, but not works, live in sin, intent only on the pleasures and goods of this world. If you say to one of them: you are a Christian; you believe that there is an eternity, a heaven, and a hell: tell me, do you wish to save your soul? If you do, I will ask you, in the words of this day's gospel, "whither goest thou?" He will answer: I do not know, but I hope to be saved. You know not whither you are going. How can you hope for salvation from God, if you live in a state of perdition? How can you expect heaven, if you walk in the way that leads to hell? It is necessary, then, to change the road; and for this purpose you must put yourself in the hands of a good confessor, who will point out to you the way to heaven, and you must obey him punctually. "My sheep," said Jesus Christ, "hear my voice." (John x. 27.) Happy they who are obedient to their spiritual father: unhappy they who do not obey him; for, by their disobedience, they give a proof that they are not among the sheep of Jesus Christ. I intend this day to show, in the first point, how secure of salvation are all who obey their confessor; and, in the second point, how great the danger of perdition to which they who do not obey him are exposed.

**First Point: How secure of salvation are they who obey their confessor.**

He that acts according to the advice of his confessor, always pleases God when, through obedience, he either practises or omits prayer, mortifications, or communions. He even merits a reward before God when, to obey his confessor, he takes recreation, when he eats or drinks, because he does the will of God. Hence the Scripture says that "much better is obedience than the victories of fools." (Eccl. iv. 17.) Obedience is more pleasing to God than all the sacrifices of penitential works, or of alms-deeds, which we can offer to him, he that sacrifices to God his property by alms-deeds, his honour by bearing insults, or his body by mortifications, by fasts and penitential rigours, offers to him a part of himself and of what belongs to him; but he that sacrifices to God his will, by obedience, gives to him all that he has, and can say: Lord, having given you my will, I have nothing more to give you. Thus, obedience to a confessor is the most acceptable offering which we can make to God, and the most secure way of doing the divine will.

**Second Point: How great is the danger of perdition to which they who do not obey their confessor are exposed.**

Jesus Christ has said, that he who hears his priest, hears him; and that he who despises them, despises him. "Qui vos spernit, me spernit." (Luc. x. 15.) "When the Prophet Eliseus complained of the contempt which he had received from the people, after God had charged him with the direction of them, the Lord said to him: "They have not rejected thee, but me, Page 106 of 233 that I should not reign over them." (1 Kings viii. 7.) They, then, who despise the advice of their confessors, despise God himself, who has made confessors his own representatives.

"Obey your prelates," says St. Paul, "and be subject to them; for they watch, as being to render an account of your souls: that they may do this with joy and not with grief; for, this is not expedient for you." (Heb. xiii. 17.) Some penitents contend with their confessor, and endeavour to make him adopt their own opinion. This is the cause of grief to spiritual directors. But the apostle says, "this is not expedient for you;" because, when the confessor finds that you do not obey him, and that it is only with difficulty he can induce you to walk in the straight path, he will give up the direction of your soul. How deplorable the condition of a vessel which a pilot refuses to steer! How miserable the state of a sick man who is abandoned by his physician! When a patient refuses to obey, or to take the medicine which has been prescribed when he eats and drinks what he pleases the physician abandons him, and allows him to follow his own caprice. But, what hope can be entertained of the recovery of such a patient? "Woe to him that is alone, .. he hath none to lift him up." (Eccl. iv. 10.) Woe to the penitent who wishes to direct himself: he shall have no one to enlighten or correct him, he will therefore rush into an abyss.