



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

August 10th, 2025

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

## 19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

As our Lord wept over the doom of Israel's ancient Sanctuary He thought also of myriads of sinners everywhere for whom His coming and His Sacrifice would be, instead of a source of blessing, an occasion of greater condemnation. He thought as He looked down through His tears on the pride and beauty of the shrine that was soon to collapse in ruin, how many other centers of God's dwelling, how many souls that God's grace would build up into living Temples of the Holy Spirit, were to be overthrown and made desolate. As He thought of the Roman armies encircling Jerusalem and building up the "stifling" barricades round her walls, He could see also the cohorts of Satan's army—the forces of pride, sensuality and unbelief, beleaguering the shrines of God in the souls of men, and threatening them with ruin.

The fall of Jerusalem is a symbol of the lot of every soul that misses its hour, that knows not the time of God's visitation. The miracles, the teaching, the gracious words, the never-ceasing goodness of Christ, were all forgotten or disregarded by a city and a people which worldliness had stricken blind, and made foolish. The brief outburst of acclamation round the Messianic King on Palm Sunday was quite forgotten amid the sneering at the unmasking of the alleged "charlatan" on Good Friday. And as Jesus wept over Jerusalem's blindness, so He wept also over the instability of so many Christians whose loyalty to Him would be as brief, and whose hostility towards Him would be as bitter as that of the children of Jerusalem. Jerusalem would be destroyed because she had not known the hour of God's visitation, the decisive hour of grace. To every soul is given such a time of grace—as to the Apostle Levi (Matthew), the tax collector Zacchaeus, the Woman of Samaria, the Sinner in the town, the Good Thief. On the use of the season of grace may depend eternity.

We cannot tell which of the many graces we receive is the most decisive. It may be a sermon, a confession, a mission; or it may be some misfortune, some family grief, or some problem of business. Let us pray that we never be blind to the mercies of God, and that we may be always ready to cooperate loyally with His Grace.

*Commentary by Msgr. Patrick Boylan (1879-1974).*



## Faith of Our Fathers: Reflection on Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We are born of the faith of our fathers, descending from a great cloud of witnesses whose faith is attested to on every page of Scripture (see Hebrews 12:1). We have been made His people, chosen for His own inheritance, as we sing in this Sunday's Psalm.

The Liturgy this week sings the praises of our fathers, recalling the defining moments in our “family history.” In the Epistle, we remember the calling of Abraham; in the First Reading we relive the night of the Exodus and the summons of the holy children of Israel.

Our fathers, we are told, trusted in the Word of God, put their faith in His oaths. They were convinced that what He promised, He would do.

None of them lived to see His promises made good. For it was not until Christ and His Church that Abraham's descendants were made as countless as the stars and sands (see Galatians 3:16–17, 29). It was not until His Last Supper and the Eucharist that “the sacrifice . . . the divine institution” of that first Passover was truly fulfilled.

And now we too await the final fulfillment of what God has promised us in Christ. As Jesus tells us in this week's Gospel, we should live with our loins girded—as the Israelites tightened their belts, cinched up their long robes and ate their Passover standing, vigilant and ready to do His will (see Exodus 12:11; 2 Kings 4:29).

The Lord will come at an hour we do not expect. He will knock on our door (see Revelation 3:20), inviting us to the wedding feast in the better homeland, the heavenly one that our fathers saw from afar, and which we begin to taste in each Eucharist.

As they did, we can wait with “sure knowledge,” His Word like a lamp lighting our path (see Psalm 119:105). Our God is faithful, and if we wait in faith, hope in His kindness, and love as we have been loved, we will receive His promised blessing and be delivered from death.

*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**)

## 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

## 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, AUGUST 11TH

5:30pm Mass *Jay Hart*

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 12TH

8:00am Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13TH

4:30pm Confessions

5:30pm Mass *Marie Nason*

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 14TH

8:00am Mass *Conversion of the Whole Sifuentes Family*

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 15TH ASSUMPTION OF B.V.M

12:00pm English Mass

5:30pm Latin Mass

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 9TH

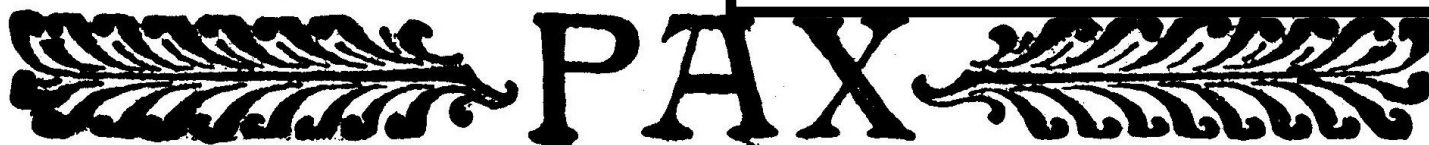
3:00pm Confessions

4:00pm Mass *Pro Populo*

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 10TH

7:30 am, Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00 am, Mass *Pro Populo*



## 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 Francis Xavier

In an effort to cultivate more community at St Francis Xavier, the women of the parish have formed the group: the "Women of St X".

All women - retired, widowed, single and married - are invited to join.

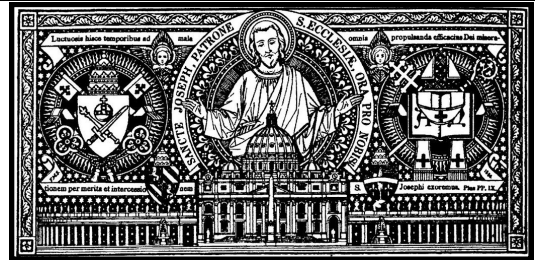
### Activities and volunteer possibilities include:

- Contributing to food prep for after mass socials during the warm months
  - Organizing parish picnics + potlucks
- Organizing + providing food for catechesis nights for children and adults
  - Formation of Bible studies + small groups
  - Corporal works of mercy for the sick and elderly
  - Other misc. needs of the parish

If you are interested in taking an active role in creating a vibrant parish community, please email **women.of.st.x@gmail.com**.



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## Pipe Organ fundraiser Adopt a Rank

**Available now at our church website  
[sfxspokane.org](http://sfxspokane.org), or in person by  
appointment!!!**

We still have Ranks in our Organ left to adopt each giving its own color and voice to the ensemble.

Under our Organ Fundraiser page you will find descriptions and recordings of all the Ranks in the Organ awaiting adoption.



## St. Clare, Virgin August 11th

Assisi, the birthplace of St. Francis, had also the honor of giving birth to St. Clare, his spiritual daughter. She was born in 1193. From her childhood she desired to consecrate herself to Jesus Christ. Having heard of St. Francis and his sanctity, she contrived to be taken to him by a pious matron. The conversation of St. Francis made her resolve to abandon the world. On March 18, 1212, together with another young woman, she went to the Portiuncula, where St. Francis prayed, and received the penitential habit.

At first St. Francis placed St. Clare in a Benedictine convent of nuns. She persevered in her resolution, in spite of the opposition of her friends and relatives. Later her sister Agnes joined her. St. Francis then placed them in a separate house. Soon after, her mother and several other ladies, some of high nobility, united themselves to her. The foundation of Poor Clares, or the Second Order of St. Francis, was thus laid.

Within a few years St. Clare founded a number of other monasteries and her Order spread to Germany and Bohemia.

The austerities these religious women practiced had scarcely ever been known among their sex. Together with other mortifications, their fast was perpetual. Such was the spirit of poverty of St. Clare that when, after her profession, she fell heiress to the large fortune of her father, she gave all of it to the poor. She would accept no revenues for her monastery.

When the army of Frederick II was devastating the valley of Spoleto some of the soldiers placed a ladder against the convent wall. St. Clare caused herself to be carried to a window, and, holding the monstrance with the Blessed Sacrament in sight of the enemies, she prostrated herself before the Eucharistic God. Her prayer was heard, and the enemies, struck with a sudden panic, fled in terror. St. Clare's life came to an end, on August 11, 1253. She was canonized in 1255 by Pope Alexander IV.

**PRAYER:** God, in Your mercy You led St. Clare to embrace poverty. Through her intercession help us to follow Christ in the spirit of poverty and come to see Your face in the heavenly Kingdom. **Amen.**



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## Are You Prepared?

# End of Life Workshop

Planning for Your Spiritual & Corporal Needs

Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup> - 9 a.m. - Noon

Mass at 8:30 a.m. (optional)

**St. John Vianney Parish**

503 N. Walnut Rd Spokane Valley 99206

**NO CHARGE**

Join us for this informative workshop and learn  
 how to preplan for the end of life.

- light refreshments provided.

Please RSVP to (509) 467-5496 or bernadettep@holycrossofspokane.org

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