



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

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

## 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

This coming Tuesday and Wednesday we are fortunate to have two feasts, both important, and both often forgotten: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross, and the Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary (sometimes called Our Lady of Sorrows).

First, some words from St John Vianney on the importance of the Holy Cross:

*We need not be surprised, my dear brethren, at the honor which the Church pays to this holy wood, which obtains for us so many graces and so many benefits. We see that the Church makes the Sign of the Cross in all her ceremonies, in the administration of all the Sacraments. Why is that? My friends, this is why: It is because all our prayers and all the Sacraments draw from the Cross their power and their virtue.*

*During the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, which is the greatest, the most solemn and the most sublime of all those actions which can glorify God, the priest makes the Sign of the Cross over and over again. God desires that we may never lose the memory of it as the surest means of our salvation and the most formidable instrument for repelling the Devil. He has created us in the form of a cross so that every man might be the image of this cross upon which Jesus Christ died to save us. See how eager the Church is to increase their number? She urges them as a special embellishment on our churches and on all altars, and she places them in all the public places, so that we may never lose sight of the means of our salvation.*



Second, a reflection on the Seven Sorrows. As a devotion, the Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin have their origin in the 12th century, and were promoted by both Benedictine communities and the Servite Order, which adopted the Seven Sorrows as their principle devotion. As a feast day, the Seven Sorrows have a long and confusing history. To keep things short, in the 15th century a feast was instituted in the Easter Season, a few hundred years later a second feast was instituted in September, and a few hundred years after that the feast in Easter Season was suppressed.

So what are the Seven Sorrows? The seven sorrows are the moments of great tragedy and suffering in the life of the Virgin Mary, often represented as swords or daggers piercing her heart. In chronological order, these events are the Prophecy of Simeon, the Flight into Egypt, the Loss of the Child Jesus in the Temple, Mary's meeting Jesus on the Via Dolorosa, The Crucifixion, Jesus' Descent from the Cross, and the Burial of Jesus. For each of these events, we are invited to pray an Our Father and seven Hail Mary's.

## A COMMENTARY FOR THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### SEEKING THE LOST

The episode in today's First Reading has been called "Israel's original sin." Freed from bondage, born as a people of God in the covenant at Sinai, Israel turned aside from His ways and fell to worshipping a golden calf.

Moses implores God's mercy, just as Jesus will later intercede for the whole human race. Just as He still pleads for sinners at God's right hand and through the ministry of the Church.

Israel's sin is the sin of the world. It is your sin and mine. Ransomed from death and made His children in Baptism, we fall prey to the idols of this world. We remain a "stiff-necked people," resisting His will for us like an ox refuses the plowman's yoke (see Jeremiah 7:26).

Like Israel, in our sin we push God away and reject our divine sonship. Once He called us "my people" (see Exodus 3:10; 6:7). But our sin makes us "no people," people He should, in justice, disown (see Deuteronomy 32:21; 1 Peter 2:10).

Yet in His mercy, He is faithful to the covenant He swore by His own self in Jesus. In Jesus, God comes to Israel and to each of us—as a shepherd to seek the lost (see Ezekiel 34:11–16), to carry us back to the heavenly feast, the perpetual heritage promised long ago to Abraham's children.

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners," Paul cries in today's Epistle. These are the happiest words the world has ever known. Because of Jesus, as Paul himself can testify, even the blasphemer and persecutor can seek His mercy.

As the sinners do in today's Gospel, we draw near to listen to Him. In this Eucharist, we bring Him the acceptable sacrifice we sing of in today's Psalm—our hearts, humbled and contrite.

In the company of His angels and saints, we rejoice that He has wiped out our offense. We celebrate with Him that we have turned from the evil way that we might live (see Ezekiel 18:23).

- 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, Rose Zinkgraf, Bella Mally, Jane Soars, Eleanor Finley, Susan Fisher, Gerri Allen, Kathy McCarthy, Ken Keyes, Daniel Lander, 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

8am – Daily Mass followed by Confessions  
(**St. Patrick**)

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**)

9:00am – Holy Mass, Extraordinary Form  
(**St. Francis Xavier**)

11:00am – Holy Mass, Extraordinary Form  
(**St. Francis Xavier**)

*On most Sundays, Confessions are heard during the  
9am & 11am Holy Masses*

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Daily Mass is celebrated in the Convent at  
St. Patrick's, Monday through Friday at 7:00 a.m.

During the summer, there will be no daily  
School Mass at St. Patrick's.

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.

Please contact Jackie Silvey for prayer requests.  
She can be reached at (509) 483-3109

St. Francis Xavier can be found online at  
**[sfxspokane.org](http://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](mailto:pastor@sfxspokane.org)

**Office Email:** [office@sfxspokane.org](mailto:office@sfxspokane.org)

**Our office is open on Saturdays  
from 12:00p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

## THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

THERE WILL BE NO MASS ON MONDAY,

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

Latin Mass, 8:00am, *First Responders*

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Confessions, 4:30 pm

English Mass, 5:30 pm, *First Responders*

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH

SEVEN SORROWS OF THE BVM

English Mass, 8:00 am, *First Responders*

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH

Confessions, 3:00 pm

English Vigil Mass, 4:00 pm, *Fr. David Kruse*

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME &

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

English Mass, 7:30 am, *Pro Populo*

Latin Mass, 9:00 am, *Private Intention*

Latin Mass, 11:00 am, *Poor Souls*



## 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.

### NORTHSIDE CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY

There is no weekly youth ministry during the summer. Middle school students are invited to sign up for our 2nd annual summer camp August 14th-19th and high school students are invited to the Steubenville Conference taking place here in Spokane from July 29th-July 31st.

Visit “ncyspokane.com” for more details, or contact the Youth Ministry Coordinator, JJ Nazzaro, at “jnazzaro@dioceseofspokane.org”

### 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.

We are currently looking for more volunteers to expand the ministry to include prayers for Fr. Slattery.

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.

### CHANGE TO OFFICE HOURS

With the school year beginning and Miles returning to the classroom, the office will now be open on Saturdays from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### REMEMBER OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

During the pandemic, we continue to distribute food through the Missionaries of Charity and Caritas services. Please leave your donations of nonperishable items by the doors of the church.

### 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.

### MEALS ON WHEELS

Greater Spokane County Meals on Wheels needs drivers county wide, this need is particularly desperate in the north and central areas of the City of Spokane. As a Meals on Wheels volunteer, you are delivering much more than a hot meal - you are providing a human connection. A typical volunteer route takes about an hour to an hour and a half to complete. For many of our homebound neighbors, A MOW volunteer will be the only person they will see or speak with all day. If you have an hour or two a week, month, or something in between to spare, please consider being a volunteer. Please contact Donna Ennis, our Volunteer Coordinator at 509-924-6976 for more information or apply on our website at <https://gscmealsonwheels.org/volunteer/>

### 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



## GRADUAL FOR THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FOR USE AT VIGIL MASS

Da p̄caem Domine, sustinentibus te,  
ut prophetae tui fideles inveniantur:  
exaudi preces servi tui,  
et plebis tuae Israel

Laetatus sum in his quae dicta sunt mihi:  
in domum Domini ibimus

Give peace, o Lord, to your attendants,  
that your prophets may be trustworthy.  
Hear the prayers of your servant  
and of your people, Israel.

I rejoiced at the things that were said to me:  
We shall go into the house of the Lord.

### HAVING A HUMBLE OPINION OF SELF

*FROM THE IMITATION OF CHRIST, BY THOMAS KEMPIS*

EVERY man naturally desires knowledge; but what good is knowledge without fear of God? Indeed a humble rustic who serves God is better than a proud intellectual who neglects his soul to study the course of the stars. He who knows himself well becomes mean in his own eyes and is not happy when praised by men.

If I knew all things in the world and had not charity, what would it profit me before God Who will judge me by my deeds?

Shun too great a desire for knowledge, for in it there is much fretting and delusion. Intellectuals like to appear learned and to be called wise. Yet there are many things the knowledge of which does little or no good to the soul, and he who concerns himself about other things than those which lead to salvation is very unwise.

Many words do not satisfy the soul; but a good life eases the mind and a clean conscience inspires great trust in God.

The more you know and the better you understand, the more severely will you be judged, unless your life is also the more holy. Do not be proud, therefore, because of your learning or skill. Rather, fear because of the talent given you. If you think you know many things and understand them well enough, realize at the same time that there is much you do not know. Hence, do not affect wisdom, but admit your ignorance. Why prefer yourself to anyone else when many are more learned, more cultured than you?

If you wish to learn and appreciate something worth while, then love to be unknown and considered as nothing. Truly to know and despise self is the best and most perfect counsel. To think of oneself as nothing, and always to think well and highly of others is the best and most perfect wisdom.

Wherefore, if you see another sin openly or commit a serious crime, do not consider yourself better, for you do not know how long you can remain in good estate. All men are frail, but you must admit that none is more frail than yourself.



# Are You Prepared? End of Life Workshop

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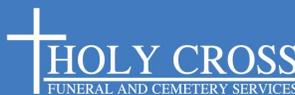
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