



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

## 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“But one thing is necessary.” (Luke 10:42.) What is this one thing necessary? It is not necessary to acquire riches, nor to obtain dignities, nor to gain a great name. The only thing necessary is to love God.

Whatever is not done for the love of God is lost. This is the greatest and the first commandment of the divine law. To the Pharisee who asked what is the greatest commandment of the law, Jesus Christ answered: “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart .... This is the greatest and first commandment.” (Matt. 22:37,38.) But this, which is the greatest of the commandments, is the most despised by men: there are few who fulfil it.

The greater part of men love their relatives, their friends, and even brute animals, but do not love God. Of these St. John says that they have not life that they are dead. “He that loveth not, abides in death.” (I John 3:14.) St. Bernard writes that the reward of a soul is estimated by the measure of her love for God. Let us consider how dear this command of loving God with our whole heart ought to be to us; and what we ought to do in order to love God with our whole heart.

What object more noble, more magnificent, more powerful, more rich, more beautiful, more bountiful, more merciful, more grateful, more amiable, or more loving, than Himself, could God give us to love? Who more noble than God? Some boast of the nobility of their family for five hundred or a thousand years; but the nobility of God is eternal. He is the Lord of all. Before God all the angels in heaven or all the nobles on earth are but as a drop of water or a grain of dust.

And who more loving than God? In the Old Law, men might doubt whether God loved them with a tender love; but, after seeing Him die on a cross for us, how can we doubt the ardent affection with which He loves us? Let us raise our eyes at Jesus, the true Son of God, and let us consider the intensity of the love which He bears us.

To obtain and to preserve divine love, three things are necessary: meditation, communion, and prayer. First, meditation is necessary. He who thinks but little on God, loves him but little. Meditation, and particularly meditation on the passion of Jesus Christ, is the blessed furnace in which the love of God is kindled and fanned. The sacrament of communion is another holy furnace in which we are inflamed with divine love. Above all, prayer is necessary. It is by means of prayer that God dispenses all his favors, but particularly the great gift of divine love. Let us, then, continually ask of Jesus Christ His holy love; and let us ask His divine mother Mary, who is the treasurer of all His graces, to obtain it for us. ***The above is adapted from a sermon by St. Alphonsus Liguori.***



## A COMMENTARY FOR THE 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### PRUDENT STEWARDS

The steward in today's Gospel confronts the reality that he can't go on living the way he has been. He is under judgment. He must give account for what he has done.

The exploiters of the poor in today's First Reading are also about to be pulled down, to be thrust from their stations (see Isaiah 22:19). Servants of mammon, or money, they're so in love with wealth that they reduce the poor to objects; they despise the new moons and sabbaths—the observances and holy days of God (see Leviticus 23:24; Exodus 20:8).

Their only hope is to follow the steward's path. He is no model of repentance. But he makes a prudent calculation—to use his last hours in charge of his master's property to show mercy to others, to relieve their debts.

He is a child of this world, driven by a purely selfish motive—to make friends and be welcomed into the homes of his master's debtors. Yet his prudence is commended as an example to us, the children of light

(see 1 Thessalonians 5:5; Ephesians 5:8). We too must realize, as the steward does, that what we have is not honestly ours, but in truth belongs to another, our Master.

All the mammon in the world could not have paid the debt we owe our Master. So He paid it for us. He gave His life as a ransom for all, as we hear in today's Epistle.

God wants everyone to be saved, even kings and princes, even the lovers of money (see Luke 16:14). But we cannot serve two Masters. By His grace, we should choose to be, as we sing in today's Psalm, "servants of the Lord."

We serve Him by using what He has entrusted us with to give alms, to lift the lowly from the dust and dung-hills of this world. By this we will gain what is ours and be welcomed into eternal dwellings, the many mansions of the Father's house (see John 14:2).

- 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://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

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

## THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH

STS. JANUARIUS & COMPANIONS

Latin Mass, 5:30pm, *Mary Ann Melton*

### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

Latin Mass, 8:00am, *Mary Ann Melton*

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST

ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE

Confessions, 4:30 pm

English Mass, 5:30 pm, *Victims of 9/11*

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND

English Mass, 8:00 am, *Victims of 9/11*

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH

Confessions, 3:00 pm

English Vigil Mass, 4:00 pm, *Kopczynski Family*

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME &

16TH 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 "ncymspokane.com" for more details, or contact the Youth Ministry Coordinator, JJ Nazzaro, at "[jnazzaro@dioceseofspokane.org](mailto: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 home-bound 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**

Quis sicut Dominus Deus Noster, qui in  
altis habitat:

et humilia respiciit in caelo et in terra

Suscipitans a terra inopem, et in stercore  
erigens pauperum

Who is like the Lord our God, Who dwells  
on high:

and looks down on the low things in heaven  
and on earth?

Lifting up from Earth the needy, and from  
the dun-heap the poor

### **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.