



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

August 4th, 2024

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

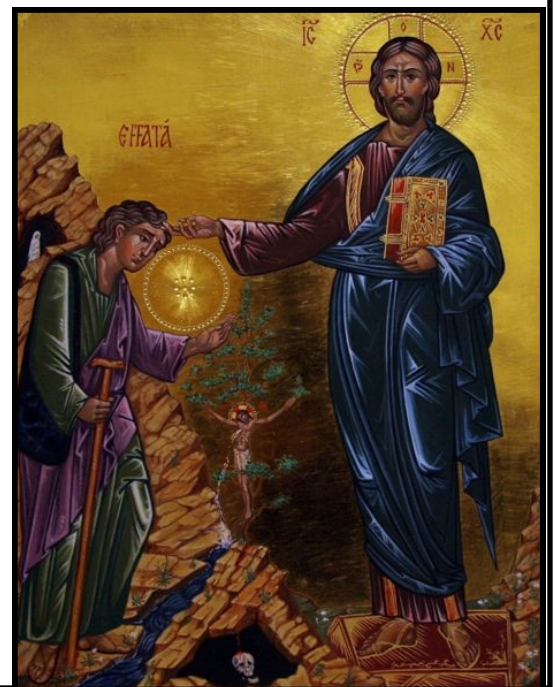
ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Our merciful Lord, by this cure, aims not so much at showing the power of His divine word as at giving a glorious teaching to His followers. He wishes to reveal to them, under certain visible symbols, the invisible realities produced by His grace in the secret of the sacraments. It is for the sake of such teaching that the Gospel has mentioned such an apparently trifling detail as this—that when the deaf and dumb man was brought before Him, He took him apart—apart, so to say, from the multitude of the noisy passions and the vain thoughts which had made him deaf to heavenly truths.

After all, would there be much good in curing him if the occasion of his malady were not removed, and he were to relapse perhaps that same day? So, then, having by this separation taken precautions for the future, Jesus inserts into the man's ears His own divine fingers which bring the Holy Ghost, and make to penetrate right to the ears of his heart the restorative power of this Spirit of love. And finally, more mysteriously, because the truth which was to be expressed is more profound, He touches with the saliva of His sacred mouth that tongue which had become incapable of giving glory and praise; and Wisdom (for it is she that is here mystically signified) — Wisdom, “that cometh forth from the mouth of the Most High,” and flows for us from the Savior's fountains as a life-giving drink — openeth the mouth of the dumb man, just as she maketh eloquent the tongues of speechless infants.

Therefore it is that the Church — in order to show us that the event recorded in today's Gospel is figurative, and regards not merely one individual man, but all of us — has prescribed that the circumstances which accompanied the cure of this deaf and dumb sufferer shall be expressed in the ceremonies of holy Baptism, in which the priest puts on the catechumen's tongue the salt of wisdom and touches his ears, saying: Ephpheta! that is, Be opened!

*Commentary from The Liturgical Year by
Dom Prosper Guéranger (1805-1875).*



Endurance Test: Reflection for the 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

The journey of discipleship is a lifelong exodus from the slavery of sin and death to the holiness of truth on Mount Zion, the promised land of eternal life.

The road can get rough. And when it does, we can be tempted to complain like the Israelites in this week's First Reading.

We have to see these times of hardship as a test of what is in our hearts, a call to trust God more and to purify the motives for our faith (Deuteronomy 8:2–3).

As Paul reminds us in this week's Epistle, we must leave behind our old self-deceptions and desires and live according to the likeness of God in which we are made.

Jesus tells the crowd in this week's Gospel that they are following Him for the wrong reasons. They seek Him because He filled their bellies. The Israelites, too, were content to follow God so long as there was plenty of food.

Food is the most obvious of signs—because it is the most basic of our human needs. We need our daily bread to live. But we cannot live by this bread alone. We need the bread of eternal life that preserves those who believe in Him (Wisdom 16:20, 26).

The manna in the wilderness, like the bread Jesus multiplied for the crowd, was a sign of God's Providence—that we should trust that He will provide.

These signs pointed to their fulfillment in the Eucharist, the abundant bread of angels we sing about in this week's Psalm.

This is the food that God longs to give us. This is the bread we should be seeking. But too often we don't ask for this bread. Instead we seek the perishable stuff of our everyday wants and anxieties. In our weakness we think these things are what we really need.

We have to trust God more. If we seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, all these things will be ours as well (Matthew 6:33).

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, Bella Mally, Jane Soars, Eleanor Finley, 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**)

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Office Hours.

TUESDAY-THURSDAY

9AM-12PM

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

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

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Our Mailing Address is:

P.O. Box 7179, Spokane, WA, 99207

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, AUGUST 5TH

5:30pm Mass *Souls in Purgatory*

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6TH

8:00am , Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7TH

4:30 pm, Confessions

5:30 pm, Mass *Holy souls in Purgatory + Forgotten souls*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8TH

8:00am , Mass *Peter Schmitt*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10TH

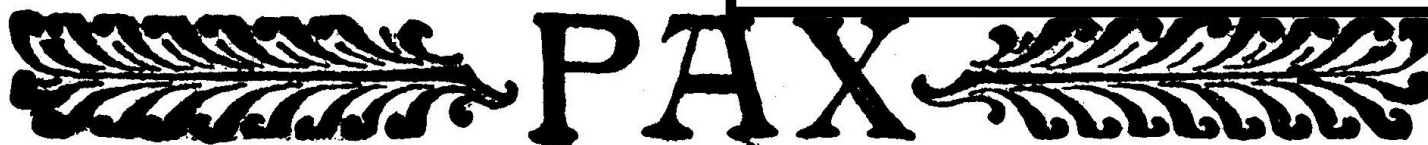
3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Pro Populo*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11TH

7:30 am, Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00 am, Mass *Pro Populo*



Volunteers Needed

Ushers: Help collect Offering and count attendance at the your Mass.

Altar Flowers: Would you like to provide flowers to add beauty to the altar?
It can be for just one time, or on the regular schedule.

Altar Servers: The parish is in need of young men willing to train as acolytes, to serve at the 7:30am or 11:00am Mass.

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)993-2864.

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**.



Dedication of Our Lady of the Snows

August 5th



There is an ancient and popular tradition in Rome, according to which, during the reign of Pope Liberius in the 4th century, the Blessed Virgin appeared to a patrician named John, declaring that she wished a church to be dedicated to her honor on the spot that she indicated by a miraculous fall of snow in summer. John founded and endowed the church in 352, during the reign of the same Pope Liberius (352-366). Hence, it came to be called the Liberian Basilica.

Sixtus III enlarged and consecrated it under the title of the Virgin Mary about the year 435. The principal facade was added in 1741 by Benedict XIV. It bears the title of St. Mary Major, or the Greater, because it is in dignity, if not in antiquity, the first church in Rome among those dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. From the fact that the holy crib of Bethlehem is preserved in this church, it also bears the title of Sancta Maria ad Praesepe (at the Crib). St. Mary Major is one of the three patriarchal churches in which the Pope officiates on certain occasions, and in which there is an altar reserved only for him, St. Peter's and St. John Lateran being the others.

PRAYER: Forgive the sins of your people. May we who cannot please You by our unaided efforts attain salvation through the intercession of the Mother of Your Son. **Amen.**



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