



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

November 10th , 2024

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY RESUMED-

THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

God has sown the good seed generously in His field, the world; He has sown grace and love, and the desire for total oblation, the ideals of an apostolic, religious, saintly life. But, in the midst of all this good, the enemy comes to sow evil. Why does God permit this? To sift His servants as we sift grain, to test them.

Sometimes we are scandalized, seeing evil working its way even into the best places, seeing that even among God's friends, among those who should be a source of edification to others, there are some who behave unworthily. Then we are filled with zeal, like the servants in the parable. We want to remedy this evil and root up the cockle. "Wilt Thou that we go and gather it up?" But God answers, "No, lest perhaps gathering up the cockle, you root up the wheat also together with it." The cockle is spared, not because it is good, but in order to save the wheat. In the same way God spares the wicked and does not destroy them, for the sake of the elect.

When God asks us to endure with patience certain situations, as inevitable as they are deplorable, He asks for one of the greatest exercises of charity, compassion, and mercy. He does not tell us to fraternize with evil, to make a league with the cockle, but He tells us to endure it with the longanimity with which He Himself endured it. Was there not a traitor among the Apostles? Yet Jesus wanted him among His intimates — and with how much love He treated him! Indeed one of the greatest opportunities for the practice of charity is offered us by those who by their evil conduct give us so many occasions for forgiving them, for returning good for evil, and for suffering injustice for the love of God. Moreover, we should consider that, whereas cockle cannot be changed into wheat, it is always possible for the wicked to be converted and become good. Were not Magdalen, the good thief, and Peter, who had denied Jesus, converted? This is one of the strongest motives to incite us to do good to all. When our love is perfect, we are able to live among the wicked without being harsh or contentious, without being influenced by them, but rather doing them good.

Commentary from Divine Intimacy by Father Gabriel of
St. Mary Magdalen, O.C.D. (1893-1953).



The Widows Faith: Reflection for the 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

We must live by the obedience of faith, a faith that shows itself in works of charity and self-giving (see Galatians 5:6). That's the lesson of the two widows in today's liturgy.

The widow in the First Reading isn't even a Jew, yet she trusts in the word of Elijah and the promise of his Lord. Facing sure starvation, she gives all that she has, her last bit of food—feeding the man of God before herself and her family.

The widow in the Gospel also gives all that she has, offering her last bit of money to support the work of God's priests in the Temple.

In their self-sacrifice, these widows embody the love that Jesus last week revealed as the heart of the Law and the Gospel. They mirror the Father's love in giving His only Son, and Christ's love in sacrificing Himself on the Cross.

Again in today's Epistle, we hear Christ described as a new high priest and the suffering servant foretold by Isaiah. On the Cross, He made sacrifice once and for all to take away our sin and bring us to salvation (see Isaiah 53:12).

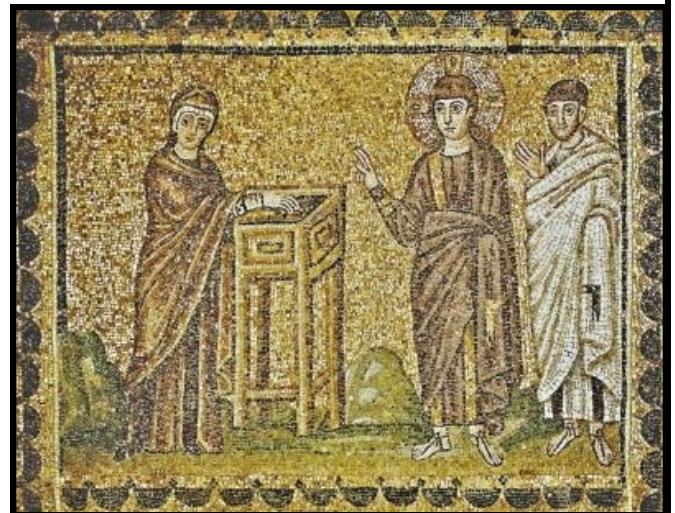
And again we are called to imitate His sacrifice of love in our own lives. We will be judged, not by how much we give—for the scribes and the wealthy contribute far more than the widow. Rather, we will be judged by whether our gifts reflect our livelihood, our whole beings, all our heart and soul, mind and strength.

Are we giving all that we can to the Lord—not out of a sense of forced duty, but in a spirit of generosity and love (see 2 Corinthians 9:6–7)?

Do not be afraid, the man of God tells us today. As we sing in today's Psalm, the Lord will provide for us, as He sustains the widow.

Today, let us follow the widows' example, doing what God asks, confident that our jars of flour will not grow empty, nor our jugs of oil run dry.

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, WEDNESDAY, 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

sfxspokane.org or at

facebook.com/sfxspokane

Our Mailing Address is:

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

NO MASS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH

No Mass

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH

4:30pm Confessions

5:30 pm, Mass *Emily Hart*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH

8:00am , Mass *Georgia Schrempp*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH

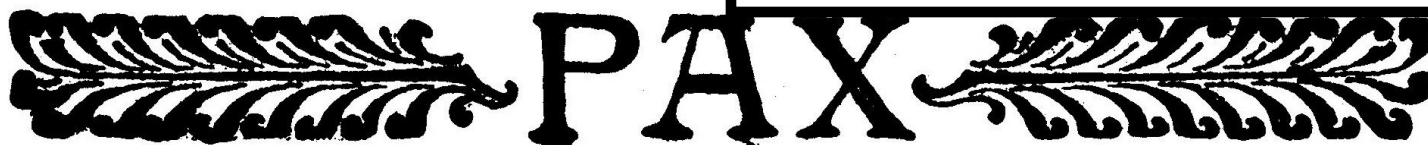
3:00pm, Confessions

4:00pm, Mass *Pro Populo*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH

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



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Find a Time - Catechesis St X/St Pats

We are looking to have a meeting to get things organized for a catechetical program at St X/St Pats and possibly Mary Queen.

Those who are interested in helping with catechesis either on the front end to get the curriculum set up and/or those willing to teach please mark all times that would work for you to meet.

I would like to keep the meeting to no more than an hour. We plan to meet at Chesterton. If you know of anyone else who would like to assist, please put them in touch with me.

Text/Call/Email with any questions or comments (509-332-0850)

women.of.st.x@gmail.com

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**.

St. Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor of the Church November 15th

Patron of Scientists and Medical Technicians

Born in 1206, Germany, St. Albert the Great spent his youth under the spiritual tutelage of Blessed Jordan of Saxony, who inspired him to join the Order of Preachers. He studied and taught Philosophy at Cologne and Paris, where he became one of the most noted philosophers of his day. At Cologne he was famous as the teacher of St. Thomas Aquinas. Named to the Bishopric of Ratisbon, he retired to dedicate his talents to writing and teaching. He died in Poland in 1280.

St. Albert the Great was a man of immense knowledge and erudition. His works are voluminous in bulk and encyclopedic in scope: they include—besides biblical and theological works and sermons—treatises on Logic, Metaphysics, Ethics, and the Physics Sciences. His interests extended to Physics, Astronomy, Chemistry, and Biology, to human and animal Physiology, to Geography, Geology and Botany.

This “Universal Teacher” stands out for his recognition of the autonomy of human reasons in its own sphere and the validity of knowledge gained from sense-experience. Yet he never ceased to regard the Scriptures as the fount of human spirituality or true wisdom. He was beatified in 1622 by Pope Gregory XV and was equivalently canonized by being declared a Doctor of the Church in 1931 by Pope Pius XI.

PRAYER: God, You made St. Albert great by enabling him to combine human wisdom and Divine Faith. Help us to adhere to his teaching that we may progress in the science and at the same time come to a deeper understanding and love of You. **Amen.**



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