



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

December 7th, 2025

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Christmas Schedule



#### Christmas Eve Wednesday 24th

4:30pm English Mass (St Patrick's)

#### Christmas Day Thursday 25th

8:00 am English Mass (Saint Francis Xavier)

10:00am Latin High Mass (St Francis Xavier)



Numerous allusions appear in the Liturgy of this day to Jerusalem and her people. Let us be filled with sentiments of hope and of joy, for the coming of Jesus is nigh. Let us prepare the way in our hearts for the Messiah: Our Lord and Redeemer Jesus Christ.

*Commentary by Fr. Sylvester Juergens S.M. (1894-1969).*

### ***St. Francis Xavier Patronal Feast***

Join us for Mass at 4:30 and dinner at 5:30 as we celebrate the patronal feast of St. Francis Xavier with activities and games for kids!

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2025  
4:30 - 7:30 PM**

**ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH ACTIVITY CENTER**  
515 W. St. Thomas More Way  
Spokane, WA 99208

Please bring a dessert to share



## “Kingdom Come” : Reflection on the Second Sunday of Advent

“The kingdom of heaven is at hand,” John proclaims. And the Liturgy today paints us a vivid portrait of our new king and the shape of the kingdom He has come to bring.

The Lord whom John prepares the way for in today’s Gospel is the righteous king prophesied in today’s First Reading and Psalm. He is the king’s son, the son of David—a shoot from the root of Jesse, David’s father (see Ruth 4:17).

He will be the Messiah, anointed with the Holy Spirit (see 2 Samuel 23:1; 1 Kings 1:39; Psalm 2:2), endowed with the seven gifts of the Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.

He will rule with justice, saving the poor from the ruthless and wicked. His rule will be not only over Israel—but will extend from sea to sea, to the ends of the earth. He will be a light, a signal to all nations. And they will seek Him and pay Him homage.

In Him, all the tribes of the earth will find blessing. The covenant promise to Abraham (see Genesis 12:3), renewed in God’s oath to David (see Psalm 89:4,28), will be fulfilled in His dynasty. And His name will be blessed forever.

In Christ, God confirms His oath to Israel’s patriarchs, Paul tells us in today’s Epistle. But no longer are God’s promises reserved solely for the children of Abraham. The Gentiles, too, will glorify God for His mercy. Once strangers, in Christ they will be included in “the covenants of promise” (see Ephesians 2:12).

John delivers this same message in the Gospel. Once God’s chosen people were hewn from the rock of Abraham (see Isaiah 51:1–2). Now, God will raise up living stones (see 1 Peter 2:5)—children of Abraham born not of flesh and blood but of the Spirit.

This is the meaning of the fiery baptism He brings—making us royal heirs of the kingdom of heaven, the Church.

*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](mailto:pastor@sfxspokane.org)

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

**Office Hours.**

**TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY**

**9AM-12PM**

### THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

5:30pm Mass *Pro Populo*

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

8:00am Mass *Poor Souls in Purgatory*

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

4:30pm Confessions

5:30pm Mass *Bill Kilgore for the Repose of his Soul*

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

8:00am Mass *Poor Souls in Purgatory*

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13TH

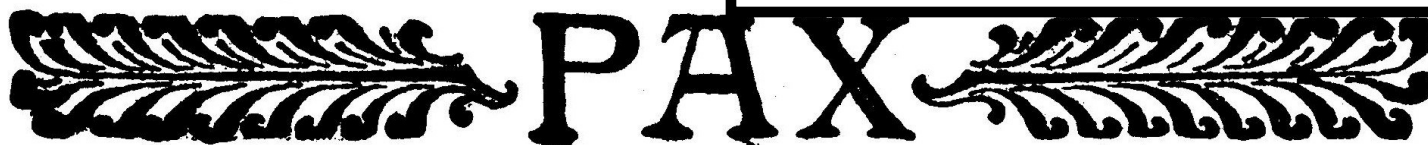
3:00pm Confessions

4:00pm Mass *Pro Populo*

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

7:30 am, Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00 am, Mass *Pro Populo*



## Seven Sisters Apostolate

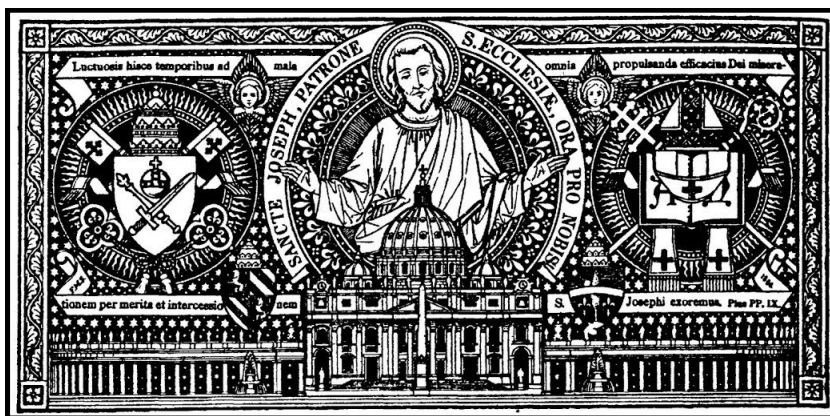
The parish is looking for volunteers who would be interested in participating in the “Seven Sisters Apostolate.” This Apostolate seeks to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed every day for the intention of the parish priest.

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



# Give Online!!

## Just Scan the QR Code



## Catechism and Sacramental Preparation

We are pleased to announce that catechism and sacrament preparation classes are in the mornings on **Jan 24th, Feb 21st, March 28th, and April 18th**. First Communion and Confirmation will be celebrated in late April or early May.

To make this program successful, we need dedicated volunteers to serve as catechists and assistants. No previous teaching experience is necessary—just a willing heart and love for the faith.

Training and materials will be provided.

If you feel called to help form our children in their Catholic faith, please contact the parish office. Your gift of time can make an eternal difference in a child's life.

More details about registration and class schedules will be announced soon. Please keep this important ministry in your prayers.





### St. Gregory III, Pope December 10th

Gregory, the son of a Syrian named John, became a priest in Rome. Because of his great love of learning and holiness, he was elected Pope by acclamation on February 11, 731, while accompanying the funeral procession for Gregory II. He went on to rule the Church until 741.

As Pope, the Saint saw to it that the Gospel was preached to the Germanic people and that churches were decorated with sacred images in opposition to the Iconoclasts, who forbade the use of such images. He also convoked two synods in Rome in 731 and incurred the wrath of the Eastern Emperor Leo the Iconoclast.

Gregory welcomed St. Boniface when the latter made his third visit to Rome in 737, and he sent the English monk St. Willibald to help him in his missionary work. At the same time, Gregory wrote to people of importance on its behalf.

The Liber Pontificalis (the "Papal Book") states that Gregory was a man of deep humility and true wisdom. He had a good knowledge of the Sacred Scriptures and their meaning, and knew the Psalms by heart. He was a polished and successful preacher, skilled in Latin and Greek, and a strict upholder of the Catholic Faith. He was a lover of poverty and of the poor, a protector of widows and orphans, and a friend to monks and nuns. He died in 741.

**PRAYER:** Almighty and eternal God, You willed to set St. Gregory over Your entire people and to go before them in word and example. By his intercession keep the pastors of Your Church together with their flocks and guide them in the way of eternal salvation. **Amen.**



### Decorating For Christmas



**We will decorate the Church at 3pm on  
Monday December 22nd.**

**Please consider lending a hand to prepare  
the church for Christmas.**

