



ST.  
**FRANCIS XAVIER**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

March 22nd, 2026

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

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT ~ PASSION SUNDAY

### Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday April 17th **6pm** St Francis Xavier

Good Friday April 18th **3pm** St Francis Xavier

Easter Vigil April 19th **7:30pm** St Francis Xavier

### Easter Sunday April 5th

No Mass **7:30am**

English Mass **9:00am** St Patrick's

Latin High Mass **11:00am** St Francis Xavier

### final Mass of Thanksgiving at St Patrick's April 10th

Offered by Bishop Thomas A. Daly

Mass **5:30pm** St Patrick's

St. John shows us the growing hatred of the Sanhedrin. Those who ought to have recognized in Jesus the Son of God, greater than Abraham and the Prophets, because He is eternal, disregarded the meaning of His words. They insulted our Lord Jesus Christ, the Messiah, whom they declared to be possessed by a devil, a blasphemer, whom they would stone to death.

Commentary by Fr. Sylvester Juergens, S.M.



## “At Lazarus’s Tomb” : Reflection on The Fifth Sunday of Lent

As we draw near to the end of Lent, today’s Gospel clearly has Jesus’ passion and death in view.

That’s why John gives us the detail about Lazarus’ sister, Mary—that she is the one who anointed the Lord for burial (see John 12:3, 7). His disciples warn against returning to Judea; Thomas even predicts they will “die with Him” if they go back.

When Lazarus is raised, John notices the tombstone being taken away, as well as Lazarus’ burial cloths and head covering—all details he later notices with Jesus’ empty tomb (see John 20:1, 6, 7).

Like the blind man in last week’s readings, Lazarus represents all humanity. He stands for “dead men”—for all those Jesus loves and wants to liberate from the bands of sin and death.

John even recalls the blind man in his account today (see John 11:37). Like the man’s birth in blindness, Lazarus’ death is used by Jesus to reveal “the glory of God” (see John 9:3). And again like last week, Jesus’ words and deeds give sight to those who believe (see John 11:40).

If we believe, we will see—that Jesus loves each of us as He loved Lazarus, that He calls us out of death and into new life.

By His Resurrection Jesus has fulfilled Ezekiel’s promise in today’s First Reading. He has opened the graves that we may rise, put His Spirit in us that we may live. This is the Spirit that Paul writes of in today’s Epistle. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead will give life to we who were once dead in sin.

Faith is the key. If we believe as Martha does in today’s Gospel—that Jesus is the resurrection and the life—even if we die, we will live.

“I have promised and I will do it,” the Father assures us in the First Reading. We must trust in His word, as we sing in today’s Psalm—that with Him is forgiveness and salvation.



*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, 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](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](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, MARCH 23RD

5:30pm Mass *For the soul of Judi Sims Mannino*

TUESDAY, MARCH 24TH

8:00am Mass *For all souls of the Hart family*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25TH

4:30pm Confessions

5:30pm Mass *Poor Souls in Purgatory*

THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH

8:00am Mass *For the Soul of Mildred Crawford*

FRIDAY, MARCH 27TH

Stations of the Cross and Soup Supper, Mary Queen Parish 5:30pm

SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH

3:00pm Confessions

4:00pm Mass *Pro Populo*

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH

7:30 am, Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00 am, Mass *Pro Populo*





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## 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

## 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](mailto:women.of.st.x@gmail.com).

### Death Notice

Mildred Crawford a long time parishioner passed away on February 7th at the age of 101, just two days short of her 102nd Birthday.

2ND ANNUAL TRI-PARISH

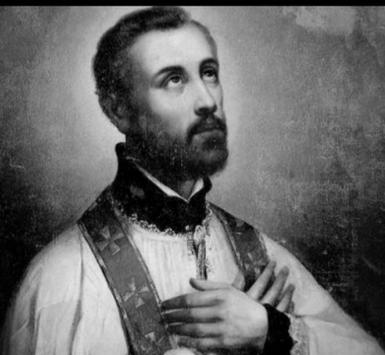
# Soup & Stations of the Cross

SIGN UP FOR YOUR PARISH'S WEEK IN VESTIBULE OR EMAIL  
WOMEN.OF.ST.X@GMAIL.COM

**Parish Soup Volunteer Schedule:**

St X: 2/20  
St. Pats: 2/27  
Mary Queen: 3/6  
St. X: 3/13  
St. Pats: 3/20  
Mary Queen: 3/27

Stations: 5:30  
Supper: 6:00  
Mary Queen Parish



## St. Toribio de Mogrovejo, Bishop March 23rd

Born in 1538 at Majorca, Spain, St. Toribio became a Professor of Law at the University of Salamanca and was appointed president of the court of the Inquisition at Granada. In 1581, while still a layman he was appointed to the See of Lima, Peru—a most difficult charge both religiously and geographically.

For the next twenty-five years, this saintly man wore himself out in the service of his flock. He traversed his entire diocese on foot, willingly exposing himself to the steaming climate, wild animals, tropical maladies, and other dangers in order to reform the clergy and instruct the people in the Faith. He founded the first seminary on the American continent and baptized and confirmed close to a million people.

The Saint took pains to learn the native languages of the people (in which he was associated with St. Francis Solano) and opposed all attempts to justify their mistreatment by the Spanish. Thus, he exerted a great influence on other South American countries also.

St. Toribio was ever solicitous of the feelings of the poor and unstinting in his charities toward them. In the course of his ministrations he also befriended and confirmed St. Rose of Lima. He died in 1606 and was canonized in 1726 by Pope Benedict XIII.

PRAYER: God, You increased Your Church by means of the apostolic care and zeal for truth of St. Toribio, Your Bishop. Grant that the people who have been consecrated to You may experience a new increase of Faith and holiness. Amen.



## St. Stephen Harding, Abbot March 28th

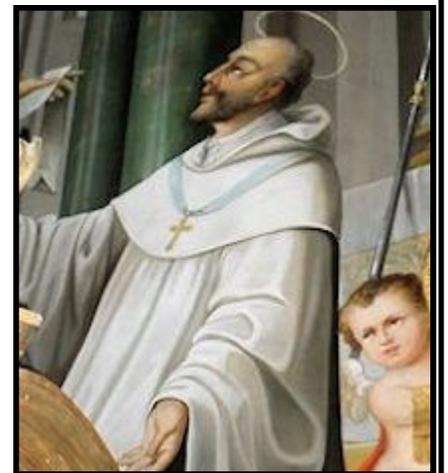
St. Stephen Harding was born at Dorset, England, early in the second half of the 11th century and was educated at the Sherborne Abbey. As a young man he traveled abroad and grew into a person of great charm and first-rate scholar. Eventually, he became a monk at the Abbey of Molesme in Burgundy, where he came under the influence of the Abbot, St. Robert, and his zeal for reform.

In 1098, together with St. Robert, St. Alberic, and some twenty other monks of Molesme, St. Stephen founded a new monastery at Citeaux. Here they lived a life that was simple and austere, in accord with the letter of the Rule of St. Benedict. Upon St. Alberic's death in 1108, St. Stephen became the third Abbot of Citeaux and built up the community—undergoing many hardships because of his high ideals.

In 1112, St. Bernard arrived there with thirty of his followers, and the fortunes of the monastery took an upward turn. During the next eight years alone, a dozen Cistercian houses had to be erected to hold those who flocked to the ideals of the new community, and many more followed. In 1119, St. Stephen drew up the “Charta of Charity,” which defined the spirit of the Cistercian Abbeys and provided their unity, and has become a most important document in the history of Western monasticism.

The Cistercian life is an accurate barometer of St. Stephen's character; its high ideals, careful organization, austerity, and simplicity mirror the traits of this great Saint who ruled the community for twenty-five years. In 1133, he resigned his office because of near-blindness and advancing age, and on March 28, 1134, he passed on to his heavenly reward. He was canonized in 1623.

PRAYER: Lord, amid the things of this world, let us be wholeheartedly committed to heavenly things in imitation of the example of evangelical perfection which You have given us in St. Stephen the Abbot. Amen.



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