



August 23rd , 2026

Watch over me, Father, so
that everything I do may
be with the intention of
pleasing Jesus.
~ St. Bernadette

SAINT BERNADETTE PARISH

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ THE 13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Epistle reminds us of the true relation between Judaism and Christianity. The institutions of Judaism were intended as a preparation for the coming of Christ, and were to be abrogated when He should appear. Salvation was not to be dependent on the established usages of a single people, nor to be imparted in view of membership of any race or nation; it was promised to the Seed and through the Seed of Abraham, but the true Seed of Abraham were not to be merely his racial descendants, but all those who should accept, as he accepted, by faith the promised Messiah. The “Seed” of Abraham to which the Promise primarily made reference, was indeed to be, in a true sense, bodily genuine descendants of Abraham (cf. Hebrews vii), but there was to be added to, and mysteriously united with, the “Seed” an uncountable multitude from every race and clime—whose inner bond of union would be acceptance of Jesus as the promised Savior, and the practical attitude which would logically follow from that acceptance. Neither race nor blood nor soil has, then, anything to do with justification and salvation, but only faith in Jesus Christ and the fulfillment of His will.

To St. Luke, the physician, the incident described in the Gospel is of special importance, because it depicts Jesus as the Great Physician before whom Jew and non-Jew are of like value. As the genuine physician cares not whence his patient comes, or what is his point of view, so Jesus, the Physician of souls and bodies, is ready to receive all who come to Him to be healed. He makes no distinctions of race or origin in those who come confidently to seek His help. Today’s Gospel, then, reminds us, above all, that Jesus is our Physician. We are sick. The whole world is sick—diseased with the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life. We all have sinned and all of us need the touch of the Physician. Let us go to Him and cry with the lepers (symbols, as they are, of us who are tainted with the leprosy of sin): “Master, have pity on us!”

Commentary by Msgr. Patrick Boylan (1879-1974).



Oh, the Depths: Reflection on the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!” Paul exclaims in today’s Epistle. Today’s Psalm, too, takes up the triumphant note of joy and thanksgiving. Why? Because in the Gospel, the heavenly Father reveals the mystery of His kingdom to Peter.

With Peter, we rejoice that Jesus is the anointed Son promised to David, the one prophesied to build God’s temple and reign over an everlasting kingdom (see 2 Samuel 7).

What Jesus calls “my Church” is the kingdom promised to David’s son (see Isaiah 9:1–7). As we hear in today’s First Reading, Isaiah foretold that the keys to David’s kingdom would be given to a new master, who would rule as father to God’s people.

Jesus, the root and offspring of David, alone holds the kingdom’s keys (see Revelation 1:18; 3:7; 22:16). In giving those keys to Peter, Jesus fulfills that prophecy, establishing Peter—and all who succeed him—as holy father of His Church.

His Church, too, is the new house of God, the spiritual temple founded on the “rock” of Peter and built up out of the living stones of individual believers (see 1 Peter 2:5).

Abraham was called “the rock” from which the children of Israel were hewn (see Isaiah 51:1–2). And Peter becomes the rock from which God raises up new children of God (see Matthew 3:9).

The word Jesus uses—“church” (ekklesia in Greek)—was used in the Greek translation of the Old Testament for the “assembly” of God’s children after the Exodus (see Deuteronomy 18:16; 31:30).

His Church is the “assembly of the firstborn” (see Hebrews 12:23; Exodus 4:23–24), established by Jesus’ exodus (see Luke 9:31). Like the Israelites, we are baptized in water, led by the Rock, and fed with spiritual food (see 1 Corinthians 10:1–5).

Gathered at His altar, in the presence of angels, we sing His praise and give thanks to His holy name.

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, 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

3:00pm – Confessions
4:00pm – English Vigil Mass

Sunday

7:30am – Latin Mass
9:00am – English Mass
11:00am – Latin Mass

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. Bernadette can be found online at
sfxspokane.org or at
facebook.com/sfxspokane

Our Mailing Address is:
P.O. Box 7179, Spokane, WA, 99207

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DIRECTORY

Office Telephone: (509) 487-6363
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Father St. Hilaire: pastor@sfxspokane.org
Office Email: office@sfxspokane.org

Office Hours:

Weekdays

9:00am – 12:00am

THIS WEEK AT ST. BERNADETTE

MONDAY, AUGUST 24TH

5:30pm Mass *Joe Picicci (R.I.P)*

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25TH

8:00am Mass *Liane & Mark McKay*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26TH

4:30pm Confessions

5:30pm Mass *Doheney Family Conversion*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27TH

8:00am Mass *Mark McKay*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29TH

3:00pm Confessions

4:00pm Vigil Mass *Pro Populo*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH

7:30am Latin Mass *Pro Populo*

9:00am English Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00am Latin 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



Lectors for 9:00am Mass

If you would like to help with the readings at the 9:00am Mass please let Janet Provinsal know; she is available after Mass.

Email: janetrose.p@gmail.com

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If you would like to support those affected by the wildfires in Spokane please consider donating through **The Cathedral of Our Lady of Lourdes** (spokanecathedral.org), or the **Nazareth Guild** (nazarethguild.org).

North Idaho

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St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest Patron of Students August 25th

Born at Peralta de la Sal in Aragon, Spain, in 1556, St. Joseph Calasanz became a priest. His reputation for sanctity inspired the Bishop of Lerida to appoint him as his confessor, theologian, and synodal examiner.

In 1592, the Saint went to Rome and became theologian to Cardinal Marc-Antonio Colonna. Here he joined the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. He became so convinced of the necessity of imparting religious instruction to children at an early age that he began this work alone in the Trastevere, where he rented several rooms in which he opened a little school, teaching the children reading, writing, and arithmetic. After some time several companions joined him in the good work and he began to lead a community life with them. Thus, he laid the foundation of a congregation that in the course of time grew to be that of the "Clerics Regular of the Poor Schools of the Mother of God".

During the life of the holy founder his Order spread throughout Italy and afterward to other countries. By a brief of 1622 Pope Gregory XV approved the constitutions and appointed the holy founder General of the Order. The virtuous and austere life of this great servant of God came to an end on August 25, 1648. He was canonized in 1767 by Pope Clement XIII.

PRAYER: God, You adorned St. Joseph Your Priest with excelling love and patience so that he might labor for the formation of Christian youth. Grant that as we honor this teacher of wisdom we may follow his example in working for truth. **Amen.**



St. Elizabeth Bichier des Ages, Virgin August 26th

Elizabeth Bichier des Ages was born at La Blanc, France, in 1773. She was Christianed Joan Elizabeth but commonly called by her second name. Educated in a Poitiers convent, she waged a successful fight to save family property from the National Assembly after the death of her father.

In 1797, St. Andrew Fournet encouraged Elizabeth to devote her life to education and the care of the sick. She lived for a whole with the Carmelites and the Society of Providence in order to prepare herself for the religious life.

Under Fournet's direction, Elizabeth was put in charge of group of women dedicated to Catholic education and care for the sick and aged. This group eventually became the Congregation of the Daughters of the Cross, which by 1830 had established sixty houses in France. At her suggestion, a community of men was formed into the Priests of the Sacred Heart of Betherran. Elizabeth died on August 26, 1838, and was canonized in 1947 by Pope Pius XII.

PRAYER: Lord, our God, grant that Your faithful spouse, St. Elizabeth, may enkindle in us the flame of Divine love that she enkindled in other virgins for the everlasting glory of Your Church. **Amen.**



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