



September 6th, 2026

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

~ St. Bernadette

SAINT BERNADETTE PARISH

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ THE 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Today we see Jesus work a miracle in order to console a widowed mother; He restores her dead son to life. This was an expression of the delicacy of His love for us; but how many others, less visible perhaps but no less full of love and life, have surged from His heart! "The Gospel speaks of three who were dead and who were visibly restored to life by our Lord,"

St. Augustine tells us, "but He has restored thousands invisibly." When writing these words, the Saint must have recalled with ineffable gratitude the much greater miracle Jesus had wrought for him, making him rise from the death of sin. St. Augustine and many other saints have been restored to life. If the saints who led lives of innocence attract us so much, those who were brought back from sin have still greater power to encourage us in our struggles.

It may be a laborious task for us to overcome pride, sensuality, and all the other passions, but it was no easier for them. They too knew our temptations, struggles and falls; if they overcame them, why cannot we do the same?

Thanks be to God, it is not always a question of having to rise from a life of serious sin, but there is always occasion for a resurrection from our little daily infidelities; if they are not corrected, our fervor in the spiritual life will gradually weaken. In this regard, we need to rise every day, indeed every hour; yet so many times we lack the strength for it. But if we beseech Jesus, our Life, He will touch us with His grace as He once touched the bier of the young man of Naim; He will give us fresh vigor and will put us back again, full of courage, on the way to perfection. The resurrection of the young man was implored by his mother's tears; let ours be implored every day by the tears of our hearts, by our compunction, humility, and trust.

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

Questions:

st.bernadette.women@gmail.com

Annual Parish Picnic

Sunday, Sept 13th

12:30pm-3:30pm

St Bernadette Parish Lawn

Bring a side dish to share! Parish will
provide burgers and drinks

Lawn Games & Fellowship

To Win Them Back: Reflection on the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

As Ezekiel is appointed watchman over the house of Israel in today's first Reading, so Jesus in the Gospel today establishes His disciples as guardians of the new Israel of God, the Church (see Galatians 6:16).

He also puts in place procedures for dealing with sin and breaches of the faith, building on rules of discipline prescribed by Moses for Israel (see Leviticus 19:17–20; Deuteronomy 19:13). The heads of the new Israel, however, receive extraordinary powers—similar to those given to Peter (see Matthew 16:19). They have the power to bind and loose, to forgive sins and to reconcile sinners in His name (see John 20:21–23).

But the powers He gives the Apostles and their successors depend on their communion with Him. As Ezekiel is only to teach what he hears God saying, so the disciples are to gather in His name and to pray and seek the will of our heavenly Father.

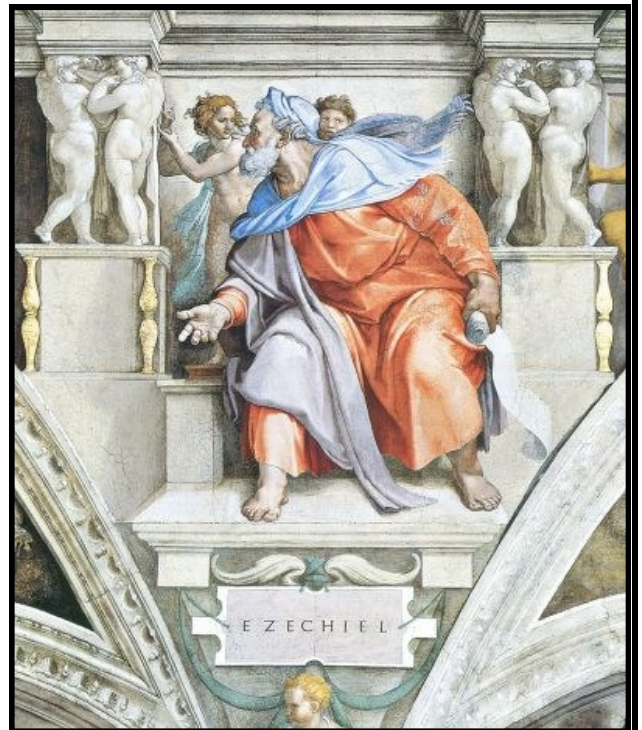
But today's readings are more than a lesson in Church order. They also suggest how we're to deal with those who trespass against us, a theme that we'll hear in next week's readings as well.

Notice that both the Gospel and the First Reading presume that believers have a duty to correct sinners in our midst. Ezekiel is even told that he will be held accountable for their souls if he fails to speak out and try to correct them.

This is the love that Paul in today's Epistle says we owe to our neighbors. To love our neighbors as ourselves is to be vitally concerned for their salvation. We must make every effort, as Jesus says, to win our brothers and sisters back, to turn them from the false paths.

We should never correct out of anger or a desire to punish. Instead, our message must be that of today's Psalm—urging the sinner to hear God's voice, not to harden their hearts, and to remember that He is the one who made us, the rock of our 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, 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.

DIRECTORY

Office Telephone: (509) 487-6363

Sacramental Emergencies:

Father St. Hilaire: pastor@sfxspokane.org

Office Email: office@sfxspokane.org

Office Hours:

Weekdays

9:00am – 12:00am

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

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Our Mailing Address is:

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

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THIS WEEK AT ST.
BERNADETTE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

5:30pm Mass *Eva Rose Gustafson*

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

8:00am Mass *Issac Teo (Healing)*

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH

4:30pm Confessions

5:30pm Mass *The Butler Family*

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH

8:00am Mass *Mary Hopfinger (Healing)*

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH

3:00pm Confessions

4:00pm Vigil Mass *Pro populo*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

7:30am Latin Mass *Pro Populo*

9:00am English Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00am Latin Mass *Pro Populo*

Parish picnic 12:30pm-3:30pm

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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St. Nicholas of Tolentine, Priest September 10th

Born at St. Angelo, a town near Fermo in Italy, in the year 1245, St. Nicholas was blessed by innocence and the practice of more than ordinary virtue from his early infancy. While he was still a young student, his extraordinary merit caused him to be appointed to a canonry in the Church of Our Savior, a position that was extremely pleasing to him, as it gave him opportunity of being constantly employed in God's service. A sermon preached by an Augustinian friar, on the vanity of the world, persuaded him to enter religion. This was not a passing emotion, but a firm resolution, which he executed by entering the Augustinian Order at Tolentine, a small town in the Papal States.

From this town, where Nicholas spent the great part of his life, he obtained his surname. He made his profession before he had completed his eighteenth year. Then he began to run the giant race of sanctity, in which he soon excelled, distinguishing himself especially by the virtues of humility and meekness. He was sent successively to several convents of his Order, and in that of Cingole he was ordained priest at the hands of the Bishop of Osimo. From that time he was employed in the works of the ministry, preaching, and hearing confessions.

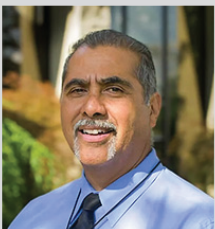
The last thirty years of his life Nicholas spent at Tolentine. His zeal for the salvation of souls produced the most wonderful fruit. God favored the Saint with many heavenly gifts, and the time he could spare from his labors he spent in prayer and contemplation. He had also much to suffer from various painful diseases. He died happily on September 10, 1305, and was canonized in 1446 by Pope Eugenius IV.

PRAYER: Almighty God, Your glory has shone upon the Church through the holiness and miracles of St. Nicholas of Tolentine. In answer to his prayers keep Your holy people in peace and unity.
Amen.



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