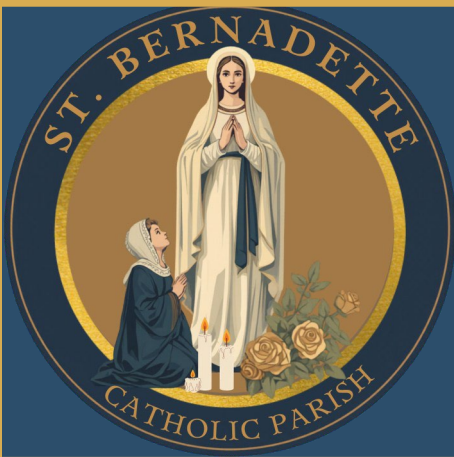




October 25th, 2026

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

SAINT BERNADETTE PARISH

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME~ THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

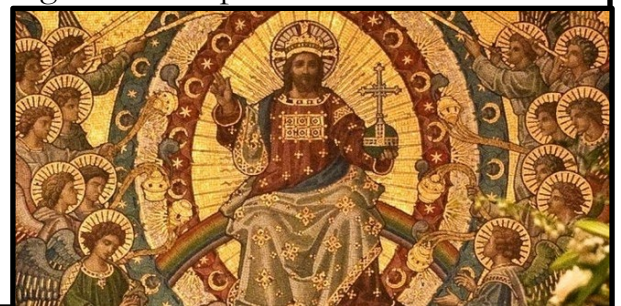
The Kingdom of Heaven — Holy Church — is seen bringing forth out of her treasure “things new and old.” Although she can never add new dogmas to the deposit of Faith entrusted to her, as the ages go by she is seen understanding more perfectly and explaining more fully those treasures in her keeping. She is a living body, not a statue, and she can develop, though she can never change her nature. Hence, guided by the Holy Spirit of him who has promised to be with her not merely for a few centuries but unto the end of the world, she defines or emphasizes certain points of doctrine as she sees fit, considering the needs of the times. We have an example in the institution of the feast of the Kingship of our Lord Jesus Christ by the Sovereign Pontiff, Pope Pius XI, in the jubilee year 1925, and explained to the faithful in the Encyclical *Quas Primas*.

Christians have ever hailed our divine Lord as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. It was as a King that the representatives of the Eastern world came to adore him in the manger; it was as a King, albeit not knowing what he did, that the official representative of the Western world lifted him up upon the Cross. The patriarchs and prophets of the old dispensation foretold his royalty; he spoke constantly of his kingdom: when asked plainly whether he were in truth a king by the representative of Cæsar, he acknowledged that such indeed he was, though of a kingdom not of this world.

“His Kingship is founded upon the ineffable hypostatic union. It is spiritual, and concerned with spiritual things. It is opposed to none other than to that of Satan, and to the powers of darkness. Christ is King over angels and men; King over men’s hearts and wills; his Kingship demands of its subjects a spirit of detachment from riches and earthly things, and a spirit of gentleness. They must hunger and thirst after justice and, more than this, they must deny themselves and carry the cross.”

Yet though his is a spiritual kingdom, opposed to no just earthly polity, “it would be a grave error to say that Christ has no authority whatever in civil affairs, since by virtue of the absolute empire over all creatures committed to him by the Father, all things are in his power.

All men, whether collectively or individually, are under the dominion of Christ. In him is the salvation of the individual, in him is the salvation of society.”



Living on the Vine: Reflection on the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus told His disciples that He came “not to abolish” the Old Testament Law “but to fulfill” it (Matthew 5:17). And in today’s Gospel, He reveals that love—of God and of neighbor—is the fulfillment of the whole of the law (see Romans 13:8–10).

Devout Israelites were expected to keep all 613 commands found in the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible. Jesus says today that all these, and all the teachings of the prophets, can be boiled down to just two verses of this Law (see Deuteronomy 6:5; Leviticus 19:18).

In this distillation, He seems to summarize the two stone tablets on which God was said to have engraved the Ten Commandments (see Exodus 32:15–16): The first tablet set out three laws concerning the love of God, such as the command not to take His name in vain; the second contained seven commands regarding love of neighbor, such as those against stealing and adultery.

Love is the hinge that binds the two tablets of the Law. We can’t love God, whom we can’t see, if we don’t love our neighbor, whom we can (see 1 John 4:20–22). But this love we are called to is far more than simple affection or warm sentiment. We must give ourselves totally to God—loving with our whole beings, with all our heart, soul, and mind. Our love for our neighbor must express itself in concrete actions, such as those set out in today’s First Reading.

“We love because he first loved us” (1 John 4:19). As we sing in today’s Psalm, He has been our deliverer, our strength when we could not possibly defend ourselves against the enemies of sin and death.

Grateful for our salvation, we show others the love that God has shown us. In this we become imitators of Jesus, as Paul relates in today’s Epistle—laying down our lives in ways large and small, seen and unseen, our daily living offered as a continual “sacrifice of praise” (see John 15:12–13; Hebrews 13:15).

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, and the residents of Franklin Hills Care Center and Cherrywood Place.

Prayers for the infirm and homebound are a work of mercy.

DIRECTORY

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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

facebook.com/sfxspokane

Our Mailing Address is:

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

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THIS WEEK AT ST.

BERNADETTE

NO DAILY MASS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31ST

3:00pm Confessions

4:00pm Vigil Mass *Pro populo*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST

7:30am Latin Mass *Pro Populo*

9:00am English Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00am Latin Mass *Pro Populo*

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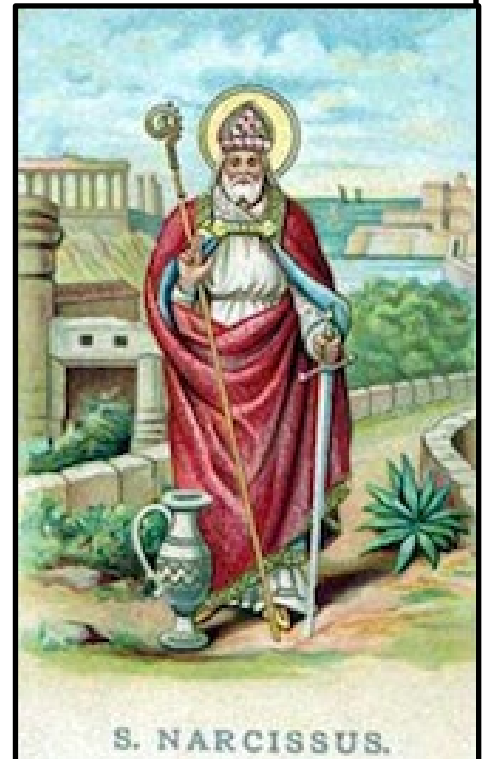
St. Narcissus, Bishop of Jerusalem October 29th

It may be inferred that the average reign of the early Bishop of Jerusalem was short indeed, for St. Simeon, the second incumbent, died in 116, and St. Narcissus, who died early in the 3rd century, was its thirtieth Bishop. St. Narcissus was almost eighty years of age when he ascended the episcopal throne of Jerusalem. More than a century had then elapsed since the city had been destroyed by the Romans, and it had since been rebuilt as Aelia Capitolina by the Emperor Hadrian.

In 195, St. Narcissus, together with Theophitus, Bishop of Caesarea in Palestine, presided over a Council held by the Bishops of Palestine in the last-named city, and it was decreed that Easter is always to be kept on a Sunday and not with Jewish Passover. According to Eusebius, the holy Bishop wrought several miracles. Notwithstanding his sanctity, the holy man was basely calumniated by certain members of his own flock, but God soon made his innocence known and the imprecations with which the calumniators had sought to confirm their words were terribly verified in their case.

The holy man left Jerusalem and retired into solitude, where he spent several years. Three Bishops governed the See in succession during his absence. On his return to his diocese, the faithful besought him resume the administration, which he did; but, bending under the weight of extreme old age, he made Alexander his coadjutor. He continued to serve his flock and other Churches by his assiduous prayers and his earnest exhortations to unity and concord. He died about the year 222. Eusebius testified that he once changed water into oil to supply the lamps of the church on the Vigil of Easter.

PRAYER: God, You made St. Narcissus an outstanding exemplar of Divine love and the faith that conquers the world, and added him to the roll of saintly pastors. Grant by his intercession that we may persevere in faith and love and become sharers of his glory. Amen.



Announcements

Fr. St. Hilaire is on retreat. There is no Daily Mass this week.

Adoration 6:00pm Wednesdays

- 1st Wednesday Young adults Adoration with confession.
- The Missionaries of Charity will have Adoration on all other Wednesdays of the Month.

Annual Catholic Appeal 78.67%

Goal: 62,258
Current: 48,980
Needed: **13,278**

Thank you to everyone who has donated so far!

Missionaries of Charity

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