November 8th, 2026

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

SAINT BERNADETTE PARISH

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 5TH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY RESUMED

God has sown the good seed generously in His field, the world; He has sown grace and love, and the desire for total oblation, the ideals of an apostolic, religious, saintly life. But, in the midst of all this good, the enemy comes to sow evil. Why does God permit this? To sift His servants as we sift grain, to test them.

Sometimes we are scandalized, seeing evil working its way even into the best places, seeing that even among God's friends, among those who should be a source of edification to others, there are some who behave unworthily. Then we are filled with zeal, like the servants in the parable. We want to remedy this evil and root up the cockle. "Wilt Thou that we go and gather it up?" But God answers, "No, lest perhaps gathering up the cockle, you root up the wheat also together with it." The cockle is spared, not because it is good, but in order to save the wheat. In the same way God spares the wicked and does not destroy them, for the sake of the elect. When God asks us to endure with patience certain situations, as inevitable as they are deplorable, He asks for one of the greatest exercises of charity, compassion, and mercy. He does not tell us to fraternize with evil, to make a league with the cockle, but He tells us to endure it with the longanimity with which He Himself endured it. Was there not a traitor among the Apostles? Yet Jesus wanted him among His intimates — and with how much love He treated him! Indeed one of the greatest opportunities for the practice of charity is offered us by those who by their evil conduct give us so many occasions for forgiving them, for returning good for evil, and for suffering injustice for the love of God. Moreover, we should consider that, whereas cockle cannot be changed into wheat, it is always possible for the wicked to be converted and become good. Were not Magdalen, the good thief, and Peter, who had denied Jesus, converted? This is one of the strongest motives to incite us to do good to all. When our love is perfect, we are able to live among the wicked without being harsh or contentious, without being influenced by them, but rather doing them good.



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

Members of the Wedding: Reflection on the 32nd Sunday in Ordinary time

According to marriage customs of Jesus' day, a bride was first "betrothed" to her husband but continued for a time to live with her family. Then, at the appointed hour some months later, the groom would come to claim her, leading her family and bridal party to the wedding feast that would celebrate and inaugurate their new life together.

This is the background to the parable of the last judgment we hear in today's Gospel.

In the parable's symbolism, Jesus is the Bridegroom (see Mark 2:19). In this, He fulfills God's ancient promise to join Himself forever to His chosen people as a husband cleaves to his bride (see Hosea 2:16–20). The virgins of the bridal party represent us, the members of the Church.

We were "betrothed" to Jesus in Baptism (see 2 Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:25–27) and are called to lives of holiness and devotion until He comes again to lead us to the heavenly wedding feast at the end of time (see Revelation 19:7–9; 21:1–4).

As St. Paul warns in today's Epistle, Jesus is coming again, though we know not the day nor the hour.

We need to keep vigil throughout the dark night of this time in which our Bridegroom seems long delayed. We need to keep our souls' lamps filled with the oil of perseverance and desire for God—virtues that are extolled in today's First Reading and Psalm.

We are to seek Him in love, meditating upon His kindness, calling upon His name, striving to be ever more worthy of Him, to be found without spot or blemish when He comes.



If we do this, we will be counted as wise and the oil for our lamps will not run dry (see 1 Kings 17:16). We will perceive the Bridegroom, the Wisdom of God (see Proverbs 8:12–21, 35; 9:1–6), hastening toward us, beckoning us to the table He has prepared, the rich banquet which will satisfy our souls.

Scott Hahn

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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:
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THIS WEEK AT ST. BERNADETTE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH

5:30pm Mass *Emily Hart (R.I.P)*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH

8:00am Mass *Priests in purgatory*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

4:30pm Confessions

5:30pm Mass *Priests in purgatory*

6:00pm Adoration

THURSDAY, November 12th

8:00am Mass *Emily Hart (R.I.P)*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH

3:00pm Confessions

4:00pm Vigil Mass *Pro populo*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH

7:30am Latin Mass *Pro Populo*

9:00am English Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00am Latin Mass *Pro Populo*

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St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr Novemeber 12th

Josaphat Kuncewicz was born in Poland of noble parents in 1580 and went on to become the first great leader of the Ruthenian Catholics, or Uniates, the former schismatics who had returned to the Church through the treaty of Brest Litovsk in 1595. Entering the Order of St. Basil at twenty years of age, he thoroughly reformed it, giving it a more active character.

So well-known did the Saint's wisdom and knowledge become that he was recommended to the Pope by his own people to rule over them as Archbishop of Polotsk in 1617. In this office, he campaigned intensively for the conversion of schismatics and for the reform of his own clergy, who were commonly ignorant and venal.

Through his boundless charity and powerful preaching, St. Josaphat established the ascendancy of the Uniate Church, but was soon marked for destruction by the schismatics. He was slain by Orthodox fanatics in 1623, at Vitebsk, and was canonized in 1687 by Pope Innocent XI.



PRAYER: God, stir up in Your Church the Spirit that strengthened St. Josaphat to be able to lay down his life for his sheep. May we be strengthened by the same Spirit so that through Josaphat's intercession we may be ready to lay down our lives for our brethren. Amen.

Announcements

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 88.47%

Goal: 62,258
Current: 55,080
Needed: **7,178**

Thank you to everyone who has donated so far!

Missionaries of Charity

Girls "I Thirst" group. Contemplate, encounter, Satiate and proclaim the thirsting love of God. Join the Missionaries of Charity every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month 5:00pm-7:30pm



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