

WELCOME TO

St. Patrick

CATHOLIC CHURCH

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THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 8TH 2026

Striking the Rock

The Israelites' hearts were hardened by their hardships in the desert.

Though they saw His mighty deeds, in their thirst they grumbled and put God to the test in today's First Reading—a crisis point recalled also in today's Psalm.

Jesus is thirsty, too, in today's Gospel. He thirsts for souls (see John 19:28). He longs to give the Samaritan woman the living waters that well up to eternal life.

These waters couldn't be drawn from the well of Jacob, father of the Israelites and the Samaritans. But Jesus was something greater than Jacob (see Luke 11:31–32).

The Samaritans were Israelites who escaped exile when Assyria conquered the Northern Kingdom eight centuries before Christ (see 2 Kings 17:6, 24–41). They were despised for intermarrying with non-Israelites and worshipping at Mount Gerizim, not Jerusalem.

But Jesus tells the woman that the “hour” of true worship is coming, when all will worship God in Spirit and truth.

Jesus' “hour” is the “appointed time” that Paul speaks of in today's Epistle. It is the hour when the Rock of our salvation was struck on the Cross. Struck by the soldier's lance, living waters flowed out from our Rock (see John 19:34–37).

These waters are the Holy Spirit (see John 7:38–39), the gift of God (see Hebrews 6:4).

By the living waters the ancient enmities of Samaritans and Jews have been washed away, and the dividing wall between Israel and the nations is broken down (see Ephesians 2:12–14, 18). Since His hour, all may drink of the Spirit in Baptism (see 1 Corinthians 12:13).

In the Eucharist, the Lord now is in our midst—as He was at the Rock of Horeb and at the well of Jacob.

In the “today” of our Liturgy, He calls us to believe: “I am He,” come to pour out the love of God into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. How can we continue to worship as if we don't understand? How can our hearts remain hardened?

-Scott Hahn



Saint Patrick Patronal Feast

March 14, 2026
St. Patrick's Parish

Mass at 4pm | Dinner at 5:30pm

Join us to celebrate the feast of St. Patrick!
Shepherd's pie and sandwiches will be provided -
please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

There will be activities for the kids!





St. Patrick our Patron Pray for us and our families!

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me. Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ lying down, Christ in sitting, Christ in rising up, Christ in the heart of every person who may think of me, Christ in the mouth of every person who may speak of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me!

- St Patrick's Breastplate

WEEKEND SCHEULE

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**)

Parish Staff:

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Parish Council:

George Baertlein, Chair ;
Members: Mike Dellwo, Bill Scheres,
Lola L'Esperance,
Louise Andrews, Ex Officio

Finance Council:

Mark Kelly, Chair;
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509 -487-6363

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St. Patrick's is located at 5025 N. Nelson St., Spokane, WA 99217

Please note: All correspondence & donations should be mailed to:

St. Patrick's Parish P.O. Box 7155 Spokane WA, 99207-0155

www.stpatrickspokane.org

For sacramental emergencies please call our emergency line at 509-866-6098

For scheduling baptisms, marriages, or funerals please contact St. Francis Xavier Parish at 509-487-6363 or by email at "office@sfxspokane.org"

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9am-12pm

To request a certificate or to speak to someone about your charitable contributions please contact the office and say you are calling for St. Patrick Parish, 509-487-6363



Sts. Roderick, Priest, and Solomon, Martyrs March 13th

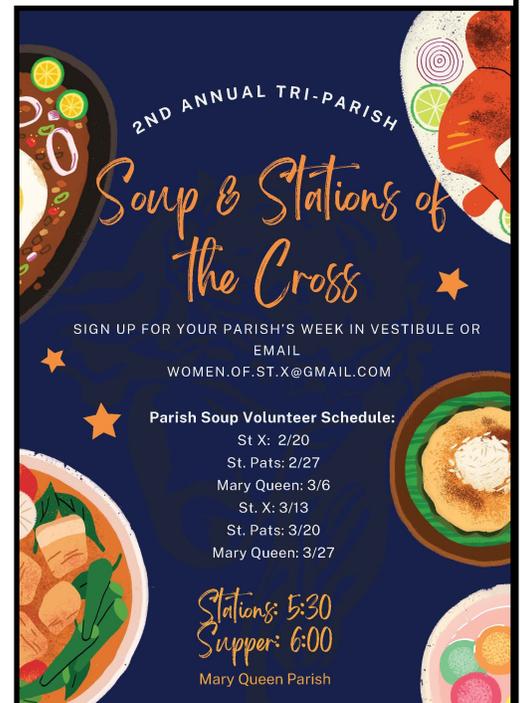
Roderick (or Rodriguez) was a priest living in 9th century Spain at the time of the Moorish dominion and persecution. He had two brothers—one had come a Muslim and the other had practically abandoned the Faith. One day, while trying to break up a violent quarrel between the two, Roderick was beaten senseless by both of them. His Muslim brother then carried him through the streets, publicly proclaiming that Roderick had renounced Christ and wished to die a Muslim. Roderick, too ill to speak out, suffered in silence, but as soon as he got well he escaped from his brother's hands.

His brother sought out Roderick and had him brought before the kadi or judge on the charge of having returned to the Christian Faith after embracing Islam. The Saint protested fiercely, declaring that he had never himself denied the Faith: but the judge refused to believe him and relegated him to one of the worst dungeons in the city of Cordova.

While in the dungeon, Roderick befriended Solomon, another Christian charged with the same offense. The two dedicated followers of Christ encouraged one another during the lengthy imprisonment, which had been designed to shake their constancy. Seeing that his original stratagem did not work, the judge had them set apart for a time; but when this also failed to achieve the desired retractions, he condemned both of them to be beheaded, in 857.

St. Eulogius (who was eventually martyred during that same persecution: see March 11) witnessed their bodies lying near a river, and saw the soldiers throwing the stones reddened by the Saints' blood into the river to make sure that the Christians could not make relics of them.

PRAYER: Almighty, ever-living God, You enabled Sts. Roderick and Solomon to fight to the death for justice. Through their intercession enable us to bear all adversity and with all our strength hasten to You Who alone are life. **Amen.**



Calling All Families!

St. Francis Xavier's Catechism and Sacramental Preparation classes have begun

Class Dates & Time: 3/28, 4/18 at 9:00am-11:30am

Classes will take place at St. Thomas More: 505 W St. Thomas More Way Spokane, WA 99208

Classes are divided by "Pre", "Post", and "Prep" for sacraments. Ages are flexible depending on the needs of the student.

Sacrament Date: Confirmation and First Communion- **Monday April 13 at 5:30pm at St. X.** All families welcome—bring the whole crew

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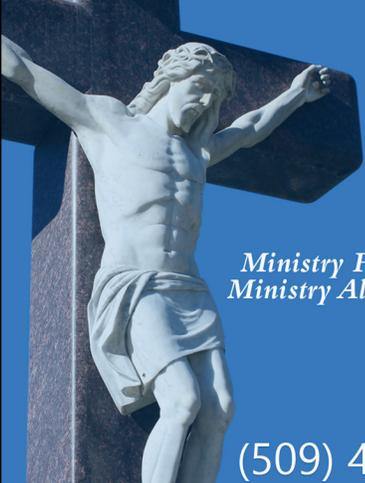
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