



ST.
FRANCIS XAVIER
CATHOLIC PARISH

November 9th, 2025

*In Thee, O Lord, have I put my
hope. Let me never be confounded.*

- St. Francis Xavier, S.J.

FEAST OF THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

The Archbasilica of St. John Lateran

In the fourth century of our era, the cessation of persecution seemed to give the world a foretaste of its future entrance into eternal peace. 'Glory to the Almighty! Glory to the Redeemer of our souls!' wrote Eusebius at the opening of the tenth and last book of his History. Himself a witness of the triumph, he describes the admirable spectacle everywhere displayed by the dedication of the new sanctuaries. In city after city the bishops assembled, and crowds flocked together. From nation to nation the goodwill of mutual charity of common faith, and of recollected joy, so harmonized all hearts that the unity of Christ's Body was clearly manifested in these multitudes animated by the same inspiration of the Holy Ghost. It was the fulfilment of the ancient prophecies: the living city of the living God, where all, whatever their age or sex, praise together the Author of all good things. How solemn were then the rites of the Church! The complete perfection therein displayed by the pontiffs, the enthusiasm of the psalmody, the inspired readings, the celebration of the ineffable mysteries, formed a divine pageantry.

Constantine had placed the imperial treasure at the disposal of the bishops; and he himself stimulated their zeal for what he called in his edicts the work of the churches. Rome, the place of his victory by the cross, the capital of the now Christian world, was the first to benefit by the prince's munificence. In a series of dedications, to the glory of the holy apostles and martyrs, Sylvester, the pontiff of peace, took possession of the eternal city in the name of the true God. Today is the birthday of the mother and mistress of churches, called 'of our Savior, Aula Dei (God's palace), the golden basilica'; it is a new Sinai, whence the apostolic oracles and so many Councils have made known to the world the law of salvation. No wonder this feast is celebrated by the whole world.



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Body Building : Reflection on The Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome

Why commemorate a church dedication that happened in fourth-century Rome? First, because St. John Lateran is no ordinary church—it's the cathedral church of the Pope and still known as “the mother of all the world's churches.”

But more than that, because God has from all time intended the church building to be a symbol of His Church and our bodies. This is what the readings for today's feast invite us to consider. God's prototype for the church is the Jerusalem Temple, described in this week's First Reading and Psalm. It's God's “holy dwelling,” site of His presence in our midst, source of “living waters”—of all life and blessing. But God intended the Temple to give way to the Body of Christ.

That's what our Lord's words and actions in Sunday's Gospel are intended to dramatize. Christ's Body is now the dwelling of God's “glory” among us (see John 1:14). It's the new source of living waters (John 4:10,14; 7:37-39; 19:34), the living bread (John 6:51), the new sanctuary where people will worship in Spirit and truth (John 4:21,23). By Baptism, we are joined to His Body in the Church.

Sunday's Epistle says the Spirit of God comes to dwell in us and makes us “God's building...the temple of God” (see also 1 Corinthians 6:9). Jesus drove out the sellers of oxen, sheep and doves, signaling an end to the animal sacrifices that formed the worship of the old Temple. In the spiritual worship of the new Temple, we offer our bodies—our whole beings—as a living sacrifice. Like living stones (see 1 Peter 2:5) built on the cornerstone of Christ (see Mark 12:10; Acts 4:11), together we are called to build up the new Temple of God, the Church.

As the Jerusalem Temple was, so the Church will always be under construction—until at last it is perfected in the new Jerusalem, our mother Church, come down from heaven (see Revelation 21:3,10,22; 22:1; Galatians 4:26).

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, Jim Moore, Jane Soars, Susan Fisher, Gerri Allen, Kathy McCarthy, Ken Keyes,, Mildred Crawford, 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

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)

SFX DIRECTORY

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Office Hours.

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY

9AM-12PM

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

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

THIS WEEK AT ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH

5:30pm Mass *Frank Taylor*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

8:00am Mass *Family Avila Perpetual Conversion*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH

4:30pm Confessions

5:30pm Mass *Gerson Avila*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH

8:00am Mass *Poor souls in Purgatory*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH

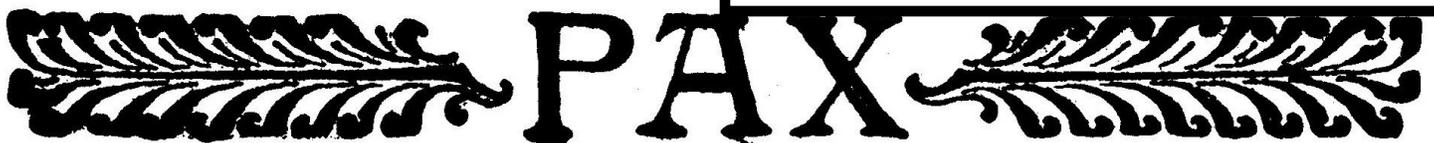
3:00pm Confessions

4:00pm Mass *Pro Populo*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH

7:30 am, Mass *Pro Populo*

11:00 am, Mass *Pro Populo*



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Although the Popes for centuries have ceased to dwell in the Lateran palace, the basilica still holds the first rank. It is as true now, as it was in the time of St. Peter Damian, to say that 'as our Savior is the Head of the elect, so the church which bears His name is the head of all churches; those of St. Peter and St. Paul, on its right and left, are the two arms with which this sovereign and universal church embraces the whole earth, saving all those who desire salvation, cherishing and protecting them in its maternal bosom.' And St. Peter Damian applied conjointly to our Savior and His basilica the words of the prophet Zacharias: 'Behold a Man, the Orient is his name: and under him shall he spring up, and shall build a temple to the Lord: and he shall bear the glory and shall sit, and rule upon his throne: and he shall be a priest upon his throne.'

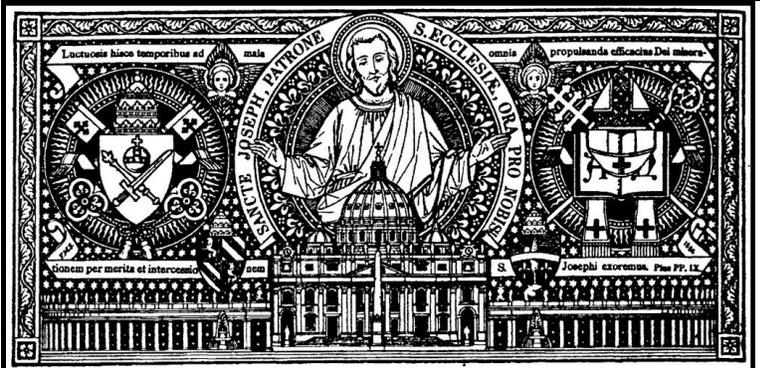
It is still at the Lateran basilica that the Roman pontiffs take official possession of their See. There each year, in the name of the Pope as Bishop of Rome, the episcopal functions are performed.... If the great poet of the age of triumph, Prudentius, could return to life in these our days, he might still say: 'The Roman people hasten in eager crowds to the Lateran, whence they return marked with the sacred sign, with the royal chrism. And are we yet to doubt that Rome is consecrated to thee, O Christ?'

Commentary from The Liturgical Year by Dom Prosper Guéranger O.S.B. (1805-1875)



Give Online!!

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Deacon Mike Samuel's Funeral is set for
Saturday, November 15th, 11:00 a.m. at St
Thomas More

Reception following in the church hall.

The family will provide all the deserts.

St. Thomas More will provide sandwiches.

If you would like to provide a salad or side
dish please contact Julie Carpenter.

Thank you.

St. Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor of the Church November 15th

Born in 1206, Germany, St. Albert the Great spent his youth under the spiritual tutelage of Blessed Jordan of Saxony, who inspired him to join the Order of Preachers. He studied and taught Philosophy at Cologne and Paris, where he became one of the most noted philosophers of his day. At Cologne he was famous as the teacher of St. Thomas Aquinas. Named to the Bishopric of Ratisbon, he retired to dedicate his talents to writing and teaching. He died in Poland in 1280.

St. Albert the Great was a man of immense knowledge and erudition. His works are voluminous in bulk and encyclopedic in scope: they include—besides biblical and theological works and sermons—treatises on Logic, Metaphysics, Ethics, and the Physics Sciences. His interests extended to Physics, Astronomy, Chemistry, and Biology, to human and animal Physiology, to Geography, Geology and Botany.

This “Universal Teacher” stands out for his recognition of the autonomy of human reasons in its own sphere and the validity of knowledge gained from sense-experience. Yet he never ceased to regard the Scriptures as the fount of human spirituality or true wisdom. He was beatified in 1622 by Pope Gregory XV and was equivalently canonized by being declared a Doctor of the Church in 1931 by Pope Pius XI.

PRAYER: God, You made St. Albert great by enabling him to combine human wisdom and Divine Faith. Help us to adhere to his teaching that we may progress in the science and at the same time come to a deeper understanding and love of You. Amen.



Catechism and Sacramental Preparation

We are pleased to announce that catechism and sacrament preparation classes are in the mornings on **Jan 24th, Feb 21st, March 28th, and April 18th**. First Communion and Confirmation will be celebrated in late April or early May.

To make this program successful, we need dedicated volunteers to serve as catechists and assistants. No previous teaching experience is necessary—just a willing heart and love for the faith. Training and materials will be provided.

If you feel called to help form our children in their Catholic faith, please contact the parish office. Your gift of time can make an eternal difference in a child's life.

More details about registration and class schedules will be announced soon. Please keep this important ministry in your prayers.



WOMEN OF ST. X PROUDLY SPONSORS:

Catholic Women's
Advent Brunch

Before the chaos of Christmas preparations, let us come together in prayer and gratitude to delight in one another and learn about Advent traditions from our parish families.

Bring your daughters, mother, grandmothers, and friends for a lovely morning as we prepare our hearts and souls for this holy season of Advent. Please bring a dish to share.

women.of.st.x@gmail.com

NOVEMBER **29** 9-11 AM

Please RSVP Here

All Ages Welcome
8+ suggested

ST. THOMAS MORE PAC

505 W St. Thomas More Way