

WELCOME TO

# St. Patrick

## CATHOLIC CHURCH



A Roman Catholic Church serving Jesus Christ, *Located in the Heart of Hiltyard, Diocese of Spokane*

## SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT ~ DECEMBER 4TH, 2022

Praised be Jesus Christ, now and forever! The preparations of Advent have been important throughout the history of the Church, and we have many ancient traditions upon which to draw. One figure of importance is St. Ephrem the Syrian, a 4th-century Deacon, Poet, Hymnodist, and Doctor of the Church. More prominent in the Syriac church than in Latin Christianity (though he is a doctor of the church), St. Ephrem's poetry was of importance to Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, who had a great love of the scriptural symbolism of Ephrem's writings.

Pope Benedict says: St. Ephrem's poetry is difficult to translate, but to give at least some idea of his poetical theology I would like to cite a part of two hymns. First of all, and also with a view to the approach of Advent, I shall propose to you several splendid images taken from his hymn On the Nativity of Christ. St. Ephrem expressed his wonder before the Virgin in inspired tones: "The Lord entered her and became a servant; the Word entered her, and became silent within her; thunder entered her and his voice was still; the Shepherd of all entered her; he became a Lamb in her, and came forth bleating. The belly of your Mother changed the order of things, O you who order all! Rich he went in, he came out poor: the High One went into her, he came out lowly. Brightness went into her and clothed himself, and came forth a despised form...He that gives food to all went in, and knew hunger. He who gives drink to all went in, and knew thirst." (Hymn De Nativitate 11: 6-8).

To express the mystery of Christ, Ephrem uses a broad range of topics, expressions and images. In one of his hymns he effectively links Adam (in Paradise) to Christ (in the Eucharist): "The trees of the Garden of Eden were given as food to the first Adam. For us, the gardener made himself food for our souls. Indeed, we had all left Paradise together with Adam, who left it behind him. Now that the sword has been removed here below (on the Cross), replaced by the spear, we can return to it" (Hymn 49: 9-11).

To speak of the Eucharist, Ephrem used two images, embers or burning coal and the pearl. The burning coal theme was taken from the Prophet Isaiah (cf. 6: 6). It is the image of one of the seraphim who picks up a burning coal with tongs and simply touches the lips of the Prophet with it in order to purify them; the Christian, on the other hand, touches and consumes the Burning Coal which is Christ himself: "In your bread hides the Spirit who cannot be consumed; in your wine is the fire that cannot be swallowed. The Spirit in your bread, fire in your wine: behold a wonder heard from our lips. The fire came down with anger to destroy sinners, but the fire of grace descends on the bread and settles in it. Instead of the fire that destroyed man, we have consumed the fire in the bread and have been invigorated" (Hymn De Fide 10: 8-10).

While poetry can often seem inaccessible at the first reading, we see a variety of themes that can inform our love of Christ and bring joy to our time of anticipation. In the first, we see how Christ's humanity is mediated through His Blessed Mother; in the second, how the Garden has been replaced by a new and more perfect Gardener; and in the third how the divine purgation of the Old Testament has been fulfilled with the divine renewal of New Testament.



***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 SCHEDULE**

**Saturday**

6:30am Rorate Caeli (St. Francis Xavier)

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, Extraordinary Form  
(St. Francis Xavier)

*On Most Sundays, Confessions are heard during the 11am*

*Holy Mass*

**Wednesday**

4:30pm Confessions (St. Francis Xavier)



**Parish Staff:**

Fr. Richard Semple, Pastor  
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Miles Ormsby, St. Francis Xavier  
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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;  
Members: Kathy Sharp, Julie Carpenter

**Phone**

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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, c/o St. Thomas More Parish, 505 W. St. Thomas More Way, Spokane, WA 99208

**[www.stpatrickspokane.org](http://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"

To request a certificate or to speak to someone about your charitable contributions please contact the  
St. Thomas More office and say you are calling for St. Patrick Parish, 509-466-7738



### STEWARDSHIP

As of 8/31/2022

Plate: \$992

Envelope: \$15,925

Total: \$16,917

% of Budget: 18%

Mail your contributions to:

St. Thomas More Parish,

505 W. St. Thomas More Way, Spokane, 99208

or

**Online Giving available at  
[www.stpatrickspokane.org](http://www.stpatrickspokane.org)**

### DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

School Mass is celebrated at noon on weekdays.

Mass is celebrated in the Convent Monday through Friday at 7:00 a.m.

### NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

NFP uses the physical signs placed by God within each woman's body to identify when pregnancy can occur. Monthly classes for three months. Tuition \$95.00 for the series. Classes are currently conducted virtually. Contact the Women's Health Center: 509-474-2400

### MEALS ON WHEELS

Greater Spokane County Meals on Wheels needs drivers county wide, this need is particularly desperate in the north and central areas of the City of Spokane. As a Meals on Wheels volunteer, you are delivering much more than a hot meal - you are providing a human connection. A typical volunteer route takes about an hour to an hour and a half to complete. For many of our homebound neighbors, A MOW volunteer will be the only person they will see or speak with all day. If you have an hour or two a week, month, or something in between to spare, please consider being a volunteer. Please contact Donna Ennis, our Volunteer Coordinator at 509-924-6976 for more information or apply on our website at <https://gscmealsonwheels.org/volunteer/>

### BEATRICE CO-OPERATIVE ACADEMY

Beatrice Co-Operative Academy is a home education community looking for amateurs (lovers of arts) and students wanting to develop via Classical Studies. We have a weekly Mass emphasizing the Source and Summit of our Faith, followed by a study of the Great Souls of the Saints; with a community, brown-bag lunch.

If you are interested, please contact Michael d'Esterre, at [beatriceacademy@gmail.com](mailto:beatriceacademy@gmail.com) or 509-903-3315

### MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY

Every Friday evening at St. Patrick's from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., the sisters pray for our families and friends who are not in full communion with the Catholic church and no longer practicing their Catholic faith Please join us.

