

# **ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

## **Catholic Parish—Spokane**

1104 W Heroy Ave Spokane WA 99205 509-325-1321 Office hours Tues-Fri 9-12

**4th Sunday of Lent**  
**MARCH 22nd, 2020**



### **Pastoral Staff**

Pastor: Fr. Michael Blackburn, OFM  
Deacon: Dan Ritchie  
Deacon: Dave Dudinsky

### **Parish Staff**

Office Manager: Anitra Turney  
Youth Ministry: Tammie Fabien  
Maintenance: John Wells

### **Choir Directors**

Sun.: Betty Ross  
Sat: Mary Lou Bentley

### **Mass Schedule**

Saturday: 5pm (8am @ Poor Clares)  
Sunday: 10am (8am @ Poor Clares)  
M, W, F: 8am @ Poor Clares only  
Tues & Thurs: 8am @ St Francis only  
Holy Days: 8am and 7pm @ St Francis

### **Parish Committees & Organizations**

Pastoral Council: Frank Taylor  
Finance Council: Mark Krigbaum  
Women's Club: Dot Verry & Kris Bond

### **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:**

Thurs. 8:30-4pm

### **Sacraments:**

#### **Anointing of the Sick:**

Masses with anointing 2 or 3 times a year

#### **Baptism:**

Parental preparation is required

#### **Marriage:**

contact the parish at least 6 months in advance

#### **Reconciliation:**

Saturdays 3:30-4:30 or by appointment

# ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH



## A WORD FROM FR MIKE

One of the things we know for sure about Jesus is that he challenged the things people felt they knew for sure. In the same way our sureties need to be dismantled before we can clearly see God's work in our lives.

The disciples knew for sure that blindness (and all misfortune) was the result of sin somewhere in the family tree. In an uneasy world of sky-high infant mortality and the ever present violence of the Roman occupiers, it was comforting to assign some kind of sin to those who had huge challenges.

We can picture the disciples thinking, as they encountered the man blind from birth, "How horrible to have to navigate the world without sight. I must find a reason why he is blind and I'm not. I've got it! He must have sinned somewhere along the line. Thank God I'm not a sinner."

Some contemporary ways in which we assure ourselves that bad things don't happen to virtuous people might be: I wear my seat belt, so I'll never have a catastrophic injury in a car crash. I've never smoked, so I'll never get lung cancer. I made every sacrifice raising my kids in the faith, so of course they will love it and raise their kids in the faith too.

Except, of course, people with their seat belts firmly fastened die in car crashes, and non-smokers get lung cancer every day. And we're all watching the culture lure this generation into a worldview that dismisses religious faith.

We can't distance ourselves from pain and so we hope it never finds us. But this we know for sure: Jesus is with us in blindness and in sight.

## CANCELLATIONS

Please check our Facebook page and our Web page <https://stfrancisofassisispokane.org/> for up to date info on cancellations and messages from Fr Mike and Bishop Daly.

As previously announced,  
the

## **Women's Card Party and Luncheon**

scheduled for March 25th  
has been **cancelled**.

The good news is the

**raffle tickets** for prizes  
**are available for purchase.**

You can buy tickets  
for a beautiful quilt or other prizes **in the  
parish office.**

If you have any questions you can call  
Gina at 509-328-4818 or  
Renee at 509-995-3898.

Winners will be notified by phone.



## Women's Bible Study

We are moving the time of the Bible Study to 2pm WHEN we come back from the break. We are taking a break until further notice due to the Covid-19 virus. Please stay healthy.

## CONFERENCE ROOM LIBRARY

Have you borrowed a book from the library? Could you please check if you have any books that have been borrowed and return them at your earliest convenience? Thank you!



## FREE FLOURESCENT BULBS



We are in the process of replacing all our fluorescent bulbs with new L.E.D. through an Avista Rebate program. We have a lot of good fluorescent bulbs available for the taking! They will be in the social hall and come in boxes of 10, please feel free to take what you need.



## LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS



Please join us Every Friday  
during Lent for  
**Soup Supper at 6pm in the  
Parish Hall**

followed by  
**Stations of the Cross and  
Benediction at 7pm in the  
church**



## GOSPEL MEDITATION

March 22nd, 2020  
4th Sunday of Lent

"Do you believe in the Son of Man?" Jesus wants to motivate each one of us to see the truth. After developing a relationship with Jesus, the blind man "sees" as someone very special. The Pharisees, due to the blindness caused by their ignorance, prejudice, and need for self-preservation, still remain blind. Presuppositions, prejudices, assumptions, and our needs can easily blind us to truth. We see what we want or need to see and not what is really there. In addition, our stubbornness continues to convince us that we are right and that our vision is perfect. Only God can complete the picture.

Look around at our world. So much of what is happening today is due to the reluctance of folks to allow themselves to be stretched and brought to see what is really there. Many react to what life presents to them more with the lenses of ignorance than lenses of clarity. The Gospel carries great transformative value. With it, God corrects our vision and replaces our limited sight with the fullness of his sight. God opens our eyes so that we can see that it is not about preserving what we have created but of living in the immensity and wonder of God's kingdom.

Through a simple, loving relationship with God, we can break through the tethers of prejudice, eradicate fear, dispel the darkness of hatred and sin, discover freedom, live in peace, work for justice, be effective stewards of creation, assist the migrant and the immigrant, and safeguard our economic systems and policies so that they truly serve all of God's children. What we see is often an artificial lie. Our truth is much bigger than what our limited sight believes it to be. Allow God to work in and through you. Do not be afraid. Be open and be humble enough to know that you need help. Many human beings are living with severe cataracts that produce sight that is at best blurred. Are you one of them?

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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We are looking for a few volunteers to help update our parish records. This will entail helping fellow parishioners go over and update their records so we have the most accurate info possible. If you are willing and able, please give Anitra a call in the office at 325-1321. We will begin after Easter.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

You are invited to join fellow parishioners and Fr Mike on Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the parish office for an ongoing weekly bible study



Would you like to do something special in lent?  
How about saying a

## ROSARY FOR THE UNBORN

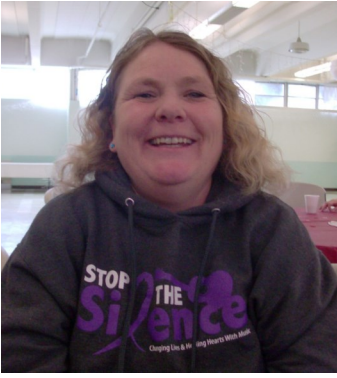
on Thursdays at 11:30 am  
in the ADORATION CHAPEL.  
Several have been praying it for  
months. We would love to have you.



**PRAY FAST GIVE**

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## **“NEELIN’ NEIGHBORS”**



### **Lisa Forcier**

For the realistic and sincere person, adversity can make that person stronger. Lisa Forcier is that kind of person. She has dealt with a divorce and the responsibility of

raising her children as a single parent. Just four years ago, Lisa had been able to reconnect with her father after his long absence in her life. The new relationship lasted a very short time because of his death due to severe health issues. She was thankful to be able to spend time with him during his final days in the hospital. Lisa has been a support for her mother and parishioner Mary Ann Forcier, who is still recovering from a heart attack and associated health issues. Lisa started coming to church with her mother about three years ago and although mom has been homebound, Lisa has continued to come to church for the warm community atmosphere and Fr. Mike’s pastoral leadership.

Lisa is the youngest of Mary Ann’s four girls and has four grown children and ten grandchildren of her own. In entertainment she favors the music of Eric Church and Jimmy Buffett. Presently she works part time and spends time caring for and providing emotional support for her mother with whom she lives.

Lisa comes down for coffee and a doughnut on Sunday mornings. If you have the opportunity to engage her in a conversation, you will find her to be a very positive and sincere member of the St. Francis of Assisi community.

## **MASS MATTERS**

Please remember to fill out your answers to the Mass Matter questions and turn them in.




Thank you to those who replaced light bulbs in the social hall. Greg Fong, Sue Fong, Randy Bond, Mike Walters, Dave Allen, Bob DelRiccio, Mark Krigbaum, Rich Silva, Marty from Ace. What a difference!!



**Please pray for** two of our Religious Education kids, Betty and Takoda, as they prepare for the sacraments of First Reconciliation, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion.

Tammie Fabien  
St. Francis of Assisi-DRE

	<b><u>Holy Week</u></b>	<b><u>HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE</u></b>
	<b>LITURGY SCHEDULE</b>	<b>Holy Thursday-April 9th 7pm Mass</b>
		<b>Good Friday-April 10th Prayers 12-3pm 7pm Service</b>
		<b>Holy Saturday-April 11th 8pm Easter Vigil</b>
		<b>Easter Sunday-April 12th 8am &amp; 10am Easter Mass</b>

## **HOUSEKEEPING INFO**

The Fire Marshall and our insurance both have indicated that the stairwell on the Jefferson side of the school building is to be kept clear of all items. Please do not let items collect between the stairs and the wall.  
Thank you.



## **Regular Meetings and Activities:**

### **Coffee & Donuts**

Every Sunday after mass

### **Women's Club (w/c)**

2nd Tues of month 6pm

### **St Thérèse Guild**

2nd Weds 6pm Youth room

### **St. Elizabeth's Guild**

1st Monday after W/C 1:00pm

### **Immaculate Heart Guild**

2nd Wed 1pm Conf. room

### **Our Lady Queen.**

2nd Wed. of month, 7:00pm

### **St. Vincent de Paul Society**

1st Sunday 11:30

### **Peace & Justice**

2nd Tues 9:30am in conf rm

### **Bible Study**

Wednesdays 7pm parish office

### **St Faustina's Guild**

3rd Tues 2pm

### **Pastoral Council**

1st Tuesday of month, 7pm

### **Secular Franciscan Order**

2nd Sat of month 9am

### **Knights of Columbus**

3rd Sunday after Mass

### **Contemplative Prayer**

Tues 10am & Thurs 6:30pm

### **Women's Bible Study**

Tues 2pm conference rm

### **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Thursdays 8:45-4pm in the side chapel

## **SUNDAY COLLECTION**

Our annual envelope budget is: \$93,200.00  
Year to date budget: \$  
Actual year to date collection: \$  
Year to date: \$

## **Immaculate Heart Retreat Center**

### **Women's and Men's Holy Week Retreats**

## **"The Death of the Messiah in the Gospels"**

Fr. Leslie Hoppe, OFM, Ph.D.

### **Women's Retreat April 6-8**

4:30 pm check in 1:00 pm depart

### **Men's Retreat April 9-11, 2020**

4:30 pm check in 1:00 pm depart

Please register in advance: (509) 448-1224 or  
visit [www.ihrc.net](http://www.ihrc.net)

\$240 (includes meals and lodging)

\$155 commuters (meals only).



*Please remember*  
**IN PRAYER**

Frank Rose, Steve Rij,  
Don & Mary DeLuca,  
Florence Himelspach,  
Kathy Bromley, Dana  
Duvanich, Janice  
Duvanich, Anita Smith,

Rita Loft, David Francis, Ramona Jones,  
Marylin Connolly-Overbey, Kathy White,  
Ellen Turnbull, Michael Brick, Kathryn Brown,  
Tom Chadler, Melissa Bromley, Mike  
Arcondizy, Steve Wren, MaryAnn Forcier,  
Gary Turnbull, Brian Chandler, Marlene  
Weller, Charlie Johnson, Colleen Pounder,  
Nancy Sims, Stanley Mundell, Jean  
Rottmayer, Joyce Johnson, Tom Bienemann,  
Helen Arnzen, Kelly Carrubba, Linda  
McPeck, Fr Skok, Jan Martin, Bill Kendall,  
Manny Baumbauer and Lindsey Fry



Helen Arnzen  
Patrick Ellsworth  
Raphael Seraquiel

