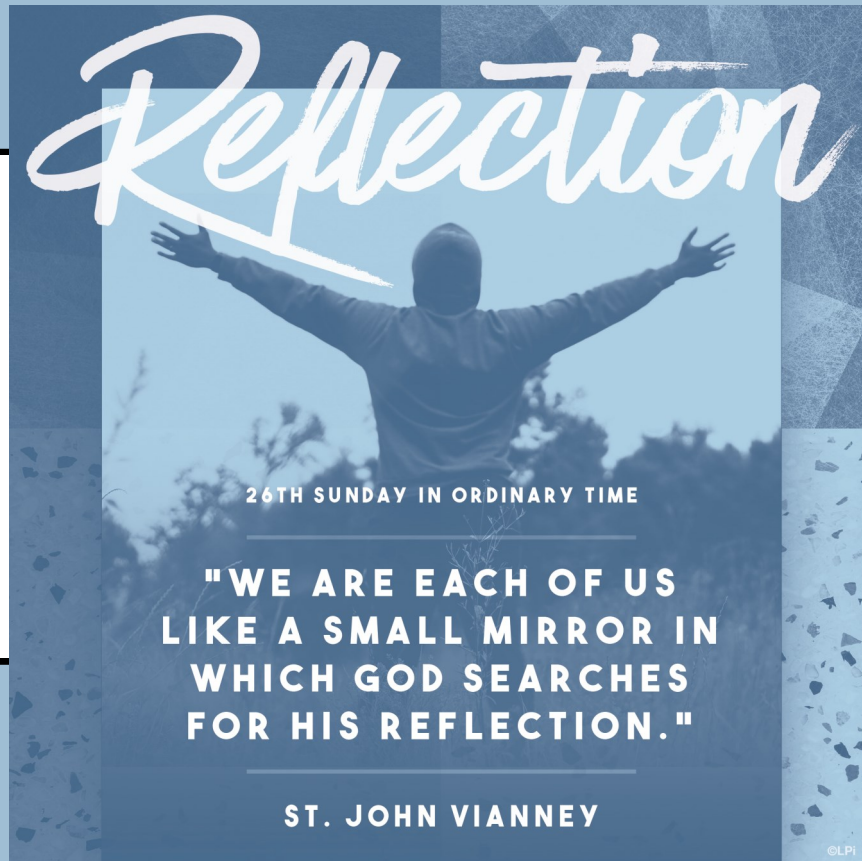


ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Catholic Parish—Spokane

1104 W Heroy Ave, Spokane Wa 99205 509-3251321

September 26th, 2021



Pastoral Staff

Pastor: Fr. Michael Blackburn, OFM

Deacon: Dave Dudinsky

Parish Staff

Office Manager: Anitra Turney

Youth Ministry: Tammie Fabien

Maintenance: Brian Sandner

Choir Directors

Sun.: Betty Ross

Sat: Mary Lou Bentley

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5pm

Sunday: 10am

Daily: 8am

Holy Days: 8am and 7pm

Parish Committees & Organizations

Pastoral Council: Frank Taylor

Finance Council: Wendy Sandner

Women's Club: Renee Lewis & Geri Wasson

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

Moses is having a bad time of it here in the First Reading today. He has led God's people out into the desert and they are left depressed and dry and quite hungry. They are complaining and so Moses picks up the theme and questions God's care for them all.

What we hear today is God sending down some of the spirit that is upon Moses, but for a special purpose. The spirit will be given to seventy of the elders so that they can help Moses carry the burden of the complaining people. There are two elders who have remained in the camp and have not been with the other sixty-eight who have been endowed with this prophetic spirit. The question arises about whether they belong to the spirited-group, because they had remained in the camp. The prophetic work for the whole group is to encourage faith and trust in the God who has called them out of slavery and into the desert of want. God has made promises, but to the people, it appears those promises were beyond their hoping.

Mark's Gospel continues this theme of trusting and belonging. Can somebody, not on the first-team of Jesus, do Christ-done deeds? Jesus' person and mission are extended into this world by anyone who is with Him, doing the prophetic work of encouraging trust in the God Who calls. Those who lead the simple trusting believers into discouragement do not belong to the Jesus camp. As a hand or eye can cause a person to lose trust in God's care by greedily reaching for that which is not being given, but taken anyway, so anyone who works against God's kingdom, will live out his or her separation forever apart from God.

It is not the eye or foot or hand which are the problem, it is the hungry heart that longs for completion. The eye sees someone or something, which the heart decides will be the ultimate satisfaction. The hand reaches for that someone or something and the feet help walk away with that someone or something, but the quest for completion will remain unsatisfied. The people complained, because they hungered and they were encouraged to wait for the promises to be fulfilled. We hunger, thirst for, lust after, grab for, walk off with and indulge our hungers in what fails to satisfy, but the heart keeps seeking.

The mission of Jesus and those of His camp is to encourage us hungry believers to keep on being faithful to our deserts and God's faithfulness. We are on Christ's first-team when we continue extending His encouraging word and touch to our fellow desert-dwellers in their journey of waiting faithfully. Our real problem in trusting God is our impatience. The people of Moses' camp were hungry and they wanted something to eat, right now! God will be sending more quails than they can ever eat, so much that they will grow sick of eating them. The people have to trust and trusting takes time and time takes patience and patience takes time and on and on. Grumbling can be a prayer, but when it turns into grabbing and grasping in defiant gestures of discouragement, then we are separating ourselves from His camp and beginning to belong, more and more, to our own camp. This separation is the cutting off of which Jesus speaks today.

The spirit, which God shares with the elders, is the spirit of carrying a burden. Each of us is baptized into God's Spirit which encourages us to live the burdens of our own lives and to encourage and assist the carrying of the burdens of our sisters and brothers. We belong and they belong and Christ has grasped us all into His camp. We experience deserts and waiting and times of discouragement; this is all part of being faithful. The quails will be arriving in God's good time. Our good time is spent in being encouraged and encouraging. God bless you. Shalom.

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

- Sunday:** Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/Jas 5:1-6/
Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48
- Monday:** Zec 8:1-8/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23 [17]/Lk 9:46-50
- Tuesday:** Zec 8:20-23/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [Zec 8:23]/Lk 9:51-56
- Wednesday:** Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5 [1]/
Jn 1:47-51
- Thursday:** Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11[9ab]/Lk 10:1-12
- Friday:** Bar 1:15-22/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9 [9]/Lk 10:13-16
- Saturday:** Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Ps 69:33-35, 36-37 [34]/Mt 18:1-5, 10
- Next Sunday:** Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [cf. 5]/Heb 2:9-11/
Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

- Sunday:** 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** St. Vincent de Paul, Priest
- Tuesday:** St. Wenceslaus, Martyr; St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs
- Wednesday:** Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
- Thursday:** St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church
- Friday:** St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
- Saturday:** The Holy Guardian Angels
- Next Sunday:** 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Respect Life Sunday

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Who are the little ones? They are the many and varied faces of people who see hope in Jesus' message about the Kingdom of God. They have come to believe that there is a different world to be had: a place where everyone has a home, all have an equal opportunity to share in God's bountiful gifts and blessings, where justice reigns, truth presides, and peace fills hearts. The little ones are those who may have left their former views behind, perhaps even their former lives to follow Jesus and believe in the Beatitudes as God's world vision. They are the poor, the marginalized, the women and men at the well, the Zacchaeus' looking for Jesus from a tree, the blind who want to see, and the lame who want to walk. They are the lepers who have been told that they are unclean, and the ones who have learned that suffering and death are nothing to fear. These are all of the little ones. Jesus gathers and protects them as a shepherd guards his sheep. Whoever causes one of these little ones to sin deserves the greatest wrath. Be more concerned about what people are doing than where they came from.



**ST. VINCENT
DEPAUL
SOCIETY**

©LPi

*I will
praise
your name
forever
and ever.*

— PSALM 145:2 —

THANK YOU **FOR BEING A NEIGHBOR**

Refugees often flee their homes at a moment's notice. They arrive at our airport with few belongings and high hopes for the future. Welcome Kits provide the basic items people need as they begin a new journey in our community.

The St. Francis of Assisi Peace and Justice Circle would appreciate your support in building "Back to School Kits" for elementary children.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL KIT

New items please



- Backpack
- Black Sharpie, highlighters
- Earbuds/Headphones
- Spiral notebook (wide rule)
- Composition notebook (wide rule)
- Markers, crayons or colored pencils
- Pointed scissors
- Pencil sharpener with catcher
- Black Expo markers
- \$25 Gift card(s) to Dollar Tree, Amazon, Walmart, Winco or Target in a separate envelope
- Welcome note for a refugee family

There is a basket in the Peace and Justice cubicle for donations from September 26th to October 10th.

We will deliver these kits to World Relief for our new Afghan neighbors.

**YOUR GENEROSITY
IS SO APPRECIATED!**

Questions: Contact Jean Walters 939 4333,
Renee Lewis 995 3898 or
Stella McDonald 327 3634.

A Stewardship Prayer

Almighty and ever-faithful God, I gratefully acknowledge Your goodness to me and humbly recognize the many ways you have blessed my life. Your mercy and kindness turn my thoughts to gratitude. Please give me the grace I need to respond to your gifts by responsibly caring for them and returning them to You with increase. Help me to be a trustworthy steward. It is my fervent hope that whatever sacrifices I am able to offer, You will bring them to fulfillment. I make this prayer through your Son, Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with You in communion with the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

Resurrection of the Dead

Question: *What do Catholics believe about the resurrection of the dead?*

Answer: Every Sunday, we proclaim in the Creed that we believe "in the resurrection of the body." Does that mean Christ's resurrection or our own? Both! Jesus' resurrection is part of the work of salvation, but it's also a sign of what's to come. While death separates our bodies and our souls, this was not the intention of God when He first created us. It's an effect of original sin. At the end of time, our bodies and our souls will be reunited.

Scientifically, we may have questions about this, since bodies decompose over the course of centuries. Or what about the saints, whose relics are spread around the earth? How the resurrection will happen is a mystery. But we know that our resurrected body will be our body. If we are in heaven, our body will be in a glorified state. Some theologians speculate what this glorification will be like based on Jesus' resurrected body. Will we be able to walk through walls? Will we eat, since Jesus broke bread with his disciples? We don't really know the answers to these questions. We do know, however, that we will be free from the effects of the fall (such as sickness and pain) and physical defects that occurred in life. Christ redeems us as whole persons, body and soul!

©LPI

FYI ...

St. Francis of Assisi Women's Club **Christmas Brunch** **and Tablescape Event.**

A tablescape is combining your table's centerpiece and place settings, or the overall decoration of a table.

You may prepare a tablescape for your invited guests or group or sponsor a table for others to join.

You do not need to sponsor a tablescape to enjoy the brunch and other activities. Your Christmas tablescape may be an elaborate setting or a casual one.

We are looking forward to you joining us at this fun holiday event.

December 4, 2021
10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
St. Francis Parish Hall
4404 N. Jefferson St.
Spokane, WA

Menu: Quiche, Cinnamon roll, and fruit cup
Cost: \$12:00

Reservations for your group or yourself will be taken in October. If you have any questions call Renee at 509-995-3898 or Anita Smith at 509-218-0059

Don't forget the Christmas Shop at the Christmas Brunch! We are still looking for donations of new craft items.

We will be getting together in November to fill the gift jars.

Questions? Call Lorraine at 509-217-6828

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL **Commitment Sunday**

At all the Masses this weekend we are joining with parishes throughout the diocese as we observe "Commitment Sunday". At the parish we have spent the last couple of weeks taking stock of the time, talent, and treasure God has given to us and then prayerfully considering how we are called to respond.

Good stewardship is a way of life. May Stewardship Sunday help all of us to be more deeply grateful to God and to respond with gratitude.



Every Tuesday
1pm
In the Conference room

BLESSING OF THE **PETS**

October 3rd@1pm
Outside the church



Frank Rose, Don & Mary DeLuca, Florence Himelspace, Kathy Bromley, Rita Loft, Ramona Jones, Marylin Connolly-

Overbey, Kathy White, Ellen Turnbull, Mike Arcondizzy, MaryAnn Forcier, Gary Turnbull, Brian Chandler, Marlene Weller, Joyce Johnson, Helen Arnzen, Tom Bienemann, Jan Martin, Manny Baumbauer, Lindsey Fry, Sharon Stillwell, Stan Mundell, Mike Wojohowski, & Fran Hattenburg



Kristy Huffaker
Kathy McMicheal
Bea Mourin
Teresa Severino
Patricia Pacali
Denise Spores

Gene & Marilee Hudon—30 years
Robert & Rusan DelRiccio—36 years

