PRAYER BEFORE HOLY MASS

THE PRAYER OF SAINT AMBROSE

I draw near, loving Lord Jesus Christ, to the table of your most delightful banquet in fear and trembling, a sinner, presuming not upon my own merits, but trusting rather in your goodness and mercy. I have a heart and body defiled by my many offenses, a mind and tongue over which I have kept no good watch. Therefore, O loving God, O awesome Majesty, I turn in my misery, caught in snares, to you the fountain of mercy, hastening to you for healing, flying to you for protection; and while I do not look forward to having you as Judge, I long to have you as Savior. To you, O Lord, I display my wounds, to you I uncover my shame. I am aware of my many and great sins, for which I fear, but I hope in your mercies, which are without number. Look upon me, then, with eyes of mercy, Lord Jesus Christ, eternal King, God and Man, crucified for mankind. Listen to me, as I place my hope in you, have pity on me, full of miseries and sins, you, who will never cease to let the fountain of compassion flow. Hail, O Saving Victim, offered for me and for the whole human race on the wood of the Cross. Hail, O noble and precious Blood, flowing from the wounds of Jesus Christ, my crucified Lord, and washing away the sins of all the world. Remember, Lord, your creature, whom you redeemed by your Blood. I am repentant of my sins, I desire to put right what I have done. Take from me, therefore, most merciful Father, all my iniquities and sins, so that, in purified mind and body, I may worthily taste the Holy of Holies. And grant that this sacred foretaste of your Body and Blood which I, though unworthy, intend to receive, may be the remission of my sins, the perfect cleansing of my faults, the invigoration of my soul, the defense of my body against the snares of my enemies. Amen.

WELCOME TO
St. Patrick
CATHOLIC CHURCH
A Roman Catholic Church serving Jesus Christ, Located in the Heart of Richland, Diocese of Spokane

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT—DECEMBER 1ST, 2019

Musings from your Parish Priest:

PRAISED BE JESUS CHRIST! NOW AND FOREVER! If you don’t know this by now, one of my favorite contemporary writers is Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. Pope Benedict has a great love for the Fathers of the Church and makes them very accessible to us. This week, I’d like us to look at these words of Pope Benedict reflecting on St. Ephrem the Syrian’s way of preparing for the season of Holy Advent.

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 hymns On the Nativity of Christ. 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 [Mary], 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. Naked and bare came forth from her the Clother of all things [in beauty]” (Hymn De Nativitate 1: 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 of the Garden in person 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 a blazing glow; the fire came down with the tempest of the Spirit...” (Hymn 49: 9-11). The pearl theme, at once a rich image and a profound parable, is taken from the parable of the pearl of great price (cf. Mt. 13: 45-46, 47). The pearl is all the treasure of heaven, the ultimate reward of the faithful of all times and places.

In his prayer Ephrem says: “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 a blazing glow; the fire came down with the tempest of the Spirit; from me, therefore, most merciful Father, all my iniquities and sins, so that, in purified mind and body, I may worthily taste the Holy of Holies. And grant that this sacred foretaste of your Body and Blood which I, though unworthy, intend to receive, may be the remission of my sins, the perfect cleansing of my faults, the invigoration of my soul, the defense of my body against the snares of my enemies. Amen.

Rorate Caeli Mass

December 7th, 6:55 AM
December 14th, 7:00 AM
December 21st, 7:05 AM

All Masses are at St. Francis Xavier
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 in every ear that hears me!

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

St. Patrick’s
—
Weekdays
—
Sundays
5:00 PM; 9:00 AM (Convent)
7:00 AM (Convent) on Tuesdays.
9:00 AM (Extraordinary Form)
11:00 AM (Extraordinary Form)
St. Francis Xavier
—
Weekdays
—
Sundays
7:30 AM
6:00 PM
7:00 AM (Convent)
11:00 AM (Extraordinary Form)
St. Patrick’s Breastplate

I give, devise, and bequeath
Spokane for the benefit of
St. Thomas More Parish,
505 W. St. Thomas More Way, Spokane, WA 99208
www.stpatricks Spokane.org

Good Shepherd Catechism
Join us!
The Sisters will have classes on Mondays, from 3:30 to 4:30 in the Convent. Classes begin this week. This is for children ages 3-12.

St. Patrick’s Prayer Line
Have a certain need that prayer can help? St. Patrick’s Prayer Line is available. Call Jackie Silvey (483-3109).

Annual Catholic Appeal
On behalf of Bishop Daly, a huge “thanks” to all of you who have donated to this year’s Annual Catholic Appeal, which will support the ministry of the bishop and all diocesan staff for fiscal year 2020-21. As of November 22, 41% of our parishioners have given $18,325. We have met our goal!

Sacramental Celebrations

Holy Baptisms: Parental preparation is required. Please contact a priest to set up an appointment. Parental preparation is required. Please contact a priest to set up an appointment. Parental preparation is required. Please contact a priest to set up an appointment.

Due to the Rorate Coeli Masses
Reconciliation Times in Advent

December 24: 4:00 PM
December 25: 9:00 AM
St. Francis Xavier
December 24: 4:00 PM
December 25: 7:30 AM
11:00 AM (Extraordinary Form)

Reconciliation.

St. Patrick’s
December 24: 4:00 PM
December 25: 9:00 AM
St. Francis Xavier

Sunday School ~ Sacramental Prep RCIA ~ Adult Faith Formation Classes starting soon!

For spiritual emergencies, scheduling sacraments or funerals please contact Fr Gaines at 487-6363.

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

Office Hours for Fr. Gaines:
Tuesday and Wednesday Mornings after Mass about 8:30 AM at St. Francis Xavier
Or call 487-6363 to schedule an appointment.

Office Hours

The diocese is committed to helping victims/survivors of sexual abuse and to protecting children and vulnerable adults. Volunteers who supervise other volunteers who work with minors and vulnerable adults are required to report any suspected abuse by others they supervise. Contact: Roberta Smith, Victims Assistance Coordinator (509) 353-0442 Office Phone or (509) 998-18340 Cell. You may also go to the Diocesan website: www.wsdiocecesepokane.org

Stewardship:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>$36,588.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Envelope &amp; Plate</td>
<td>$35,422.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needed Weekly</td>
<td>$1,654.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received 11/24</td>
<td>$1,595.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charity</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance Fund</td>
<td>$120.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: Mail your contributions to St. Thomas More Parish, 505 W. St. Thomas More Way, Spokane, 99208

For more information, please visit www.stpatrickspokane.org

Prayer Line is available. Call Jackie Silvey (483-3109).

If you have a certain need that prayer can help? St. Patrick’s Prayer Line is available. Call Jackie Silvey (483-3109).

Have a certain need that prayer can help? St. Patrick’s Prayer Line is available. Call Jackie Silvey (483-3109).

Please Remember that due to the Rorate Coeli Masses
Reconciliation.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred this year to Monday, December 9. While the solemnity is transferred, the obligation is not, i.e., the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is NOT a holy day of obligation this year.