

Fully Trained

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Jesus told his disciples a parable, "Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? No disciple is superior to the teacher, but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher." [Luke 6:39-40](#)

Are you "fully trained?" What does it mean to be fully trained? Jesus makes it clear that those who are fully trained will be like their teacher. Of course, we must become like our Lord, who is the one and only Teacher. So are you like Him in every way?

Being fully trained as a Christian is different than being fully trained in an occupation. For example, a doctor is fully trained when all the necessary lessons are learned and the practical aspects of medicine are put into practice. That is why that person becomes a doctor, just like the doctors who were their teachers. But the Christian life is not something we master by learning many teachings of the faith so that, by our expertise, we can then put them into practice using our natural talents. For a Christian to be fully trained, it is necessary that the Divine Physician fully possess them, live within them, and act through them. Thus, Christian training is the practice of allowing God to become one with you so that it is God Who acts in and through you.

This form of "training" first takes on the goal of freeing us from spiritual blindness. We must see Christ and come to know Him. Again, this is not a matter of simply learning various truths about God in an intellectual way. It's a matter of coming to know the Truth Himself. We must see and know the Person Who is Christ Jesus. This is true sight. Blindness, however, can always set in again when we take the eyes of our soul off the Savior.

Seeing Christ, however, is not enough. Seeing must be followed by doing. That is why our Lord goes on to say in today's Gospel that "every tree is known by its own fruit" and that a "good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good." Seeing Christ Himself, within your soul, will produce that "store of goodness," and this will make you more "fully trained." Only then can you produce good fruit, for it will be Christ Himself producing the good fruit in and through you.

So back to our original question: "Are you fully trained?" Do you daily keep your eyes on a Person, Jesus Himself? And if so, do You allow Him to act in your life and, through you, in the lives of others? If you cannot answer these questions with a confident "Yes," then you might have more blindness in the spiritual life than you realize.

Reflect, today, upon your mission to become a fully trained soldier of Christ. God wants to use you, to live within you, and to act through you. He wants you to be like Him in every way. This is only possible when you admit the blindness with which you struggle, turn your eyes to Him, and allow Him to become one with you. Start by turning to Him as He dwells within you. Search for Him, seek Him, and love Him. If you keep your eyes upon Him, He will carefully take care of the rest, leading you to a fully trained and fruitful life.

My divine Teacher, I turn to You, the Lord of all, and seek to fix my gaze upon You. As I see You, please remove my blindness and confusion. In place of these, give me wisdom so that I will always allow You to live in me and act through me, bearing an abundance of good fruit. Jesus, I trust in You.

Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish

March 2, 2025

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Holy Mass and Sacraments Schedule

Sunday Mass: 10:30 am
12:30 pm English Mass

Reconciliation: Sundays at 10:00 am

Baptism and Holy Matrimony:

The family should be registered and active members at Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish for a least three months prior to Baptism or Holy Matrimony. Couples are engaged to marry need to contact Fr. Ishida at least four months prior to the wedding date for marriage preparation.

Anointing of the Sick:

Please contact Father Ishida.

Parish Office:

Please email or leave voice message.

Parish Staff:

Parish Office: 509-723-1459

Parish email:

stannemedicallake@gmail.com

Parish website: www.westplainscatholicparishes.org

Father Michael Ishida, Pastor

Father Peter Miller

Evie Noder, Parish Bookkeeper

Michele Flynn, Office Admin

Sacramental Emergencies – 509-998-7093

Pastoral Council

Father Ishida, Pat Whipple, Janet Whipple,,

Mario Cruz, Danielle Treis, Father Miller

Finance Council

Father Ishida, Eric Hanson

Physical Address: 200 W. Alder, Sprague, WA 99032

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 125, Medical Lake, WA 99022

FORMED.org—"The Catholic NetFlicks

Step 1. **Sign up as a Parishioner (it's FREE)**: search for **St. Anne Medical Lake**

Step 2. Then enter your name and create a password.

welcome
to our parish

Pray the Rosary for Eucharistic Revival With Mary, draw closer to her Son as you ponder these mysteries.

Mary, Jesus' first tabernacle, leads us to adore and follow him in all the joys, lights, and sorrows of this earth to the unending glory of reigning with him in heaven.

Pray all 20 mysteries Focusing on the renewed Eucharistic fervor.

Are You Prepared? End of Life Workshop

Planning for Your Spiritual & Corporal Needs

Saturday, March 15 • 9 am – 11 am

Mass at 8:30 am (optional)

St. Charles Parish

4515 N. Alberta St., Spokane, WA 99205

NO CHARGE

Join us for this free informative workshop to learn how to preplan for the end of life.

Sponsored by:



Light refreshments provided.

RSVP: (509) 467-5496 or
bernadettep@holycrossofspokane.org

Making a Holy Lent

... a journey of spiritual growth requiring fasting, alms-giving, and prayer...

1. Learn how to grow in prayer.
2. Develop a great thirst for Jesus in the Eucharist.
3. Deepen your love for the Catholic Church.
4. Pick a consistent Confession schedule.
5. Rediscover charity and chastity and what they really mean.
6. Be convicted of the danger of pride and joy of humility.
7. Devote yourself to renewed Marian devotion.

Pray for our priests and Bishop Daly

We pray that Jesus will keep them close to His heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity.



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JOIN for free!

Directions on front of the bulletin
Catholic "net flicks".

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lectionary #84C - Liturgical color: green

1st Reading: Sirach 27:4–7
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 92:2–3, 13–14, 15–16
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:54–58
Gospel: Luke 6:39–45
The Gloria and the Creed

"Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen."



Welcome to Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish To all visitors who are joining us for worship today. May your time with us be grace-filled and may the Lord Jesus bless you and your loved ones today and every day.

Mary, Queen of Heaven Parish



Weekend Mass Schedule:

Sundays @ 10:30 am - confession @ 10:00 am
12:30 pm - English Mass

Beeswax Candles for sale!

Interested in handmade beeswax candles?

Contact Savannah Roach at
RoachSavannah98@gmail.com
or call 509-671-5656

Facebook—under homemade goods.
<https://tinyurl.com/yafbutsz>

Parishioner of Mary, Queen of Heaven

Diocesan news
to your inbox
every Friday

SCAN TO SIGN UP



We ♥ love
having you as part of our flock

Keep in touch
with us via
email & text

Text the word **westplains**
to the number **84576**

Seven Sisters Apostolate

**That our prayers
may find the heart
of every priest and
bishop.**



A call to strengthen the Church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest or bishop—a "holy wasting" (cf. Mt. 26:10) or lavishing of prayer for his deeper conformity to Christ.

Please contact Linda Pearson if you are interested in joining her at 509-879-0753 or email sookiesue@msn.com

Seven Sisters Apostolate meet after 9:00 am Mass at **St. Anne Parish, Medical Lake**. For all those interested—**Please join us in the Church.**

Please note: Mass Intensions take approximately 2 weeks to get processed and on the calendar. Please note this when giving your stipends for Intensions.

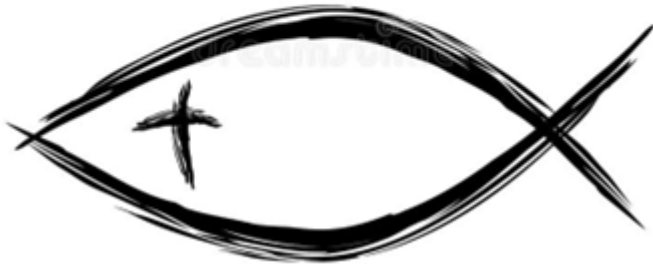
MASS INTENTIONS FOR MARCH

02	Sunday	Pro Populo
03	Monday	Adolf & Lorraine Klein
04	Tuesday	Deanna Swanson
05	Wednesday	
06	Thursday	Deanna Swanson
07	Friday	Adolf & Lorraine Klein
08	Saturday	
09	Sunday	Pro Populo

Mary, Queen of Heaven ... Pray for us!
St. Anne ... Pray for us!

ASH WEDNESDAY

First Day of Lent



Ash Wednesday—March 5, 2025

Lectionary #219 - Liturgical color: violet

1st Reading: Joel 2:12–18

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 51:3–4, 5–6ab, 12–13, 14 and 17

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2

Gospel: Matthew 6:1–6, 16–18

No Penitential Act, Gloria, or Creed

Fast & Abstinence

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards. Members of the Eastern Catholic Churches are to observe the particular law of their own *sui iuris* Church.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection.

Lent—Combating Sin with Virtue

Ash Wednesday (Year C)

*“But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing . . .
But when you pray, go to your inner room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret.
But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face . . .” [Matthew 6:3; 6: 17](#)*

One Church Father explains that almsgiving, prayer and fasting are three acts that help us to combat the three temptations that Jesus overcame in the desert. First, our Lord overcame gluttony when the evil one tempted Him to turn stones into bread to satiate His hunger after fasting for 40 days. Second, our Lord overcame vainglory when the evil one took Him to the parapet of the temple and tempted Him to throw Himself down so that the angels of God would save Him, proving His divinity. Third, our Lord overcame greed when the evil one took Him up a high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world, promising to give them to Jesus if He worshiped him.

Today’s Gospel identifies the three ways that we are able to overcome these same temptations of gluttony, vainglory and greed. Almsgiving, or generosity, is the cure for greed. Prayer within the “inner room” of your soul is the cure for vainglory. Fasting is the cure for gluttony.

As Lent begins, we are also invited into the desert for 40 days. We are invited to face the many temptations we endure in life so as to overcome them by the power of God. If you struggle with one of these above-mentioned temptations, all of them, or some similar temptation, the cure is found when the temptation is identified and the contrary virtue is embraced.

Do you struggle with greed? If so, consider being generous this Lent. God has promised to provide for your needs. He has not promised earthly wealth, but He has promised to care for you. There is great freedom found in believing that promise. One way to more fully trust in God’s providence is to generously give of your money to those in need. Don’t hesitate to do so if this is your struggle.

Do you struggle with a desire for vainglory and have an inordinate desire to prove your worth to others? If so, turn to prayer. It is in personal prayer, within that “inner room” of your heart, where God will meet you and reveal to you your true value and worth. As you discover your dignity in prayer, you will find you have no need to prove that dignity and value to others through prideful means.

Do you struggle with gluttony and seek to satiate your longings by the excessive consumption of food and drink? If so, the cure will be found in fasting. Denying your disordered appetites has great spiritual value. Fasting intermingled with prayer opens your soul to seek satisfaction only in God, and not in the flesh.

Reflect, today, upon that which needs to be your primary focus this Lent. What is it that keeps you from God? What temptations do you struggle with the most? Perhaps greed, vainglory or gluttony is among your struggles. If so, then do not hesitate to commit yourself to the cures this Lent. The end result will be that “your Father who sees in secret will repay you.”

My freeing Lord, help me to see my greatest sins this Lent and to begin the process of overcoming them. Please reveal to me the virtues I need to embrace so as to be freed of these burdens and to grow more firmly in my love of You and others. Jesus, I trust in You.