

Weekly Schedule & Mass Intentions

Sunday, August 24th, 2025

8:00 am — Sunday Mass — Colfax
10:00 am — Sunday Mass — St. John

Tuesday, August 26th, 2025

No Daily Mass — Colfax

Wednesday, August 27th, 2025

No Daily Mass — Colfax

Thursday, August 28th, 2025

No Daily Mass — Colfax
No Reconciliation — Colfax
8:00 am to 6:00 pm — Adoration—Colfax

Friday, August 29th, 2025:

No Daily Mass — Colfax

Saturday, August 30th, 2025:

No Vigil Mass — Colfax

Sunday, August 31st, 2025

8:00 am — Sunday Mass — Colfax
10:00 am — Sunday Mass — St. John

Mass Intentions:

Tue. Aug. 26	8:00 am — No Daily Mass
Wed. Aug. 27	8:00 am — No Daily Mass
Thur. Aug. 28	8:00 am — No Daily Mass
Fri. Aug. 29	8:00 am — No Daily Mass
Sat. Aug. 30	5:00 pm — No Vigil Mass
Sun. Aug. 31	8:00 am — Brenna McDonald requested by D. McDonald 10:00 am — St. John: ☩ Holy Souls in Purgatory requested by A. Carlson

Lectors

Saturday, August 30th, No Mass in Colfax

Sunday, August 31st, 8:00 am - Lois Doty

Pastor

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Our Staff

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St. Patrick Parish Colfax

WITH MISSION TO: ST. JOSEPH PARISH, LACROSSE
& OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH, ST. JOHN

WWW.STPATRICKSCOLFAXWA.COM



August 24th, 2025 The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Scripture Readings

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 66:18-21 / Psalm 117

Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13 / Luke 13:22-30

Responsorial Psalm 117

Go out to all the world
and tell the Good News.

Donate Online

Please feel free to set up a one-time or recurring donation to St. Patrick Parish. Please scan this QR Code to your phone or pc for billing information.



SUNDAY WORSHIP

Saturday Vigil — No Vigil Mass until 10-04-2025

Sunday — Colfax at 8:00 AM

Sunday — St. John at 10:00 AM

DAILY MASS — COLFAX

No Daily Mass

RECONCILIATION

No Reconciliation until 10-04-2025

PARISH OFFICE HOURS — COLFAX

Tuesdays & Fridays - 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

ADORATION SCHEDULE — COLFAX

Thursday after 8:00 AM Mass until 6:00 PM

SACRAMENTS

Call the Parish Office to prepare for the sacraments of baptism, wedding, first communion and confirmation.

LOCATIONS

St. Patrick Parish — 1018 S. Main St. Colfax, WA 99111
St. Joseph Parish—2nd & Star Lacrosse, WA 99143
Our Lady of Perpetual Help — 325 W. Liberty
St. John, WA 99171

Reflection

Dear Friends in Christ,

God invites us to understand the ultimate goal of life and to discover the true meaning of life as we go in search of our final destiny. For many people who are engaged in such a search, religion remains a self-discovery. Sometimes it leads to God and at other times, it makes the person self-righteous. Today's scripture readings invite us to recognize our failures, not only in deeds but also in attitudes. They invite us to call on the Lord and seek his forgiveness. The Gospel of today tells us that salvation is not automatic. It requires cooperation and perseverance on our part to secure the kingdom of heaven.

In the first reading of today, Prophet Isaiah aims to console those people of Israel who had returned from exile and were depressed having witnessed the miserable state of Jerusalem and the poverty of their motherland. Their Temple was destroyed and they felt that God had abandoned them. The Prophet speaks to them perseveringly about the future glory of Jerusalem to which people from every nation will come. Their city would be the center from which the knowledge of the true God would go out in all directions. God's glory is associated with the things God does to lead people to salvation.

The second reading from the letter to the Hebrews tells us that we must expect hardship, which is part of our training. We cannot win the ultimate prize unless we undergo such training. It is God our loving Father who sends us these trials and he is our trainer. He loves us and corrects us as good Fathers who will lovingly correct their children for their wrongdoings. Hence, all difficulties must be seen as a gift of a loving father and an opportunity to bring forth the peaceful fruit of righteousness. So he advises us not to move away from our Christian duty but persevere in our Christian path as it is the path to salvation.

The Lord's message in today's Gospel was primarily intended for the Jews who had heard his teaching and refused to believe in him. However, the fate he foretells for them is the same fate that awaits all, Jews or gentiles, who fail to accept the Good News and live accordingly. Jesus tells us very clearly today that it is not enough to follow him, have meals with him and listen to him. There is something more that has to be done. The response of Jesus comes to the question raised by the disciples whether only a few people are going to be saved. This also could be the result of the Jewish belief that only they would be saved. According to the Jewish tradition, there was little possibility for the pagans to be saved. The salvation of God's People, however, was virtually guaranteed, provided they kept the Law.

Jesus does not answer his enquirer's question directly. He counters the question with a parable, which is in any case, quite clear to an open mind. Jesus speaks about coming in through a narrow door and about a household-er who refuses to open the door after he has locked up for the night. The fact that those knocking at the door claim to be companions and very well known to him does not make him change his mind. "You are late and I do not recognize you any longer." Hence, the response of Jesus appears to be very cautious and restrictive. At the same time, there is a tone of urgency and the requirement of

great effort in this passage. All of this must be understood within the context of the Gospel's emphasis that the people he came to save, namely the Jews, and these very people were the ones who continue to reject him.

Therefore Jesus instructs his disciples that they must concern themselves with the salvation of all men, but only if they entrust them to the care of divine Providence, and especially if they do not neglect ourselves. But Jesus also answers very clearly that "many will seek to enter and will not be able." This means that the elect of God is few in number. "Many are called, but few are chosen." (Mt. 22:14) What a mystery! For God is good, he is Goodness itself. So then, why would he let so many of his creatures fail so miserably on the way of salvation?

However, a careful reading of the passage reveals that Jesus indicates far more than a few individuals will be saved. The catch is that many of those who think that they would be included among the saved will be left out and many who are considered unfit for salvation will be included. Many understand this as a reference to the gentile mission, which was extremely successful after Judaism had rejected Jesus. The teaching of Jesus is filled with mystery and ambiguity that theologians will later attempt to explain. We are given no answers to the many questions that this passage raises: such as the narrowness of the gate, a few being rejected, how a person can make out that he has done sufficient for his salvation, and so on. God just does not give an explanation to this but calls us to work hard for it.

Jesus told this story in response to the question of who will make it to heaven. Many rabbis held that all Israel would be saved, except for a few blatant sinners who excluded themselves. Their belief was that they were specially chosen by God when he established a covenant with them. In the Gospel, Jesus doesn't directly answer their question but his response is nonetheless unsettling on two counts. First, Jesus surprised his listeners by saying that one's membership as a covenanted person does not automatically mean entry into the kingdom of God. Second, Jesus asserts that many from the gentile nations would enter God's kingdom. God's kingdom is universal and his invitation is open to all. But Jesus warns that we can be excluded if we do not strive or make an effort to enter by the narrow door. The whole thrust of the Gospel is that Jesus came to bring God's love and freedom to the whole world. The primary role of the Christian community has never been simply to guarantee the "salvation" of its own members. It is not the function of the Church to turn all its energies in seeing that its members "save their souls" and sometimes pray for those in "outer darkness".

The next part deals, first of all, with the rejection of the Jewish People, which, for the most part, did not convert to following of Christ. This rejection made it possible for the pagan Nations to enter the Church and thus to take for themselves the place that had been left vacant by those who were the first to be called: "And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." We know that in Christ, the narrow door is symbolic of the hardships of life for those who follow Jesus. Let us try to enter in the narrow gate.

May God Bless Us...Fr. Jeyabalan HGN (Fr. Jey)

Events Around the Parish

Fr. Jey Vacation & Mass Schedule:

Fr. Jey will begin his vacation on Monday, August 25th. We will have a visiting priest each weekend beginning August 31st through September 28th.

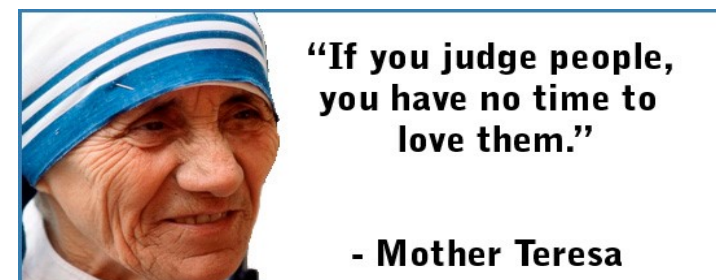
Good news, our visiting priests will celebrate Sunday Mass at 8:00 am in Colfax and 10:00 am in St. John. There will be no weekday Mass or Saturday Vigil Mass during the time Fr. Jey is away. Please pray for the safe travels and a restful time for Fr. Jey.

Catherine Treis: Please include Catherine Treis in your prayers as she travels to The Marian Sisters of Santa Rosa in California for three weeks to continue her discernment for a vocation. If you are interested in knowing more about the Marian Sisters of Santa Rosa, please use the following link to their website: www.MarianSisters.com.

Eucharistic Adoration: While Fr. Jey is on his vacation, we will continue to have Eucharistic Adoration from 8:00am to 6:00pm on Thursdays. Please take this time to be in His presence and listen to Him.

Knights of Columbus Picnic: Mark your calendars for the Knights of Columbus Fall Picnic on September 14th. The picnic will be held at Klemgard Park from 12:00 noon until 4:00 pm. All parishioners are invited to this great opportunity to get to know each other and have a relaxing afternoon. Games will be organized by the Knights for the children. Please join us.

Women's Day of Prayer!: Mark your calendars for a Women's Day of Prayer led by Sister Eucharista and Fr. Raymond at St. Patrick Parish on Saturday, September 27th. More information to come this week!



PREPARES News:

Diaper distribution will be at the Colfax Food Pantry this Tuesday, August 26th from 2pm to 5pm. We currently have one volunteer signed up for our monthly diaper distributions in August, September, and October. We could use one more volunteer for each of those months. If you would like to share your time and warm smile serving families, contact Valerie Higginson to get signed up!

"Each of us, by our love and care, leaves a mark on the lives of others." Pope Francis

Religious Education 2025-2026: The Religious Education Program will begin Sunday, September 14th. The theme this year will be *The Liturgical Year: Feasts and Saints*. Signup forms will be in the vestibule of the Church. We will have envelopes available for donations for this year's program in the pews this coming weekend. Please be generous in your prayers supporting our youth and Religious Ed. Volunteers.

Religious Ed. Substitutes needed: If you would be willing to substitute for a regular teacher on occasion, please reach out to Bonnie Brumley at 602.616.3704.

Immaculate Heart Retreat Center Offers a 24-Hour Retreat for Catholic Parents: "Faithful Foundations: Empowering Catholic Parents" led by Mary Ruth Hackett, PhD
Fri. Sept. 26, 4:30 pm – Sat. Sept. 27, 4:30 pm

Please register in advance: (509) 448-1224 or visit www.ihrc.net
\$135 per person or \$225 per couple (includes lodging and up to 3 meals)

*Nursing babies are permitted at this retreat.