

## Weekly Schedule & Mass Intentions

### Sunday, February 22nd, 2026

7:30 am — The Rosary is recited for our First Confession & Communion Candidates — Colfax  
 8:00 am — Sunday Mass — Colfax  
 9:00 am — Reception in Parish Hall — Colfax  
 10:00 am — Sunday Mass — St. John

### Tuesday, February 24th, 2026

(Saint Katherine Drexel, Virgin, Memorial )  
 8:00 am — Daily Mass — Colfax

### Wednesday, February 25th, 2026

(Saint Casimir, Memorial )  
 8:00 am — Mass — Colfax  
 9:00 am — Women's Bible Study — Colfax

### Thursday, February 26th, 2026

8:00 am — Mass — Colfax  
 8:30 am to 6:00 pm — Adoration — Colfax  
 5:00 pm to 5:45 pm — Reconciliation — Colfax

### Friday, February 27th, 2026

**No Morning Mass** — Colfax  
 5:30 pm — Stations of the Cross — Colfax  
 6:00 pm — Mass — Colfax

### Saturday, February 28th, 2026

(Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs, Memorial )  
 4:30 pm to 4:50 pm — Reconciliation — Colfax  
 4:30 pm — The Rosary is recited — Colfax  
 5:00 pm — Vigil Mass — Colfax

### Sunday, March 1st 2026

7:30 am — The Rosary is recited for our First Confession & Communion Candidate — Colfax  
 9:00 am — Religious Education — Colfax  
**11:00 am** — Sunday Mass — St. John  
 4:00 pm — Knights of Columbus Auction  
 Social Hour — Colfax  
 5:30 pm — Knights of Columbus Auction  
 Dinner — Colfax

## Mass Intentions:

**Tue. Feb. 24** 8:00 am — † John J. McInerney requested by P. Simmons  
**Wed. Feb. 25** 8:00 am — Lynda Hiller requested by L. Hiller  
**Thur. Feb. 26** 8:00 am — Dick McNeilly requested by S. McNeilly  
**Fri. Feb. 27** **5:30 pm** — † Tom Taylor requested by M. & R. Johnson  
**Sat. Feb. 28** 5:00 pm — † Caroline Johnston requested by B. & C. Lothspeich  
**Sun. Mar. 01** 8:00 am — For Saul Higginson who is receiving his First Holy Communion  
**11:00 am** — St. John: † John Burke requested by L. Hiller

## Lectors

Saturday, February 28th 5:00 pm — Bob Lothspeich / Sunday, March 1st, 8:00 am — Heidi Danaher

### Pastor

Fr. Jeyabalan 'Jey' Jesuraj: ph.: 509-397-3921,  
 cell: 509-975-4350 jjesuraj@dioceseofspokane.org

### Our Staff

**Office Manager** Carey Murphy: ph.: 509-397-3921  
 cmurphy@dioceseofspokane.org

### Faith Formation Team

Bonnie Brumley, Dana Clemens & Virgil Crampton

### Eucharistic Adoration Coordinator

Chris Thompson: jtct101@outlook.com, ph.: 509-595-3445

### PREPARES Program Coordinator

Val Higginson: valerie.higginson@cceasternwa.org ph.:509-202-2139

### Prayer Chain Coordinator

Carey Murphy: cmurphy@dioceseofspokane.org, ph.: 397-3921

### Bulletin Editor

Virgil Crampton: vcrampton@dioceseofspokane.org, ph.: 595-7876

### Knights of Columbus

Charlie Appel—Grand Knight: appelcd@gmail.com, ph. 509-592-0868

**Parish Hall Reservations** Laura Appel: ph.: 397-9227

# St. Patrick Parish Colfax

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

## February 22nd, 2026

### The First Sunday in Lent

### Scripture Readings

### The First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 / Psalm 51  
 Romans 5:12-19 / Matthew 4:1-11

### Responsorial Psalm 51

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

### 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 info.



### SUNDAY WORSHIP

Saturday Vigil — Colfax at 5:00 PM  
 Sunday — Colfax at 8:00 AM  
 Sunday — St. John at 11:00 AM-1st Sunday of month  
 10:00 AM all other Sundays

### DAILY MASS — COLFAX

Tuesday through Friday: 8:00 AM — Colfax

### RECONCILIATION

4:30 pm to 4:50 pm Saturdays before Mass—Colfax  
 8:30 am after Thursday Daily Mass—Colfax  
 5:00 pm to 5:45 pm Thursdays—Colfax  
 Or by appointment, contact (509) 397-3921

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS — COLFAX

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

### ADORATION SCHEDULE — COLFAX

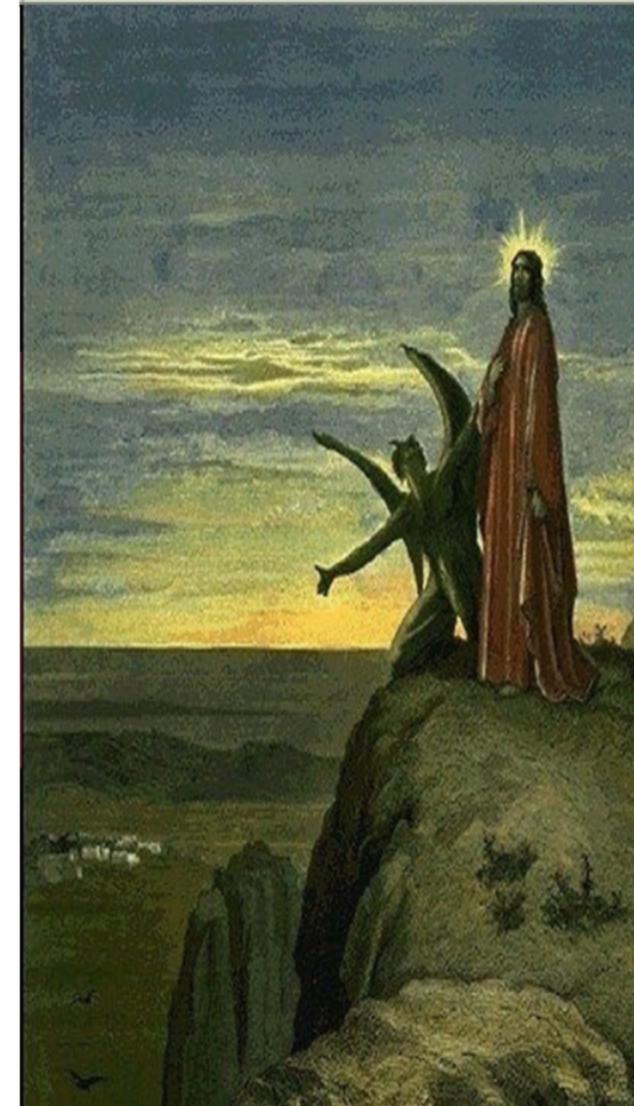
Thursday after 8:00 AM Mass until 6:00 PM

### 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,

Every year, on the first Sunday of Lent, we hear a version of Jesus's post-baptism sojourn in the desert. The gospels of Matthew and Luke tell us that Jesus was "led by the Spirit into the desert," while Mark's account is more direct. Instead of being gently "led," we read that "At once the Spirit drove him out into the desert." Thus, the Marcan account retains a sense of discomfort and uncertainty. The Spirit is not merely accompanying or guiding Jesus into a place where he would like to be—like a divine GPS system leading him to his destination—but instead the Spirit is forcing, prodding, *driving* Jesus into a discomfiting land where he would rather not be.

Given what Jesus is about to face over the course of his forty-day journey, Mark's account seems to make more sense. And as we begin our own Lenten journeys of reflection, prayer, and discernment, where we too may confront our own temptations, it's helpful to know that Jesus understands something of our experience.

At first glance, today's readings appear to center on the theme of temptation. The reading from Genesis recounts the famous scene of the first humans in the garden, tempted by the serpent to eat the forbidden fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The gospel tells of Jesus facing three prompts from the devil. And while temptation is a key theme across these scripture passages, it's worth revisiting the traditional assumptions about the precise temptations.

When it comes to the first humans in Genesis, the general view is that Eve and Adam are tempted by the sin of pride. Their actions lead to disobedience; they reject God's authority and instruction to do what they want. While the sin may indeed be a form of insolence, I wonder if the original temptation has less to do with human pride and more to do with human insecurity.

The serpent's argument centers on the alleged reason God has forbidden the humans from touching, let alone eating, fruit from this tree. The serpent claims that to eat this fruit would result in them becoming more *like God*. The presupposition is that the humans are not sufficient as they are; they could be better, greater, more lovable and respectable. It makes us think of this exchange as the first commercial advertisement in human history: the serpent is preying on some internal lingering doubt that Eve and Adam have about their own goodness, knowledge, and worth. Just eat this fruit, just buy this car, just take this vacation, just use this pill, just wear these clothes (or fig leaves) and you will be better, smarter, and beloved.

Perhaps the temptation is to believe the lie that we are not good enough as God created us and loved into existence. In an age of nonstop advertising, influencing, and peer pressure, especially across social-media platforms, the temptation the first humans face from the serpent is repeated today in millions of small and large ways—each sponsored ad, each influencer's recommendation, each streaming commercial or product placement is a hidden temptation to doubt ourselves and our inherent goodness and lovability.

As Lent begins, perhaps we might take time to examine our hearts and minds to face this ancient-and-modern temptation, reject its premise, and embrace the divine truth that God created us out of love for love.

This brings us to the gospel, where Jesus is confronted in the desert by the devil's queries, which seem to test his resolve in the face of temptations related to security (make your own food and you'll never be dependent), power (demonstrate your divine might and reject vulnerability), and greed (you can have it all). While these are perfectly legitimate readings of the threefold temptation, I wonder if we move too quickly to this interpretation and lose sight of an important lesson here.

In response to these temptations, which play on fundamental human insecurities and aspirations, Jesus does not offer creative or original retorts. Instead, at each turn he points to scripture, which is a source of divine wisdom. It is not the case that the Bible is an answer book for all our challenges and struggles, but it is the repository of God's self-disclosure and guidance. When we find ourselves in Jesus's shoes, facing some temptation to sin, we are invited to return to the Bible and become people of scripture. As the medieval theologians were fond of saying, the more we can make God's story our story and internalize the wisdom revealed, the more prepared we will be to respond to adversity in our lives. So, rather than look for some quick fix or the latest fad to respond to our temptations, we might follow Jesus's example and return to what is written.

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

## Events Around the Parish

**First Confession & Holy Communion:** Today we celebrate the Sacrament of First Confession and First Holy Communion for several of our Parishioners, please pray for our First Confession candidates:

- Aero Cai
- Zoey Campbell
- Naomi Gustaffe
- Anika Newton
- Dante Newton

And our First Holy Communion Candidates:

- Aero Cai
- Zoey Campbell
- Naomi Gustaffe

Anika and Dante will receive their First Holy Communion in Spokane at their Confirmation in May. Congratulations to all our Candidates!!

**Knights of Columbus Auction & Diner:** The Knights of Columbus Auction and Dinner will be Sunday, March 1st with the social hour beginning at 4:00 pm. This will be a prime rib/shrimp scampi dinner for adults. To make reservation, or donate a high quality new item or service, please contact Charlie Appel at [appeled@gmail.com](mailto:appeled@gmail.com).

**Stations of the Cross & Mass:** Please join us this Lenten season for Stations of the Cross which will be held each Friday during Lent beginning at 5:30 pm followed immediately by Mass. There will be **no 8:00 am** Daily Mass on these Fridays. Please join us for this beautiful and reflective Lenten tradition.



### **Prepares News:**

>There will be Diaper Distribution on Tuesday, February 24 at the Parish Hall from 9:30 am to Noon.

>PREPARES needs: 4t/5t Pull ups!!

>If you would like to donate to the PREPARES 2026 Appeal envelopes can be found in the vestibule.

For more information about the appeal, visit, [preparesforlife.org](http://preparesforlife.org)

**CRS Rice Bowl:** The CRS Rice Bowls are available in the vestibule of the church as well as the Parish Hall. Please take this opportunity to collect your spare change during Lent and help out those in need.

### **Newest Baptized Member of our Parish:**

On Monday, February 16th, Fr. Jey welcomed Dick McNeilly into the Parish as a newly baptized member of the Catholic faith. Please pray for Dick for a speedy recovery and the blessings bestowed on him through the Sacrament of Baptism. Congratulations Dick!!

**Lenten Thoughts:** The whole life of Christ was a cross and a martyrdom, and dost thou seek rest and joy? If thou carry the cross unwillingly, thou makest it a burden to thee. If thou fling away one cross, without doubt thou shalt find another, perhaps a heavier. . . . (Thomas de Kempis - Imitation of Christ)

### **January 2026 Collections & Expenses:**

Colfax:	Revenues: \$ 12,126	Expenses: \$10,165
St. John:	Revenues: \$ 1,192	Expenses: \$ 1,020
LaCrosse:	Revenues: \$ 0	Expenses: \$ 261