

Week Behind/ Week Ahead

To the Parishioners of Saint Joseph Parish in Kennewick

From V. Rev. Felipe Pulido

Date: December 26, 2020

Week Behind

Meditations on Christmas Masses—On Wednesday, December 23, Father Riccardo, who recently celebrated his 57th ordination anniversary, presented a reflection on the liturgical readings for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Father Riccardo's talking points focused on the Mass at Midnight and the Mass at Dawn. Father Cesar spoke on the Mass during the Day. We are grateful for the dedication and commitment of Fathers Riccardo and Cesar to this virtual ministry. You will find the meditations video on our Facebook page or our YouTube channel. May these meditations help us experience peace and joy as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Knights of Columbus—A special thank you to the members of the Knights of Columbus who spent time in the cold and wind over the last three weeks selling Christmas trees. I also appreciate those men who sold "Keep Christ in Christmas" cards after Masses. Sending those cards supports the charitable work of Knights as well as promotes the real meaning of Christmas in our community. We are grateful to the Knights for their support of families and Catholic Christian values in our society.

Non-Perishable Food—Thank you to all the parishioners who have brought non-perishable food to the Parish Office. During the last two weeks we have had people in need coming to our doors, sometimes during the week and other times on weekends, to pick up food items. Special thanks to the parish staff who received the donations or distributed them to people in need.

Christmas Eve Mass—On Thursday, December 24 at 4:00 pm, we opened Dillon Hall for a second Mass since we had filled our maximum capacity of 25% in the Big Church. Thank you to all who attended our Christmas Masses for your love of the Eucharist and the Catholic faith. Moreover, thanks to Giovanni Liguori, our music director, and all the cantors whose beautiful music and voices enhanced our Christmas liturgies. Jobs well done!

Christmas Decorations, Big Church---Our sanctuary looks beautiful, thanks to all the volunteers who donated their time and talent in the decoration of the Big Church and Dillon Hall. Thanks to our seminarian Ethan Pfeifer for organizing and leading the volunteers.

Saint Joseph Catholic School—Many thanks to Gabino and his family members who donated their time and talent to clean up the grounds around our school. If you have a child in our school, you can fulfill the required service hours by participating in the PTO, Art and Wine fundraiser, marketing or other fundraising opportunities that we may be having this spring. Please call the School Office for more information.

Week Ahead

As we near the end of 2020, please know how much your support means to me and to your fellow parishioners. As your pastor, I am in a unique position to see the good work that we're able to do because of contributions from families like yours. I see first-hand how we provide comfort to those in need, resources to young families, and care for the sick and elderly. We make certain that the Catholic faith is alive here in Kennewick through the Religious Education programs. We provide children in our parish school with a quality Catholic education. We offer prayers for those in spiritual need at every Mass, and food and other supplies through the Prepares program, the Giving Tree fund, non-perishable food drives, and the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. All these services were crucial this year.

This has been a particularly challenging year for all of us due to the coronavirus pandemic. I am so inspired by all of you who stepped up to support the parish. You made it possible for us to continue our ministries through your gifts, prayers, service, and simple acts of kindness to one another. Everything we do in this parish is made possible because individuals and families offer their contributions of time, talent, and treasure. May God bless you for your support!

Parish Office Closures—The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, December 31 and Friday, January 1, opening again on Monday, January 4.

Schedules for New Year's Eve (Vigil) and New Year (Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God) Masses

December 31

No morning masses

New Year's Eve (Vigil for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God – Mass in English 5:30 pm--Mass in Spanish 7:00 pm in the Big Church

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God- Holy Day of Obligation- January 1

Mass in English 9:00 am--Mass in Spanish 11:00 am in the Big Church

As we celebrate the year of Saint Joseph, we pray for his intercession.

May God watch over all of us in the New Year!