

## **Week Behind/ Week Ahead**

To the Parishioners of Saint Joseph Parish in Kennewick

From V. Rev. Felipe Pulido

Date: February 20, 2020

## **Week Behind**

**Snow Removal**—Last weekend we had a few days of heavy snow. Thanks to the Knights of Columbus, Deacon Arturo Biebrich, and Sergio Negrete for removing snow from the church and school parking lots over Presidents' Day weekend. Special thanks to Arturo and Sergio who worked long hours to clear the snow from the sidewalks around the church and school grounds. We are very blessed as community to have such wonderful workers.

**Diaconate Ordination**—Congratulations to the men who were ordained permanent deacons in the Diocese of Spokane on Friday, February 12. We assure them of our prayers and best wishes at this important time. Congratulations especially to Arturo Biebrich, our maintenance man in Saint Joseph Parish, on his diaconate ordination for the Diocese of Spokane. Deacon Arturo will be ministering in Saint Patrick Parish, our neighbors in Pasco.

**Reopening Status Change; Updated Wedding and Funeral Guidance**--Washington Governor Jay Inslee announced that most regions in the state will move to Phase 2 of the new re-opening plan last Sunday. For the Diocese of Yakima, this change will affect our parish located in Benton County. The biggest change for churches moving into Phase 2 is that weddings and funerals, both indoor and outdoor, can have as many as 200 attendees, or 25 percent of the building capacity, whichever is less. I want to thank all of you for your great patience as we continue to fight this pandemic.

**St. Joseph School**--On Tuesday, February 16, Saint Joseph students brought home Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowls and activity calendars for Lent. The purpose of the cardboard "bowls" is to collect alms (loose change or small amounts of money) during the 40 days of Lent. At least 25% of collected monies is kept in our diocese. I am grateful to all for participating in this beautiful program.

**Annual Catholic Appeal 2021**—Our parish goal for the 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal is \$147,114.00. Thanks to all parishioners who have already made pledges. The amount pledged so far this year is \$122,857.00 and the amount collected so far is \$69,527.36. Presently, the number of ACA donors is 325 individuals and families. We need everyone's participation. Remember, no contribution is too small. Let's not forget the theme for the 2021 ACA, *Revive Your Hope*. Imagine how many children, youth, young adults, and families in need could be served by the Diocese if you were to give to the ACA this year. Thanks to your generosity last year, we met our goal. Please be generous this year as well. Your giving makes a difference.

**2021 PREPARES Valentine Appeal**—Thank you for "opening your hearts" to mothers and fathers who have chosen life. Catholic Charities and PREPARES appreciate your donations. You can still

donate via envelope or on-line at Central Washington Catholic Charities' website. Thank you all for your generosity.

**First Sunday of Lent**—On Sunday, February 21, we celebrated the R.C.I.A. Rite of Election at the 9:00 am and 1:00 pm Masses. The catechumens were presented to the Catholic community of Saint Joseph. They also were presented to Bishop Tyson at via Zoom at 3:00 pm the same day. Special thanks to Susan Marsh and Amalia del Pozo who have worked diligently to prepare the catechumens on their journeys to becoming Catholics and the candidates looking forward to receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion.

### **Week Ahead**

**Bible Study during Lent**—On Wednesday, February 24, we will begin a Bible study titled “Repent and Believe in the Gospel—Tradition and Renewal” presented by Fathers Riccardo Keolker, Felipe Pulido, and Cesar Izquierdo. Presentations will be on Wednesdays: February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 from 9:15 am to 10:45 am in Dillon Hall. You can also participate virtually on Facebook or YouTube. In person: limited to 40 persons with social distancing. You can register at the parish office. Materials: Bible, notebook and pen.

**Disciplines of Lent**--Please keep in mind the following:

**Prayer**--Please join us for daily Masses Monday through Friday 6:30 am and 8:30 am and 8:30 am on Saturdays. We are also holding Reconciliation hours every Saturday from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm. On Fridays, Stations of the Cross will be prayed in English at 5:30pm and in Spanish at 6:30pm in the Big Church.

**Fasting**—One full meal is allowed. Two other meals to maintain strength may be taken according to your needs; however, those meals should be smaller than usual. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are permitted.

**Abstinence**—Eating meat is not allowed.

We are asked to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday (February 17) and Good Friday (April 2). In addition we abstain from meat on all Fridays during Lent. Note: the obligation of fasting binds Catholics who are 18-59 years old. The obligation of abstinence applies to those 14 years and older. These requirements do not apply when health or ability to work would be seriously affected.

**Almsgiving**—During the Lenten season, consider ways you can change your spending habits and be more intentional and prayerful in your giving. Here are a few ideas: Fill up your CRS Rice Bowl, increase your weekly giving amount to St Joseph Parish, commit to acts of charity for other people.

Wishing you a happy Lenten season