

Week Behind/ Week Ahead

To the Parishioners of Saint Joseph Parish

From V. Rev. Felipe Pulido

Date: May 22, 2021

Week Behind

Outdoor Statues Surrounding the Small Church – Last Saturday the statues of Jesus, John and Mary at Calvary were painted by a group of workers from Columbia Industrial Coatings coordinated by Angel Aguilar. The crew did a wonderful job. They will come back to prepare and paint the statue of Saint Francis on the south side of the Small Church and the Pieta by the Columbarium. Thank you to Pete Wilhem and the Boy Scouts who worked with Angel Aguilar behind the scenes, getting things organized for the crew of painters. Bravo! Job well done.

Job Interview – On Friday, May 21, Sue Schoolcraft from the Diocese of Yakima, Chris Mertens, Deacon Bill, Deacon Juan, and I interviewed a candidate for the bookkeeping position in our parish. In the last two months we have had more than 8 applicants for the position. I am hoping that by the month of June we will have a new bookkeeper. I want to thank everyone involved in the interviews and special thanks to Sue Schoolcraft, CFO for the Diocese of Yakima. She has been very instrumental in the process of hiring a new bookkeeper.

PREPARES Baby Supply Bags and Young Moms' Support Groups -- If your family or a family you know is expecting or has a child under the age of 5 and is in need of basic baby supplies, PREPARES can help. In addition, PREPARES can assist young parents with their many emotions and, sometimes, fears. Catholic Charities offers weekly, 90-minute support groups – safe places for young pregnant and/or parenting moms to help each other. The location for parents in need of basic supplies and for young moms' support groups is 803 W. Vineyard Drive, Kennewick. Or call at 509-946-4645 to speak to someone in either English or Spanish. Thank you so much to all the volunteers from our parish who help this ministry, especially Lupita Castellano who has donated hundreds of baby diapers to PREPARES.

COVID-19 Update -- As many of you heard, the CDC made an announcement in regard to COVID19 protocols. Our Diocese is reviewing the guidelines for faith and religious gatherings. In the meantime, please follow the existing protocols (masks, social distancing, and choir with facial coverings) with the exception that you do not need to register when you come to Mass. I remind you that it is our responsibility to care for the common good and the vulnerable among us. This means that people must stay home if they are not feeling well. The coming changes indicate that we are getting closer to the end of the pandemic, which gives us all great hope! Thank you for your continued diligence in providing a safe environment for worship during these challenging times. Your efforts and cooperation are greatly appreciated by everyone.

Week Ahead

Priesthood Ordination in the Diocese of Yakima –Congratulations to Deacon Eduardo Chavez and Deacon Michael Kelly who will be ordained priests for the Diocese of Yakima on Friday, May 28. The ordination Mass will begin at 6 pm in Yakima’s Holy Family Church. To make reservations, please visit the diocese website, yakimadiocese.org

All the faithful are encouraged to participate via the *livestreamed Mass online* and to add their prayers of thanksgiving to God for this year’s new priests. We are grateful for the faith and dedication of these men, and we assure them of our prayers and best wishes as they begin to serve the faithful of the Diocese of Yakima.