

Week Behind/ Week Ahead

To the Parishioners of Saint Joseph Parish

From V. Rev. Felipe Pulido

Date: July 3, 2021

Week Behind

Daily Masses – In the summer months, due to the heat wave and the slowness of the air conditioning system in the Small Church, daily Masses are being celebrated in the Big Church as of June 29, 2021. The schedule of daily Masses is Monday through Friday at 6:30 am and Monday through Saturday at 8:30 am. Thank you, Fathers Reilly, Riccardo, Vogl, and Cesar for joining me in saying daily Masses for our parishioners.

Welcoming Committee – On Thursday, July 1, this group met for the first time to plan an event to welcome parishioners back to Mass. We watched a video by Nic Prenger that offered great tips, resources, and materials that will be useful in our planning. I thank the committee members for their commitment and their enthusiasm for proclaiming the Good News to our parishioners.

Sacred Heart Devotion -- On Friday, July 2, our parish community celebrated the First Friday devotion to the Sacred Heart with confessions and Mass. Thank you to those who work so hard to ensure the success of this celebration, especially the Filipino community.

Visitors – Father Marco Antonio arrived in Kennewick Saturday, July 3. Father Marco is one of the formation directors at Seminario Hispano in Mexico City. He is visiting the Diocese of Yakima and staying with us at Saint Joseph Parish this month. He is here to learn about and experience the ministry our Diocese provides for migrants in central Washington. We are grateful for his support of vocations to the priesthood, especially for those seminarians from our Diocese who are studying in Mexico City. If you see him at one of our Masses, please welcome him.

Decree Rescinding and Amending Coronavirus Pandemic Pastoral Directives – On Wednesday, June 30, Bishop Tyson issued the following decree:

WHEREAS: Effective June 30, 2021, Washington Governor Jay Inslee rescinded most coronavirus-related restrictions as part of the “Healthy Washington: Roadmap to Recovery” plan, with the following re-opening guidance: Vaccine verification/negative testing: Recommended but not required for large indoor and outdoor events. Capacity limitations: No restrictions in restaurants, bars, stores, businesses, theaters etc. (except large indoor events.) Physical distancing: No requirements. Facial coverings: Not required for **vaccinated** individuals, unless required by individual businesses. Travelers: Follow CDC recommendations (available here: <https://tinyurl.com/3psf366b>)

THEREFORE, I RESCIND MY PREVIOUS DECREES ESTABLISHING PASTORAL DIRECTIVES FOR THE DIOCESE OF YAKIMA TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY HAVE GOVERNED THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS AND OTHER LITURGICAL RITES DURING THE COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC,

AMENDING THEM AS FOLLOWS AND PROCLAIMING THESE AMENDMENTS AS PARTICULAR LAW WITHIN THE DIOCESE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE:

CHANGES EFFECTIVE SUNDAY, JULY 4 – 1. Presentation of gifts by the faithful is allowed. **2.** Missal, chalice, paten/ciborium and cruets of wine and water may be brought to the altar per normal practice. **3.** Communicants may remove face coverings before presenting themselves for Communion. **4.** Communion may be received in the hand or on the tongue. **5.** Use of “crying rooms” can return to pre-COVID practice. **6.** Congregational singing is allowed.

CHANGES BY JULY 25, 2021 – 1. Holy Water will be returned to all areas. (It is recommended that holy water be changed frequently.) **2.** The faithful will be encouraged to exchange a sign of peace.

BY AUGUST 29, 2021 -- 1. Parish child-care during Mass can resume. **2.** Children’s Liturgies of the Word may return.

BY SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 – Sunday Obligation

The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass will end on Sunday, September 19.

Communion Under Both Species – Reception of the Precious Blood by the faithful may be restored beginning on Sunday, September 19, as well as on its vigil.

PRACTICES THAT WILL CONTINUE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE: **1.** Livestreaming of Masses will continue. **2.** Parishioners will be encouraged to self-monitor and stay home if symptoms of illness are present. **3.** Parishes will maintain hygiene measures, including availability of hand sanitizer. **4.** Parishes will continue use of the honor system regarding vaccinations. **5.** Masks will be available for those who choose to wear them.

Week Ahead

The Diocesan Priest Retirement and Seminarian Education (PR/SE) Special Collection is scheduled to take place the entire month of July. If you’re able, please donate to the PR/SE Special Collection.

In our parish the collection will take place the weekend of July 24-25. If you are unable to donate at that time, there are many other ways you can support the special collection. You can continue to keep our senior priests and seminarians in your daily prayers. You can advocate for them, sharing with your family and friends on your social media! Bishop Tyson asks us, “on behalf of those who have served us over the decades, as well as for those who will serve us in the future, that you please be as generous as your means allow.” In our parish we have two great retired priests who are serving us with great love: Father Reilly who has been ordained for 57 years and Father Riccardo who has been ordained for 56 years. We also have a parishioner, Danny Sanchez, who is a seminarian. Danny will be studying at Mundelein Seminary in Illinois this fall. Thank you so much for your generosity.