



**HERE AM I, LORD; I COME TO DO YOUR WILL.**

*Ps 40: 8a and 9a*

### **Week Behind/ Week Ahead**

To the Parishioners of Saint Joseph Parish

From V. Rev. Felipe Pulido

Date: January 21-22, 2023

### **Week Behind**

**Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**—On Sunday, January 15, at the 9 am and 7:00 pm Masses, we welcomed into our Catholic community 46 catechumens and 12 candidates for full communion. Each year on Holy Saturday during the Easter Vigil adult catechumens are baptized into the Catholic faith and candidates are received into full communion. This year we will also receive young children who need the sacraments of initiation.

Prior to beginning the process of becoming a Christian, an individual has a conversation with the priest or the director of the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. The person, known as an “inquirer,” may then seek acceptance through the Rite of Acceptance or Welcoming. During this rite the inquirer stands amidst the parish community and states that he or she wants to become a baptized member of the Catholic Church or that he or she wants to receive the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion. I thank leaders Danette Hester, Deacon Juan Garcia, Maria Rodriguez, Deacon Herman Farias, the RCIA formation team, and all the volunteers for helping inquirers come to knowledge of Jesus Christ.

**Catholic Communication**—Thank for your generosity to the Catholic Communication Campaign. This campaign engages and builds Catholic communities in the United States and developing countries using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half of the money collected remains here in the Diocese of Yakima to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the Gospel message. To learn more visit <https://www.usccb.org/committees/catholic-communication-campaign>

**Annual Catholic Appeal**—Thanks to all the parishioners who have pledged to the ACA and those who will pledge this weekend. We received 59 new pledges. Thank you again. If you haven't had

the opportunity to donate, you can do so this weekend. There are envelopes in the foyer or you can use the barcode located in the Big Church at the end of each pew.

**Stand For Life Event in the Tri Cities**—Thanks to all the people who participated in the “Stand for Life” event on Monday, January 16, in John Dam Plaza, Richland, at 1:00 pm. We continue to stand and pray for protection, respect, and dignity of human life.

**9 Days for Life Novena**— On Thursday, January 19, we started praying the 9 Days for Life Novena during the 8:30 am daily Masses and the 9:00 am Sunday Mass. This novena consists of prayers for the protection of human life. Each day’s intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life in our country and community. If you are not able to come to the Masses offered during the week, you can participate by downloading the novena at <https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup>

**Mother Teresa Meal Ministry**—The Mother Teresa Meal Ministry made 200 lunches on Tuesday, January 17, from 9:00 am to 10:30 am in Dillon Hall for the Union Gospel Mission to distribute. Again, I thank Angele St. Hilaire and all the volunteers who brought ham, cheese, bread, and monetary donations to make the sandwiches. The next time we will be making sandwiches is Tuesday, February 21, 2023. To see a list of donations needed or to volunteer to help, please visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040548aaab2fa3f94-volunteer#/>

**Sunday, January 22, is a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children**—Please join us at the 9:00 am Mass to pray the 4 day novena for the protection of life. We pray for restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life.

### **Week Ahead**

**National Catholic Schools Week**—On Saturday, January 28, and Sunday, January 29, our school principal Perry Kelly and some members of the school commission will be sharing their experiences with Saint Joseph Catholic School at all Masses. Our school typically observes a week of activities for students, families, parishioners, and the community. Through these talks and events, our school focuses on the value Catholic education provides for young people as well as its contributions to the Church, community, and nation. I thank you for all the support you give the school. Saint Joseph Parish gives \$15,600 to the school every month. Your generosity to the parish enables us to continue our support for our school.