



Week Behind/ Week Ahead

To the Parishioners of Saint Joseph Parish

From V. Rev. Felipe Pulido

Date: February 11-12, 2023

Week Behind

Confirmation Retreat — Last Saturday and Sunday, we had our FIRST Confirmation retreat. Over 130 kids participated. It was good to see the youth of our parish learning and praying as they continue to develop their friendship with Our Lord. Confirmation Mass this year is going to be on Saturday April 15. I thank Maria Rodriguez and the CORE team who organized the talks, icebreakers, and meals. We appreciate the Knights of Columbus who made lunch for the students. It was a great event. On Sunday, March 26, we will have our SECOND Confirmation retreat. We have invited NET youth ministers to give the second retreat. Please keep our parish youth in your prayers as they prepare to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

Serra Club of the Tri Cities — On Tuesday, February 7, Greg Schwietz, president of Serra International, and his wife Mary Lynn came to Holy Spirit Parish to visit, have dinner with local Serrans and guests, and make a presentation on the mission of Serra International. I thank our parishioners Celine and Dick Petersen for their long-time work with Serra. Dick received an award for his dedication to supporting and promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally.

School Baptisms — On Friday, February 10, I baptized seven children from Saint Joseph School. These students have come to know our Catholic faith through their teachers and classmates. They have come to decisions on their own, inspired by the Holy Spirit, to join our community of faith by being baptized. These children will make their First Communion this spring with their classmates and they will receive the sacrament of Confirmation in eighth grade. Like all our school students, these children have Religion classes every day, they have learned about God, the sacraments, the moral life, and how we pray. Please keep them in your prayers.

New Music Director — I am happy to be able to tell you that Nina Powers will be our new music director. She will be working part-time with her main responsibility being to lead the choir and cantors for the four weekend English Masses. She has studied music all her life and has a deep love for the liturgy. Previously she helped at Saint Joseph School in the music department, at Tri-Cities Prep as a teacher and music director, and at Saint Patrick Catholic Church in Pasco. She has a B.A. in philosophy and theology and a M.A. in music performance. Welcome, Nina, to Saint Joseph Parish.

Annual Catholic Appeal 2023 — Our parish goal for the 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal is \$146,930.00. Thank you, all parishioners who have already made your pledges. I checked the Annual Catholic Appeal office in Yakima and was told that many people from our parish have made pledges on-line. These are the latest numbers: the amount pledged so far this year is \$134,147.00 and the amount collected so far is \$75,527.36. The number of ACA donors who have participated is 320. Remember, no gift is too small. We need **everyone's** participation. Thanks to your generosity last year, we accomplished our goal and we ask you to be generous this year as well. Your giving makes a difference.

Week Ahead

Art and Wine School Fundraiser — The *Art & Wine* fundraiser for Saint Joseph School will be in person this year! There will also be an on-line silent auction. You are free to register and bid at sjske.org Click on the *Art & Wine 2023* tab. All silent auction items will be available for viewing on February 24, but bidding starts on February 25. The LIVE event will be on February 25 as well. The PAC doors will open at 5:00 pm for the silent auction and happy hour. The dinner and oral auction will begin at 7:00 pm in Dillon Hall. Only 270 seats are available. A representative of the school will be selling tickets after all the Masses this weekend. If you have time to help wherever needed, please contact Lisa Beaton at aw@sjske.org

Our Lady of Fatima Celebration at Saint Paul Cathedral in Yakima on Presidents' Day -- This year the Diocese of Yakima is hosting the fifth annual Global Rosary in honor of Our Lady of Fatima. A special bi-lingual Mass highlighting devotion to Our Lady of Fatima will take place at St. Paul Cathedral on Monday, February 20, at 10:30 am. The Mass will be televised on the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) and carried on EWTN radio as well. Following the Mass, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a multi-lingual Rosary, an Act of Consecration and a final blessing with the Blessed Sacrament. The entire celebration will be finished by 1 pm. Everyone is invited. This will be a wonderful way to pray for peace in our world and to pray for the many people affected by abortion, war, violence, and displacement. The world is converted one heart at a time! So please come!

The Saint Patrick's Day Dinner — Knights of Columbus Council #8179 invites you to a Saint Patrick's Day dinner in memory of Monsignor Desmond Patrick Dillon. The event will take place on Friday, March 17, beginning at 5:30 pm in Dillon Hall. Hope Medical and PREPARES will share the proceeds from the event. Bishop Tyson has given us permission to celebrate this event on a Friday during the Lenten season. Bishop Tyson writes "This year, the Memorial of Saint Patrick on March 17 coincides with a Lenten Friday. It is a feast day of great importance to the faithful and possesses significant cultural and ethnic importance. Therefore, in response to the faithful who have asked for a dispensation from the Friday Lenten abstinence, I hereby dispense Catholics in the Diocese of Yakima from the obligation of abstinence on Friday, March 17, 2023 (CIC §85)." A member of the Knights of Columbus will be selling tickets after all Masses this weekend and the following 4 weekends before the event.