

# February

## UPDATES



Week Behind/ Week Ahead

To the Parishioners of Saint Joseph Parish

From V. Rev. Felipe Pulido

Date: February 4-5, 2023

### Week Behind

**Hope Medical Baby Bottles**—Thank you for your contributions to Hope Medical’s baby bottle drive. If you have not returned one of the baby bottles yet, please bring it to the Parish Office or to church with you next weekend, so that the bottles can be returned to Hope Medical. Your donations may also be mailed to Hope Medical at 7500 West Arrowhead Avenue, Kennewick, WA 99336 or donate online at [www.hopemedicalwa.com](http://www.hopemedicalwa.com)

**Presentation of the Lord and World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life**—On Thursday, February 2, we celebrated the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, which is when so many of our parishioners of Mexican heritage take down their nativity sets. This feast marks a more informal end to Christmas based on popular piety and, to some degree, on our Scripture readings. Note that our Sunday Scriptures in the early weeks of Ordinary Time really ripple out from Epiphany. With the custom of keeping nativity sets up until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, popular piety connects Christmas with the first weeks of Ordinary Time and pivots us toward the arrival of Lent.

**Thank you from Saint Vincent de Paul Food Bank and Community Services, Pasco Conference**--We extend our sincere gratitude to the Tri-City community for supporting our winter coat and blanket drive. The generosity of volunteers and donors made the coat and blanket drive a huge success. Thank you for helping those in need.

**Saint Vincent de Paul Society, Saint Joseph Parish**—I want to thank you for your generosity last weekend when we had our traditional fifth Sunday collection for our Saint Vincent de Paul Conference. We collected \$1946, 15 to help our parish conference members ease the burdens of the poor in our area.

**Magnificat Classes**—The *Magnificat* program of adult faith formation continues to be offered during the month of February. On Wednesday, February 1, the Saint Joseph OCIA team attended a virtual meeting with Ree Kerns and Bishop Tyson. The class provided information for the OCIA

*Rite of Election*. I thank the parish OCIA team members who every Sunday help the catechumens fall in love with our Lord Jesus more and more. The next *Magnificat* class will on Thursday, February 23. Father Dan Steele will be presenting *Mission of the Church* from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Use the following link to join each of the sessions by Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84116935317>

**We Welcome Our Seminarian Daniel Ivan Sanchez to our Parish**—During the weekend Masses on Saturday, February 4, and Sunday, February 5, our seminarian Danny introduced himself to the parish community. He is doing his internship with us as part of his formation process leading to ordination to the priesthood. He will be watching and learning about school and parish life. He will also be doing a special project with youth in our parish. If you see him this weekend or any time during the week, please introduce yourself and make him feel welcome.

**Annual Catholic Appeal 2023**—Our parish goal for the 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal is \$146,930.00. I thank all the parishioners who have already made their pledges. The amount pledged so far this year is \$78,107.00 and the amount collected so far has been \$40,527.36. The number of ACA donors who have participated so far is 263. 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**

**PREPARES** is a nurturing response of the Catholic community in Washington state, open to all, to provide meaningful, local, and sustainable support to mothers, fathers, and families from pregnancy through early childhood. Volunteers in the PREPARES program offer support with a variety of activities for families from pregnancy to a child's fifth birthday. In 2021, 170 parishes and 884 volunteers were involved with the PREPARES program statewide. This resulted in 6,453 families being served in our state. You can find out more about the PREPARES program here: <https://preparesforlife.org/>

An initiative of Washington's Catholic bishops, PREPARES is carrying out its third statewide fundraising appeal to keep the program sustainable. Efforts are underway in each of the three dioceses in Washington to accomplish this goal. In the Diocese of Yakima, the in-pew appeal will take place on Saturday and Sunday, February 11 - 12, 2023. Donations will be collected statewide and be distributed to each diocese in the state. On behalf of the five Bishops of Washington, I thank you in advance for your generosity.

**St. Joseph Catholic School's 27th Annual Art & Wine Fundraising Auction**— Saint Joseph Catholic School is a dynamic, faith-filled community where each child is challenged to excel and grow in mind, body, and spirit as an image of God in the world. We are educating the next generation of servant leaders for our community and we need your help. This year our annual fundraising auction will be in person at Dillon Hall! Save the Date –Saturday, February 25, 2023

Please join us in celebrating and supporting our school! For more details, visit <https://www.sjske.org/>