



The Lord is kind
and merciful. *Ps 103: 8a*

Week Behind/ Week Ahead

To the Parishioners of Saint Joseph Parish

From V. Rev. Felipe Pulido

Date: February 18-19, 2023

Week Behind

2023 PREPARES Valentine Appeal— Thank you for “opening your hearts” to mothers and fathers who have chosen life. Catholic Charities and PREPARES appreciate your donations. You can still donate via envelope or online at Catholic Charities-- <https://catholiccharitiescw.org/> Thank you all for your generosity.

Saint Joseph Catholic School— Open enrollment for 2023-2024 began on Monday, February 13. Please promote our school with your friends and relatives. Let them know about our mission to educate the whole child--mind, body and spirit. Our school is a great place where students prepare for success in future endeavors and parents know that their children are respected and treated as children of God.

Did you know that over 90% of Saint Joseph Catholic School’s second through eighth grade students regularly score at or above grade level on MAP testing. ! To register, visit <https://www.sjske.org/>

Knights of Columbus Parish Breakfast— Last Sunday the Knights served a delicious breakfast in Dillon Hall after the 9:00 am and 11:00 am Masses. I am very grateful to the Knights of Columbus for their dedication to the parish and their love for priests. Please join us for breakfast next month on March 12.

Week Ahead

Parish Office—The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 20, in observance of Presidents’ Day. The office will re-open with regular hours on Tuesday, February 21.

Bishop Joseph Tyson—On Tuesday, February 21, Bishop Tyson will celebrate a funeral Mass for the repose of the soul of Camerina Mariscal. Mrs. Mariscal was a long-time parishioner and the mother of Father Jesus Mariscal, parochial vicar at St. Paul Cathedral and son of St. Joseph Parish. I thank the parish staff and the Guadalupanas who are organizing the reception for the family and guests.

CRS Rice Bowl—Lent begins next Wednesday, February 22. Join our faith community and more than 12,000 Catholic communities across the United States in a transformative Lenten journey using Catholic Relief Service’s Rice Bowl. Please pick up a rice bowl box this weekend and take one extra for your friend, neighbor or sibling. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on global hunger and take action to help our sisters and brothers impacted by this injustice. Visit <https://www.crsricebowl.org/> to learn more.

Lenten Book Study—Beginning Ash Wednesday and continuing every Wednesday during the season of Lent we will read a Lenten spiritual book—*A Time of Renewal* by Mother Mary Frances. We will have two sessions: one in the morning in the Parish Office second floor rooms from 9:30 am to 11:00 am and one in the evening from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in the Parish Office Conference Room. I thank Father Riccardo, Laura Sieler, and Joe and Pat Barajas for their commitment in the ministry of adult education.

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 auction 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.

First Sunday of Lent—On Sunday, February 26, we will celebrate the O.C.I.A. Rite of Sending Catechumens for Election. The catechumens will be presented to the Catholic community of our parish at the 9 am. Mass. In the afternoon, they will be presented to Bishop Tyson for the Rite of Election at Holy Family Parish in Yakima. Special thanks to Danette Hester, Deacon Herman Farias, Maria Rodriguez, Doris Rosenow, and the OCIA team who have worked diligently to prepare the catechumens on their journeys to becoming Catholics and the candidates looking forward to receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Communion this Easter.

Disciplines of Lent--Please keep in mind the following:

Prayer--Please join us for daily Masses Monday through Friday 6:30 am and 8:30 am and 8:30 am on Saturdays. We are also holding Reconciliation hours every Saturday from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm. There will be a parish penance service on Thursday, March 9 at 6:00 pm in the Big Church. On Fridays, Stations of the Cross will be prayed in English at 6:00 pm in the Big Church and in Spanish at 6:00 pm in the Small Church. Moreover, on Thursdays during Lent we will have 5:15 pm Bilingual Masses in the Small Church followed by Soup Nights at 6:00 pm in Dillon Hall.

Fasting—One full meal is allowed. Two other meals to maintain strength may be taken according to your needs; however, those meals should be smaller than usual. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are permitted.

Abstinence—Eating meat is not allowed.

We are asked to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday (February 22) and Good Friday (April 7). In addition we abstain from meat on all Fridays during Lent. Note: the obligation of fasting binds Catholics who are 18-59 years old. The obligation of abstinence applies to those 14 years and older. These requirements do not apply when health or ability to work would be seriously affected.

Almsgiving—During the Lenten season, consider ways you can change your spending habits and be more intentional and prayerful in your giving. Here are a few ideas: Fill up your CRS Rice Bowl, increase your weekly donation to St Joseph Parish, contribute to the ACA, and do acts of charity for other people.

Wishing you a spiritually-enriching Lenten season,