



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

To the Parishioners of Saint Joseph Parish in Kennewick

From V. Rev. Felipe Pulido

Date: April 8-9, 2023

### **Week Behind**

**Bookkeeper**—Last week we hired a part-time bookkeeper for the parish. Jessica Thompson will be in the office from Monday through Friday. She is great at multitasking, customer service, and working individually or as a team member. I hope she will add some stability to our bookkeeping processes. I want to thank Philline S. for taking care of our books for the last three months in a professional manner.

**Blood Drive**— On Tuesday, April 4, Knights of Columbus Council 8179 members hosted our every-other-monthly blood drive in Dillon Hall from noon to 5:00 pm. I thank all the people who donated blood. Your donation, a very personal gift of charity, may save a life!

**Parish Easter Potluck**—Thanks to all the parishioners who joined us for the parish potluck on Easter Sunday afternoon. I thank all those who brought a dish to share and those who donated candy. Thanks also, to the Fil-Am association and to the youth who helped before, during, and after the event.

**Father Joseph Kyawthet** —On Sunday, April 9, Father Joseph, who is studying at Mundelein Seminary in Illinois, celebrated Easter Sunday Mass for the Myanmar (Burmese) people in our parish. He was also able to hear confessions. Father Joseph will leave on Monday, April 10. He is very grateful for our hospitality. I thank Mimi Cook who organized this short visit by Father Joseph Kyawthet to minister to the Burmese community.

### **Week Ahead**

**Food Bank Walk**--On Thursday April 13, 2023, our school students, grades 1-8, will walk to the Tri Cities Food Bank on Deschutes Avenue to deliver non-perishable food items. The Kennewick Police Department will escort the students. The walk will take approximately 45 minutes round trip. I am

thankful to Saint Joseph School's staff for their dedication and for teaching the children to give to those in need in our community.

**Cinco de Mayo Celebration**—On Saturday, May 6, 2023, the parish will celebrate Cinco de Mayo. We are in the planning and implementation stages. The tickets were on sale after each Mass on Easter Sunday. They are also available in the Parish Office. I am sure this celebration will be a great community builder.

## Happy Easter! Jesus is risen. He is risen indeed!

When I close my eyes and think of the Easter celebrations of my childhood, one image comes to mind: carne asada (beef). And I'm not talking about some watery, tasteless block of meat, but a glorious, testy meat that fed our entire family on Easter Sunday. But it also fed us for weeks afterward: carne asada tacos; carne asada, diced and scrambled with eggs; carne asada and potato soup.

Of course, to most people, an Easter carne asada is just a main course for Sunday dinner. However, to the eyes of faith, even beef points to the Resurrection of Jesus. Why? Because it's a sign of abundance. It's a gift that keeps on giving, taking different forms throughout the days and weeks of Easter Sunday. The key difference is this – while we may eventually get sick of “leftovers” from a glorious Easter feast, the joy of the Resurrection never fades. It is truly the Gift that keeps on giving.

When I imagine the first Easter Sunday, I imagine the joy of the Apostles was a feeling of exuberant abundance. Every prayer and wish had been answered. But the next day, that sense of jubilation continued undimmed. It grew even richer! Decades later, scattered across the world, each Apostle was still rejoicing in the abundance of the Resurrection. Carne asada aside, the Church has an incredible image for the way the Resurrection of our Lord continues through time: in the Exultet, that great hymn of the Easter Vigil, we heard that the light of the Easter candle becomes “...a fire into many flames divided, yet never dimmed by sharing of its light...” Incredible!

This Easter season, I thank each of you for being a member of Saint Joseph Parish in Kennewick. Together, we are sharing the light of the Resurrection. Through our worship, ministries, and works of service, we are showing the Tri Cities community that Jesus is alive, that death does not have the last word, that life can indeed be more rich and fulfilling every day. You are showing the world that the joy of the Resurrection is an inexhaustible source of strength.

I pray that you have an abundant Easter season. And I invite you to share this abundance by participating in our ministries, attending Mass, and sharing your gifts with others. You and your family are in my prayers. Never forget: HE IS RISEN! Alleluia!

Gratefully in Christ,

Father Felipe Pulido