

HE HAS RISEN!

Week Behind/ Week Ahead

To the Parishioners of Saint Joseph Parish

From V. Rev. Felipe Pulido

Date: April 22-23, 2023

Week Behind

Celebration of Confirmation--As you know, the parishes of the Diocese of Yakima are now preparing youth in the middle school to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. This year has been a transitional year for us since we have been preparing both high school and middle school students for the sacrament. I am grateful to our Religious Education Coordinators, Doris Rosenow and Maria Rodriguez, and their entire team of catechists and volunteers who worked so diligently to prepare the 116 youth who were confirmed by Bishop Tyson last Saturday, April 15.

CRS Rice Bowl—I thank our community for changing lives through their contributions to the CRS Rice Bowl program. Thank you for participating in this annual Lenten program of solidarity with our brothers and sisters across the world. If you have not returned your CRS Rice Bowl, there is still time. You can leave it in the sacristy of the Big Church, bring it to the Parish Office, or donate on-line at <https://www.csricebowl.org/>

Mother Teresa Meal Ministry—The Mother Teresa Meal Ministry made 200 lunches on Tuesday, April 18, 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, and bread or made monetary donations for the sandwiches. The next time we will be making sandwiches is the First Sunday, May 7, at 10:15 am (or right after the 9 am Mass.)

To see a list of donations needed or to volunteer to help, please visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040548aaab2fa3f94-volunteer#/>

Prayers for Father Lawrence T. Reilly—Let us pray for Fr. Reilly as he continues to face health issues. Please know that he will not be able to celebrate Masses in our parish for the rest of April and the month of May. Please keep him and all our elderly and ill priests in your prayers, as we continue to pray for all our ailing friends, family, loved ones, and parishioners.

Parish Yard Sale—On Sunday, April 23, the Women of Saint Joseph and many volunteers began setting up for the annual Yard Sale that will take place on Friday, April 28, and Saturday, April 29. Many thanks to the Women of Saint Joseph and the volunteers who help every spring before, during, and after the Yard Sale. This is a great fundraiser to promote community in our parish. I hope you will participate. Thanks to all the people who have donated items throughout the year.

Week Ahead

Pastors' Bookkeepers Appreciation Day--On Tuesday, April 25, our diocese is celebrating a Bookkeepers' Appreciation Day. This event includes all priests and those parish and school employees who assist their pastors in managing finances, coordinating the ACA, and helping in day-to-day operations of their parishes. I am very grateful to Melissa Nichols and Jessica Thompson who are part-time bookkeepers for our school and parish, respectively.

Celebration of First Communion in our Parish—On Saturday, April 29, we will be celebrating a special Mass in Spanish at 10 am for 66 children who will be receiving the sacrament of Holy Eucharist for the first time. The next day, Sunday, April 30, I predict that our 11:00 am English Mass will be very well attended, in part because another 42 children will be receiving the sacrament of Holy Eucharist for the first time. Again, I am grateful to our Religious Education Coordinators, Doris Rosenow and Maria Rodriguez, their volunteers, catechists, and parents for preparing these children for these very special occasions in their lives of faith.

St. Vincent de Paul Collection—Next weekend is the fifth one of April. Please be generous to this collection for St. Vincent de Paul, a wonderful organization of parishioners who assist needy members of our community.

Cinco de Mayo Celebration—On Saturday, May 6, 2023, the parish will celebrate Cinco de Mayo. Tickets are on sale after each Mass. They are also available in the Parish Office. I am sure this celebration will be a great community-builder.

Saint Joseph Catholic School—Get ready! The Scholastic Book Fair is coming our way (YAY!). Choosing their own books empowers kids and inspires them to become bolder, prouder, and stronger readers. AND—as always—every book they buy earns rewards for our school.

The Book Fair will take place from May 5 through 16 at Holy Grounds Café in Dillon Hall. For more information, please call the school at 509-586-0481 or visit the SJS website at

<https://www.sjske.org>