

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15, 2024

520 South Garfield St. Kennewick, WA 99336

Parish Office hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am to Noon, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Parish Office Phone 509-586-3820

Fax 509-586-3558

520 S. Garfield St. Kennewick, WA 99336

Email: parish.office@stjoseph-kennewick.org

Bulletin: receptionist@stjoseph-kennewick.org

Website: www.stjoseph-kennewick.org

St. Joseph School Office 509-586-0481

Children's Center 509-586-1428

WEEKEND MASSES

MISA EL FIN DE SEMANA

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm (English)

7:00 pm (Español)

Sunday: 9:00 am, 11:00 am and 5:30 pm
(English)

1:00 pm and 7:00 pm (Español)

WEEKLY MASSES

MISAS ENTRE SEMANA

Monday-Friday: 6:30am & 8:30am, Small Church (English)

Thursday 7:00 pm, Small Church Español)

Saturday 8:30 am, Small Church (English)

First Friday Mass 7:00 pm, Small Church (English)

CONFESSIONS/CONFESIONES

Saturdays | 3:30 -5: 30 pm | Big Church-

Thursdays | 6:00 - 7:00 pm | Small Church

First Friday | 6:30 -7:00 pm | Small Church

BAPTISMS

"As a rule an adult is to be baptized in his or her parish and an infant in the parish of the parents unless a just cause suggests otherwise." (Canon Law 587 and 2) If you are a parishioner who attends St. Joseph and would like to baptize your child in another parish, you will need a letter from the pastor of St. Joseph giving you permission to do so. If you are not a St. Joseph parishioner and want to baptize your child in this parish, you need to get permission from your pastor to baptize your child here. The parents and sponsors must attend a class before the Baptism of the child.

PRAYER CHAIN

To put someone on the Prayer Chain:

Email parish.office@stjoseph-kennewick.org or call the Parish Office at 509-586-3820

Pastor

Fr. Jose Herrera

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Ricardo A. Villarreal

Fr. Christian Melendez

In Residence

Fr. Riccardo Keolker

Deacons

Mr. William Mich

Mr. Juan Garcia

Mr. German Farias

Mr. Gustavo Valdivia

Mr. Mike Palmieri

School Principal

Dr. Melissa Slater

principal@sjske.org

Parish Staff

Pastoral Assistant for Administration

Mr. William Mich

Receptionist

Nancy T.

nancy.stjoseph@gmail.com

Office Assistant

Tina D.

Rosy M.

Rel. Ed. Coordinators

Maria R.

rel.ed.sat@stjoseph-kennewick.org

Nancy M.

rel.ed.wed@stjoseph-kennewick.org

Bookkeeper

Jessica "Jessie" T.

Melissa N.

INQUIRING ADULTS-OCIA

Order of Christian Initiation Of Adults

OCIA is for all adults older than 18 years of age in need of the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, and/or Confirmation. We welcome your interest in exploring the Catholic faith and invite your participation in our year-round OCIA process. Call the Parish Office for more information.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Sacrament of the Anointing is the proper Sacrament for those Christians whose health is seriously impaired by sickness, before surgeries, or anyone over the age of 59. Through the Sacrament of Anointing, the Church supports the sick in their struggle against illness and continues Christ's messianic work of healing. If you need the Sacrament of Anointing, please call the Parish Office.

MARRIAGE

Please contact the priest of the parish where you want to celebrate your wedding ceremony to discuss your situation and set the date in the parish calendar. Do this at least six months prior to the day you are planning to marry.

FUNERALS

Death is something that awaits all of us and our loved ones. Yet we often avoid thinking about it. Please let the Parish Office know how we can help with the farewell to your beloved family member.



While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. LUKE 24:51

MISSION & CORE VALUES

Our mission and sacred purpose as the parish of St. Joseph is to fully live our Catholic faith, which is rooted in Jesus Christ and the teachings of His Church, to nurture and build our parish so that every parishioner can know, love, and serve God in this world and encourage others to do the same.

Our core values include:

Hope—rooting our ministries and actions in prayer; joyfully carrying them out with competence, care and confidence in God's promise of salvation.

Liturgy—maintaining the highest of ministry standards to bring glory to God through the rites, ceremonies, prayers, and sacraments of the Church.

Community—caring about and addressing the needs of others.

Evangelism—telling others the good news about Jesus.

Giving—practicing stewardship as a way of life by sharing of our time, talents, and treasure to support the mission and ministries.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Third Sunday of Advent

"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God." (PHILIPPIANS 4:6) St. Paul reminds us that God is an abundant God. He is the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give us all that we need. Remember, that we are created in God's image and likeness. We, too, are made to be generous with all of our gifts as well. Placing our trust in God frees us from being slaves to possessions. It allows us to gratefully and generously share ourselves and our goods with others.

Collection for December 8, 2024

Sunday Offering	\$21,014.12
Building Fund	\$520.50
School Donations	\$237.00
Religious Education	\$697.18
Immaculate Conception	\$2,279.00
Liturgy Flowers	\$395.00
Diocese	\$55.00

The Parish Office has early closing hours on the **fourth Wednesday of each month**. On these days, the Office will be open from 9 am to noon. However, since the fourth Wednesday in December falls on Christmas, we will close early on December 18 instead.

Prayers

For our Armed Forces: Christian Fraga, Steven Hahn, Ramon Vargas, Ian Dimmick, Christy Hylden, Andrew Jacobsen, Alexander Araujo, Tyson Kaas, Christian Shink, Juan Borrego, Estrella Gomez, Erick Miller, Eric Sheldon, Justin Dennis Byerly, Wyatt Beaton.

For our sick: Bill Murray, Drew Schreiber, Gil Gloria, Elaine Himes, Lois and Rick Rutherford, Jan Billings, Rory Valdes, Silvia Rodriguez, Kathleen Barone, Monica Moore, Lourdes Nelson, Jessica Floeter, Billy Sickles, Nestor Barba, Elizabeth Torres, Kim Davis, Kathy Ramirez, Bill Roe, Donna Whitehead, John Curran, Bob and Mary Ross, Alberto Carranza, Danika Whitsett, Jerry Mikkelsen, Kelly Freeman, Gus Perez, Jim Nicacio, Arlene Callahan, Dominic Nicacio, Luca Nicacio, Phyllis Pelletier, Nancy Park, Marlene Madrigal, Sherri McKie, Hugo Garcia, Vanessa Nicacio, Carol Smith, Pat Leskovar, Patty Brown, Armando Rodriguez, Zara Husan, Raquel Cardoza, Samuel Quintanilla, Pat McKie Szacik, Carmen Nava, Mike Draper, Peter Braun, Yolanda Quintero, Hazel Meister, Sandra Schierczyński, Kolton Hansford, Jeannine Soehnlein, Joanne, Marie Smith, Armandino Gamino, Ana Espinoza, Sara and Johnny Howard.

For our recently deceased Donnie Scarpeli.

Kindly ring us when your ailing loved one finds healing, so we may open space for others in our circle of prayers for the unwell.

ADORATION CHAPEL EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Openings: Sat. 4 pm. 5 pm

The Adoration Chapel is open to visitors. Please consider accepting the invitation to sign up for regular weekly hours of Adoration.

Please call to obtain personal codes for entry.
Carol at 509-582-5011, or, en español,
Delmi at 509-528-8896

"During our holy hour of prayer there is always the beauty of Guadalupe. No matter how cold our heart, the roses of holiness bloom. The fragrance of sanctity will last for all eternity. Each moment we spend in His presence we grow, we bloom, we blossom like roses in the snow." (from-Letters to a Brother Priest)

Welcome to our Parish Community!

If you are new to St. Joseph, we welcome you – whether you have come here from another part of the country, from across the world, or simply from another parish. You have helped us celebrate the liturgy in a beautiful way. If you would like to become part of our Catholic community, please fill out a registration form available on our website. Welcome!

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 16

6:30 am
† Elaine Loftus

8:30 am
† Monica Duncan

Tuesday, December 17

6:30 am
Fr. Tian Melendez

8:30 am
† Joseph Ginter

Wednesday, December 18

6:30 am
† William and Catherine Hug

8:30 am
Fr. Riccardo Keolker

Thursday, December 19

6:30 am
† Edward Wild

8:30 am
† Joe Gallegos, Sr.

Friday, December 20

6:30 am
† Frances K. Wild

8:30 am
Altar Linen Committee



Scan QR code to request online!

Saturday, December 21

8:30 am
† Edward Wild, Jr

5:30 pm
† Michael Costello

† David Kennedy
† Eric Lalicker

7:00 pm
† Agustin Mojica

† Almas del purgatorio
Florentino Barajas (Healing)

Sunday, December 22

9:00 am
† Joseph Ginter

Altar Linen Committee

11:00 am
Yoshi and Perla Takehana

(Thirty-sixth Anniversary)
† Jamie Cimmiyotti

† Roglio Lopez

1:00 pm
† Ezequiel and Adela Barajas

5:30 pm
† Cindy Weise

Familia Sanchez Garcia RVS
The De Leon Family

7:00 pm
Celina Ortega (Birthday)

† Luis y Margarita Manzanares
† Rafael Manzanares

Mass intentions may be requested for the repose of a soul or in celebration of significant occasions such as a birthday, feast day, anniversary, or in memory of a loved one's passing. The suggested donation is \$10.00. Requests for mass intentions for the upcoming year can now be submitted from January through June 2025.

12/24/24
Christmas Eve
Big Church

English Masses
5:30 pm & Midnight

Spanish Mass
7 pm

12/25/24
Christmas Day
Big Church

English Mass
9:00 am

Spanish Mass
11:00 am

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

12/31/24
New Year's Eve
Big Church

English Mass
5:30 pm

Spanish Masses
7 pm

1/1/25
New Year's Day
Big Church

English Mass
9:00 am

Spanish Mass
11:00 am

ST. JOSEPH PARISH
POSADAS

THE POSADAS RE-ENACT MARY AND JOSEPH'S DIFFICULT JOURNEY FROM NAZARETH TO BETHLEHEM IN SEARCH OF SHELTER; IN SPANISH, THE WORD MEANS "LODGING."

Let us prepare with joy for Jesus' arrival!

Sun. December 15 3:00 pm | Dillon Hall

Courtesy of Knights of Columbus, Choirs for Masses in Spanish

Mon. December 16 6:30 pm | Dillon Hall

Courtesy of: Religious Ed & Catechists for program in Spanish

Tue. December 17 6:30 pm | Dillon Hall

Courtesy of: Guadalupana Society & Altar Servers for Masses in Spanish

Wed. December 18 6:30 pm | Big Church

Courtesy of: HOST FAMILY NEEDED

Thur. December 19 6:30 pm | Dillon Hall

Courtesy of: Cursillo Movement in Spanish

Fri. December 20 6:30 pm | PAC (gym)

Courtesy of: Ushers for Masses in Spanish, Apologetics Bible Study(Sp)

Sat. December 21 6:00 pm | Dillon Hall

Nativity Comedy Play Carlo Acutis Raffle // Plus other raffles by the Radio Station.

Courtesy of: Youth Group & Marriage Encounter in Spanish, Radio Station La Gran D 97.9

Sun. December 22 6:30 pm | Dillon Hall

Courtesy of: Encuentro Arcoiris & OCIA in Spanish

Mon. December 23 6:30 pm | Dillon Hall

Courtesy of: EMHC & Lectors for Masses in Spanish

ST. JOSEPH PARISH

RAFFLE

WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.
DRAWING: DECEMBER 21 AT DILLON HALL - 6 PM
ALL PROCEEDS HELP PAY FOR THE BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS STATUE.

1ST PRIZE OAK HUTCH (\$375 VALUE)	SECOND PRIZE \$200	THIRD PRIZE \$100
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STJOSEPH.KENNEWICK YOUTH06.STJOSEPH

PLAY RESPONSIBLY: HELP IS AVAILABLE - 800-547-6133

FREE ENTRANCE

SAVE THE DATE

Nativity Comedy Play

RESERVE LA FECHA
Pastorela

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21
DILLON HALL
6:00 PM

ST. JOSEPH
YOUTH GROUP
GRUPO JUVENIL SAN JOSÉ



KENNEWICK, WA

Contact us:

✉ youth06.stjoseph@gmail.com

☎ 509-586-3820 Ext 101

📠 509-302-3244 (call/text)

Find us on Facebook & Instagram:

@youth06.stjoseph

INFANT BAPTISMS

Thank you for choosing life! The Lord has blessed you with the gift of a child and now you have made the important decision to have your child baptized in the Catholic Church.

Baptisms at our parish are celebrated in groups on the third Saturday of the month (except for Lent and Advent). Before a date is set all paperwork must be completed and turned in with required documents (at the same time) one month prior. 2025 DATES: January 18, May 17, July 19, August 16, September 20, October 18, November 15.

TO REGISTER FOR A BAPTISM

- Pick up a registration packet at the Parish Office during office hours or download a packet off our website. <https://stjoseph-kennewick.org/baptism>
- Provide a copy of infant's birth certificate (must be a legal copy from the state, not a certificate from the hospital.)
- There is to be only one male godparent or one female
- godparent or one of each. Complete guidelines included in the registration packet.
- Godparents must submit copies of their confirmation certificates.
- Parents and Godparents must attend the Baptism class in person.
- Suggested donation of \$50.00 per child (non refundable.)

If you are not a parishioner and want to baptize your child in this parish, you will need a letter from your parish pastor granting you permission to have your child baptized at St. Joseph Parish.

If the child is older than 7 years, they will need to register them for the Religious Education program (2-year program). Registrations are taken in the spring.

Mother Teresa Meal Ministry Supply Drive



We are incredibly grateful to all the parishioners at St. Joseph for your support in helping us expand our Ministry focused on providing sandwiches for the homeless. Your generous food and monetary donations, along with the dedication of our volunteers who join us twice a month, have made this possible as we prepare and deliver sandwiches to the Union Gospel Mission.

I am excited to announce that after two years of serving our community in this capacity, we are now expanding our efforts to include the creation of backpacks for those experiencing homelessness.

Many of our brothers and sisters in Christ are urgently in need of basic and essential items. St. Joseph's Mother Teresa Meal Ministry (MTMM) will be assembling these backpacks and is requesting donations of the following supplies:

Backpacks (Slightly used are okay)
Toothbrush/Toothpaste/Floss
Deodorant
Shampoo/Conditioner (Travel Size)
Body Wash/Soap
Lotion
Feminine Hygiene Supplies
Razors
Comb/Brush
Lip Balm/Chap Stick
Nail Trimming Kit
Hand Sanitizer

Hand Wipes
Ziploc Bags
First Aid Supplies (Band-Aids, Triple Antibiotic Cream)
Medicine Packets (Tylenol, cough drops, Emergen-C)
Vitamins
Socks & Undergarments
Gloves, Hats, & Scarves
Hand Warmers
Blankets
Gift Cards (\$5 - \$10 cards for Burger King, McDonald's etc.)
Small Bible, Prayer Books or pamphlets of Hope & Recovery
Plastic Forks/Spoons

Non-Perishable Food/Snacks (Some suggestions; make sure canned items have pull tab Lids):

*PB Crackers
Canned Meat
Canned Chili
Canned Stews
Vienna Sausages
Tuna Packets*

*Granola Bars/Protein Bars
Dried Fruit
Canned Ravioli
Canned Soup
Jerky
Meat Sticks*

*Fruit Cups/Applesauce
Ensure/Protein Drinks
Peanut Butter
Canned Veggies
Drink Mix Packets
Bottled Water*

There will be a donation bin for supplies in the foyer of the church and the Parish office. If you prefer to make a monetary donation to the Mother Teresa Meal Ministry, you can bring it to the Parish Office or place it in the collection basket marked for MTMM.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all volunteers for their time in making sandwiches and now assembling homeless backpacks; *remember, any youth needing volunteer hours can join our First Sunday's Ministry—just don't forget to bring your volunteer hours paperwork!* If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Meyer at 509-948-2182 or via email at cinmeyer@yahoo.com.

Make us worthy, Lord, to serve our fellow men throughout the world who live and die in poverty and hunger. Give them through our hands this day their daily bread, and by our understanding love, give them peace and joy.
-Mother Teresa

33 Days to Eucharistic Glory

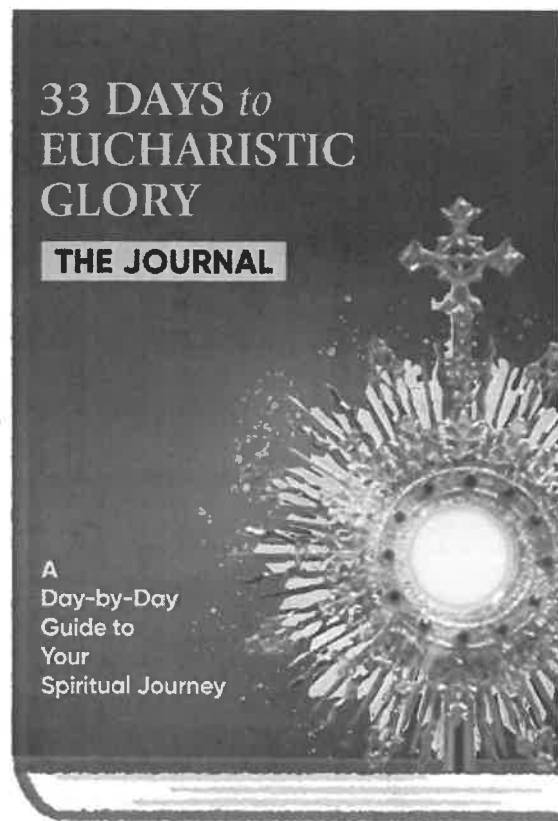
BOOK STUDY

free to attend

offered in English &
Spanish

**WE WILL MEET
WEEKLY FOR ONE
HOUR TO DISCUSS
THE READINGS,
CONCLUDING EACH
SESSION WITH
BENEDICTION**

The 33-day period begins on
Wednesday, January 1, and
concludes Sunday, February 2,
with the Feast of the
Presentation of the Lord.



**TUESDAYS
JANUARY 7, 14, 21 & 28**

**07:00PM - 8:00 PM
Big Church**

This gathering is free to attend
For inquiries or to register,
kindly contact Carol
LeCompte at (509) 582-5011

Books are available in the foyer

33 Días para la Gloria Eucarística

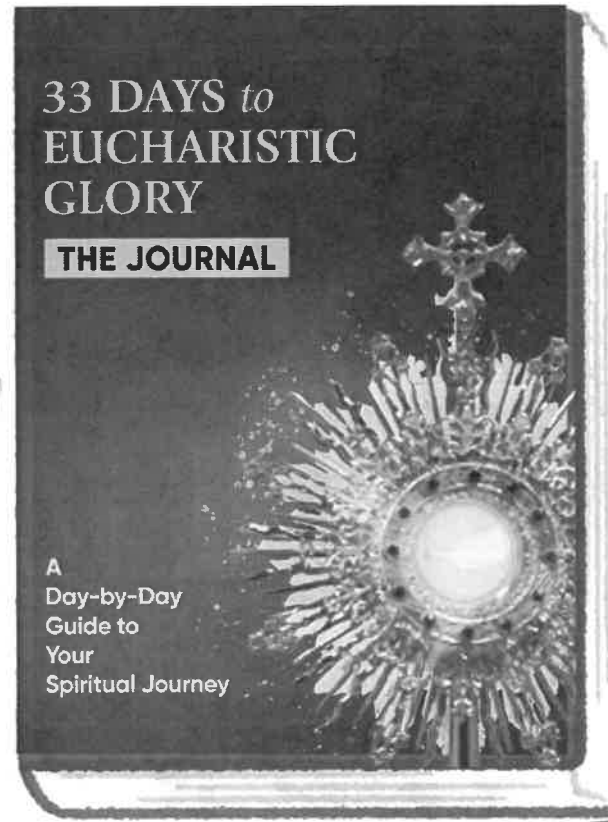
CURSO ESPIRITUAL

*Gratuito
para asistir*

en inglés y español

**NOS REUNIREMOS
SEMANALMENTE
DURANTE UNA HORA
PARA DISCUTIR LAS
LECTURAS,
CONCLUYENDO CADA
SESIÓN CON LA
BENDICIÓN.**

El período de 33 días comienza el miércoles 1 de enero y concluye el domingo 2 de febrero con la Fiesta de la Presentación del Señor.

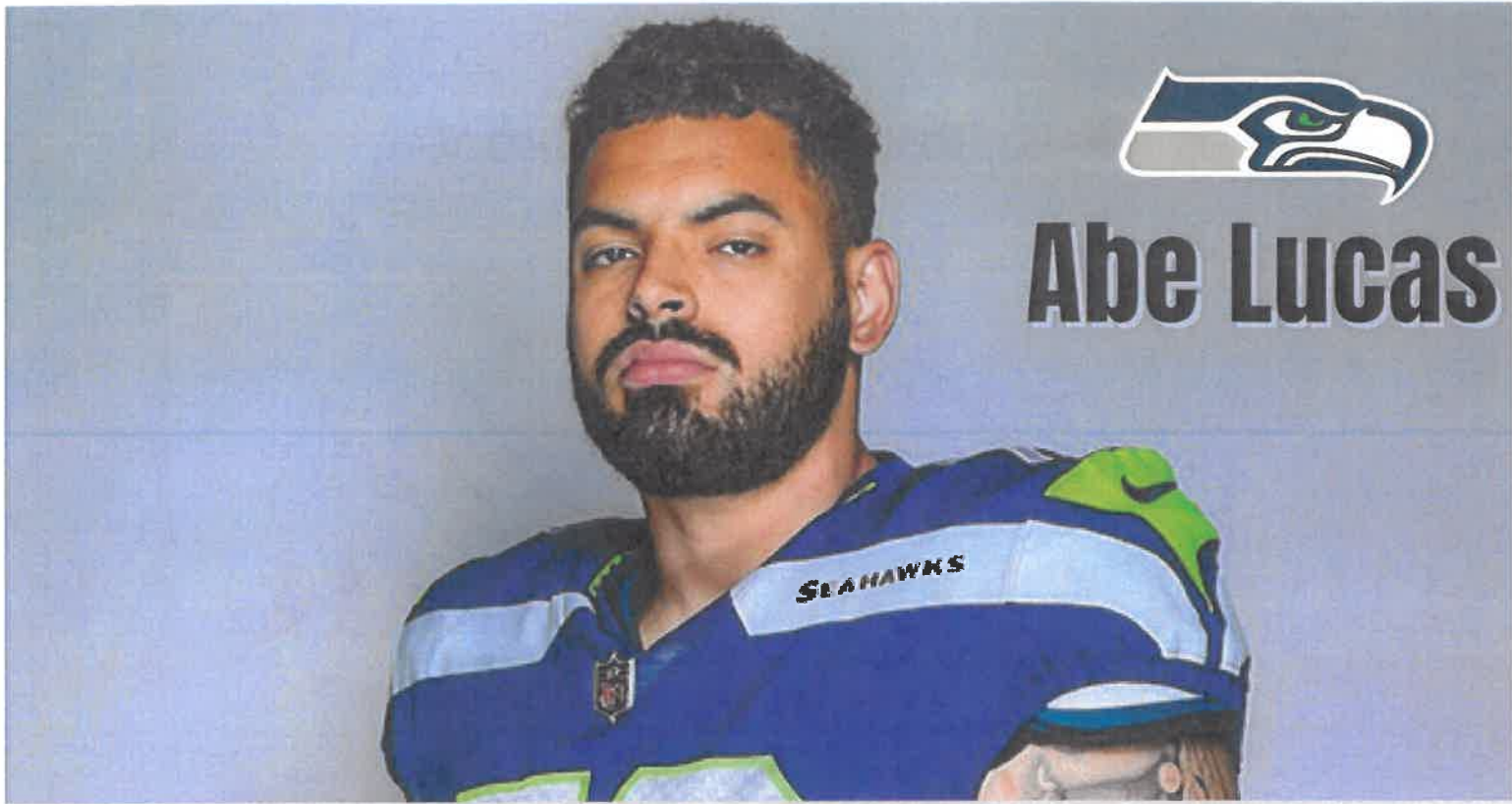


**LOS MARTES
7, 14, 21 & 28 DE ENERO**

**07:00PM - 8:00 PM
Iglesia Grande**

La asistencia a esta reunión es gratuita. Para consultas o registrarse, por favor contactar a Carol Le Compte 509)582-5011

¡Los libros están disponibles en el vestibulo!



FaithfueLED Talks

PRESENTED BY ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Featuring Seattle Seahawks' Abe Lucas

Join us for the launch of FaithfueLED Talks, an inspiring new speaker series presented by St. Joseph Catholic School!

Hear from Abe Lucas, offensive tackle for the Seattle Seahawks and former WSU standout, as he shares his journey of faith, perseverance, and dedication both on and off the field.

Event Details

Date: Saturday, March 8th

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

Location: Dillon Hall, 520 S Garfield St., Kennewick, WA 99336

Tickets are limited! Reserve yours today!



For sponsorship opportunities, scan here!



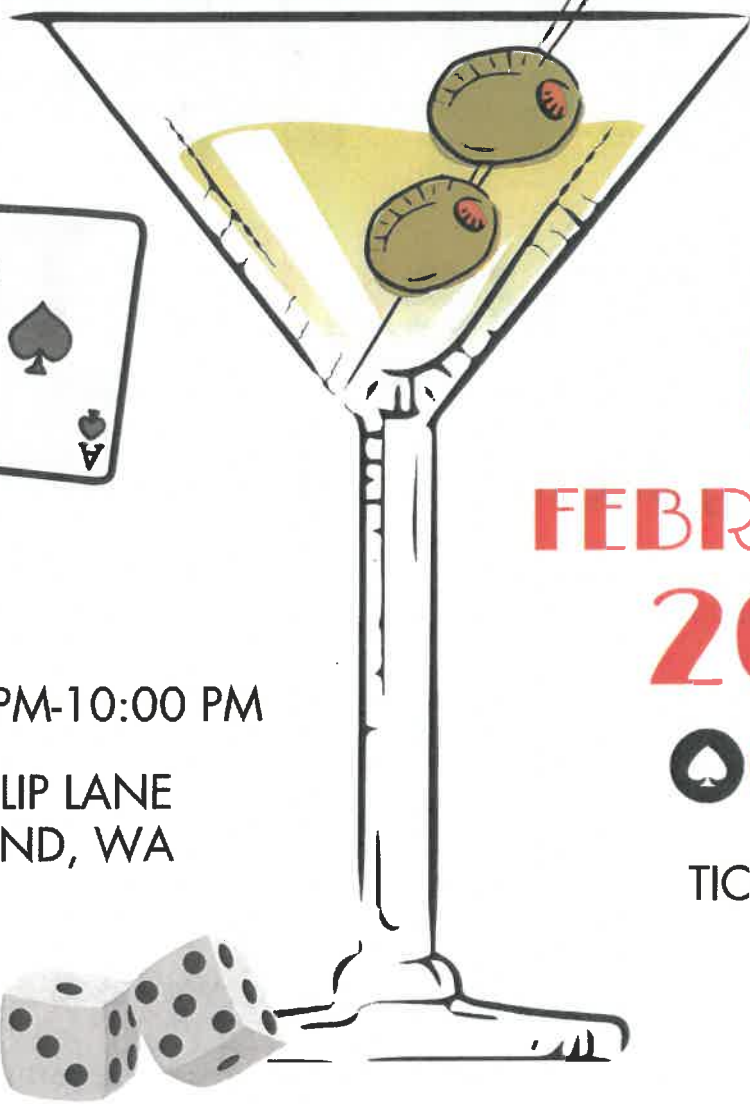
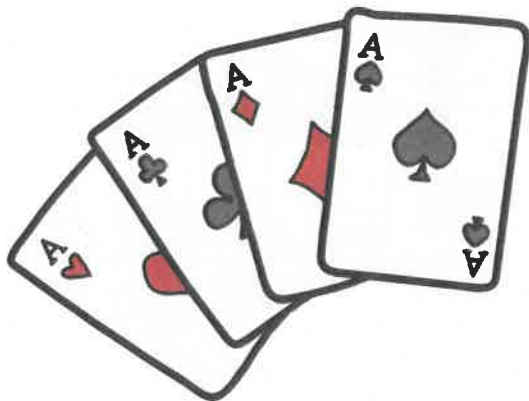
Proudly Sponsored by: The Women of St. Joseph and



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PRESENTS

Art & Wine
CASINO ROYALE



08
FEBRUARY
2025



TICKETS: \$100

* 06:00 PM-10:00 PM

* 894 TULIP LANE
RICHLAND, WA



J. BOOKWALTER WINERY

Proudly Sponsored By The Women of St. Joseph





CENTRAL WASHINGTON CATHOLIC

El Católico de Washington Central

Pāchu Washintin Chmuk Tātpas

DECEMBER 2024

There Are Many Simple Ways To Keep Christ in Christmas This Year

By Christine Corbett Conklin

In Christmas season each year, we are deluged with advertising to “buy this,” and “wear that” while expected to decorate with the latest gimmick: twinkling lights, non-twinkling lights or perhaps giant, inflatable gnomes rollicking across the lawn. The subliminal message seems to be, “the more you buy, the more lavish the displays, the happier you’ll be.”



As Catholics, it’s important that we, literally, keep Christ in Christmas. By our efforts, we can keep our own holiday focus where it should be and set a positive example for others.

This can take many simple forms. Choose Christmas cards or text messages with the Holy Family pictured. Put up a Nativity scene, inside or outside. Add religious ornaments to the tree. Perhaps

include a Christmas stocking that bears the name of “Jesus” with the usual lineup across the hearth. Then, encourage each family member to tuck in a slip of paper noting a selfless action he or she did in Jesus’ name. If you do exchange gifts, find some wrapping paper with a religious theme.

I remember one year, as my son was opening his final Christmas present from me, he looked at the package and said, “This must be the religious gift!” And yes, he was correct, because each year, I try to give each of my children a religious item to honor Christ. This year, they’re getting “Home Blessing” plaques with their names inscribed, but don’t tell them!

It’s never too early to begin to deliver the message of Faith. In looking for ideas for my 23-month-old grandson, I found options ranging from a miniature,

plush Noah’s Ark to books which tell the Christmas story, complete with a manger scene or sounds such as sheep bleating and a baby crying. For children, Catholic supply companies offer a variety of patron saint medals, story books and even faith-based games.

It’s also important to extend the Christmas spirit beyond our own family. Perhaps you know a resident of a nursing home who would delight in receiving a visit. There are “giving trees” in many Catholic churches, encouraging the purchase of items for family or community need. There are church collection baskets for community food, coat and toy drives. The possibilities are endless.

The most spectacular Christmas celebration all time was celebrated in a simple manger. Let us learn from this example and honor the sanctity of that New Life and the human life around us.

Oh, and when someone wishes you “Happy Holidays,” or “Have a good holiday,” let’s respond with a big smile and say, “Merry Christmas!”

Bishop Tyson Inaugurates Holy Year in Yakima December 28-29

Bishop Joseph Tyson will open our diocesan celebration of the Holy Year 2025 at St. Paul Cathedral in Yakima on the Feast of the Holy Family, December 28-29, a week after Pope Francis inaugurates the Jubilee Year in Rome.

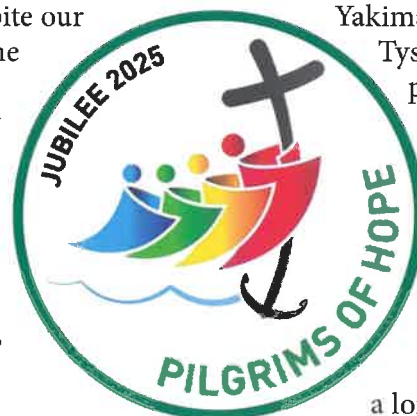
The special rite of opening includes the placement of a cross in the Cathedral sanctuary that will be a sign of the Jubilee Year through the final celebration of the year on the Feast of the Holy Family in December 2025.

Bishop Tyson also will read from Pope Francis’ “bull of indiction,” the document formally proclaiming the Holy Year 2025. The Holy Father, in his message to Catholics worldwide, says that we are all called to be pilgrims of hope.

“Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells

as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt,” the Holy Father wrote.

“Often we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope.”



Parishes throughout the Diocese of Yakima will be united with Bishop Tyson, and the Holy Father in prayer during the opening rite. For more information, visit the Cathedral website at <https://stpaulyakima.com> or Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulCathedralYakima>

draw closer to the celebration. The Catholic Church has a long tradition of celebrating Jubilees every 25 years. Next year’s celebration is expected to draw 10 million visitors to Rome, nearly 10 times the usual number. Let’s unite our own prayers with those of the pilgrims seeking to draw closer to the Lord next year.

(See related story, page 4.)

Message from Bishop Tyson

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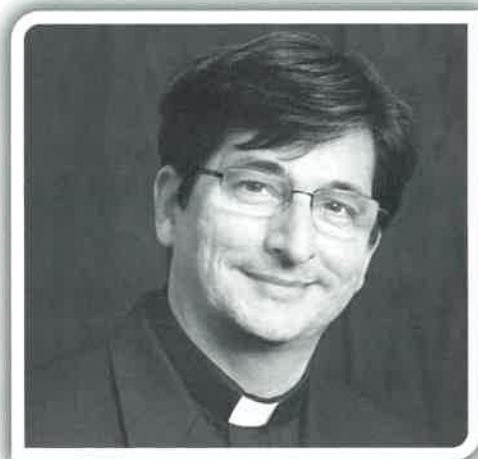
December issue of the *Central Washington Catholic* features the upcoming Jubilee Year for 2025. Traditionally, the Diocese celebrates Holy Years at 25-year intervals. Sometimes, there are special circumstances as when Pope Francis provided a special Holy Year of Mercy. But the Jubilee Holy Year was with Pope John Paul II in the year 2000.

"Jubilee" is the key word for this Holy Year in 2025. In his letter to the Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization, Pope Francis writes: "We must keep the flame of hope that has been extinguished and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to creating a climate of hope and trust conducive to the renewal and rebirth of the Church, which we urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee, 'Year of Hope. This will indeed be a Jubilee if we are capable of recovering a sense of universal fraternity and refuse to look the other way to the tragedy of rampant sin that prevents millions of men, women and young people and children from living in a manner worthy of our human dignity. Here I think in particular of the millions of people forced to abandon their homes and lands. May the voices of the poor be heard throughout this time of preparation for the Jubilee, which is meant to give access to the fruits of the earth to everyone. As the Bible teaches, 'The Lord of the land shall provide food for yourself and for your male and female and for your hired servant, for the journeyer who lives with you; for the ox and the donkey also, and for the beasts that are in the field, and all its yield shall be for food' (Leviticus 25:37-7)."

In the Diocese of Yakima, our Jubilee Year as Pilgrims of Hope begins with a special liturgy synchronized with similar celebrations all around the world on the feast of the Holy Family. There, we will celebrate the prayers designed for the Jubilee of the Holy Year into our Sunday liturgy at 11 a.m. in English and 1 p.m. in Spanish.

For us here in the Diocese of Yakima, we will be celebrating two consecutive Jubilee Years" – in 2025 the Jubilee Year of Hope and in 2026 the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

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Bishop Joseph Tyson

Holy Year with Catholics all around the world and, in 2026, our "Jubilee Year" will uplift the 75th anniversary of the Diocese of Yakima!

I am appointing Monsignor John Ecker as Jubilee Vicar for both events. During the 75th anniversary, Monsignor Ecker and a Cathedral team will be going out to each and every parish in the Diocese of Yakima sharing the story of the Cathedral and the story of the Diocese. Monsignor Ecker is in a unique position to do this. He has personally known every priest (but one) in the Diocese of Yakima and embodies the history of the Diocese.

Let me add this. Monsignor Ecker, who arrived here from Boston in 1958, missed my own baptism at St. Paul Cathedral only by a few months. But when I was ordained a priest in 1989, my grandmother borrowed vestments from Monsignor Ecker. My grandmother was a long-time parishioner at St. Paul Cathedral and very active in the Catholic Daughters of America and very active in the German-speaking circle of parishioners as well. My grandmother used Monsignor Ecker's vestments as a sewing pattern to create the vestments I used at my first Mass in Seattle where I was living and was ordained a priest. Sadly, those vestments went up in smoke during the St. James Cathedral fire March 7, 1992 where I had been serving as parochial vicar. Monsignor Ecker holds countless threads of our history which he will be sharing as he visits your parish during the Jubilee years.

I would also note that in the Jubilee Year 2026 when we uplift the 75th anniversary of the Diocese of Yakima, we will

have pilgrimages from your local parish to the Cathedral nearly every Sunday! Parish by parish, you will be hosted by Cathedral parishioners at special Masses where we pray for you and for your parish even as we uplift the reality of Saint Paul Cathedral as the Mother Church of the Diocese of Yakima and your Mother Church, too!

Monsignor Ecker is also reserving the Yakima SunDome. Like we did during the Holy Year 2000, we hope to have one single Confirmation in 2026 for our Jubilee Year with all of our priests helping me confirm all of our candidates for Confirmation of whatever age!

Build the Young Church in Christ!
Build the Mission Church in Christ!
Build the One Body of Christ! Heal the Wounds on the Body of Christ! Those are the key goals developed by our Diocesan Pastoral Council during the four-year Synod that just finished last month in Rome, but also involved thousands of responses through our own synod process, our own parish visitation process, the V Encuentro gathering in San Antonio a few years ago, our Church Mission Congress, as well as responses from our priests, deacons and their spouses here in the Diocese of Yakima.

"Pilgrims of Hope" – that is the direction coming from the wider Church and hope, as our Holy Father notes, is what we especially need today! Thanks for considering how you might become a "Pilgrim of Hope" for those around you!

With every best wish and blessing!
Yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

Central Washington Catholic

DECEMBER 2024 • Volume 65 • Issue 12

PUBLISHER

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The *Central Washington Catholic* (ISSN 0195-1831) is published monthly by the Diocese of Yakima, 5301-A Tieton Drive, Yakima, WA 98908-3493.

Submission schedule: Deadline for the submission of material is at noon on the first day of the month of publication.

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If you have been abused or victimized by a member of the Catholic clergy, please believe in the power of God for hope and help and healing. We encourage you to come forward and speak out.

The Diocese of Yakima has a sexual abuse hotline for those who wish to report some incident concerning a priest, bishop, deacon or diocesan employee or volunteer. (888) 276-4490.

How Much Do You Know About Our Catholic Christmas Traditions?

At this special time of year, it's good to stop and consider the many beautiful customs that are part of our Catholic Christmas tradition. How many of the following questions can you answer? Answers follow at the end.

- How long does Advent last?
 - The entire month of December
 - From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to Dec. 24
 - From Thanksgiving Day to Christmas Day
- What is the true purpose of Advent?
 - Reflecting on Jesus' birth and second coming
 - A time to finish shopping and decorating
 - Weeks to reflect on the past year – good and bad
- What does "Immaculate Conception" celebrate on Dec. 8?
 - Jesus' conception through grace of the Holy Spirit
 - Mary being born without the stain of original sin
 - A pure conception of both Jesus and Mary
- What is the purpose of a "Jesse Tree," in church?
 - Marking Biblical history leading to Jesus' birth
 - Honoring special saints in Bible history

c. Marking milestones in Jesus' life on earth

5. What's the hidden meaning of "12 Days of Christmas" song?

- It's symbolic of gifts which can be given to others
- A secret message regarding cruel kings of England
- Centuries ago, a secret way to remember aspects of our Faith

6. Why rose-colored vestments, the third Sunday of Advent?

- It's a break to get the regular Lenten vestments cleaned.
- A sign of difficulty for Mary and Joseph, before Jesus' birth.
- It's a symbol of joy and hope.

7. Are Christmas and January 1 holy days of obligation?

- No, although attending Mass is recommended.
- Yes, it's required for all those able to attend Mass.
- You can choose between the two days.

8. What is the religious significance of January 1?

- The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God.
- It's a day to make resolutions for the coming year.
- It's a celebration of the Baptism of Jesus.



9. How long does the Church consider "Christmas season"?

- It's the same as Advent.
- December 24 – final Sunday of January
- December 24 - January Sunday celebrating the Baptism of Jesus

10. What is the greatest significance of Christ's birth?

- It underlines the beauty of new beginning.
- It is central to our eternal salvation
- It is an actual historical event

b. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. c. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. d. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. e. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. f. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. g. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. h. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. i. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. j. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. k. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. l. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. m. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. n. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. o. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. p. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. q. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. r. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. s. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. t. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. u. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. v. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. w. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. x. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. y. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6. z. From the fourth Sunday before Christmas to January 6.

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Merry Christmas

As the calendar turns the page, we wish you the very best in the year ahead.

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A Christmas Prayer For Unity

Dear God, now that we are through a contentious election season, please let the people of America unite in Your name honor Your Son, Jesus Christ, during this Christmas season, kindness and respect for all.

Help us to heal the deep divisions that have arisen among members, friends and neighbors. Let us focus on moving forward in a spirit of gratefulness for the many blessings bestowed upon our country, inspired by Your constant presence in our lives.

Let us focus not on the past, but rather on what we can do by joining together, to make our communities and our world a better place. Please guide us in everything we do.

In Jesus' name, we pray.
Amen.

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To Remember Deceased Clergy Highlights our Mission

ty priests and several deacons shop Joseph Tyson November Paul Cathedral in Yakima for the Mass to remember the deceased priests, deacons and seminarians Diocese of Yakima. Father Michael Ibach, diocesan vicar of the Diocese, reflected on the theme of "Building the Mission" – the theme for this year's Annual Appeal – in his homily.

It is appropriate to gather to remember missionaries who helped to build the Church in Central Washington," Fr. Ibach said. "They heard the call to be clergy, and were willing to go and go forth to preach, to testify their faith in the Son of God, so that we could also know the Lord."

Fr. Ibach traced the history of the Church in Central Washington from the mid-1800s, when Yakima Chief Joseph invited priests of the Oblates of the Immaculate to work among the natives. While the St. Joseph Mission in Wapato they founded later was the first, subsequent missionaries came later, he noted. They persevered even in the face of opposition, so that people could come

to "love, know and serve God," he added. Religious orders such as the Jesuits and Benedictines sent priests to serve.

A key moment was the establishment of the Diocese of Yakima in 1951, when those priests from the dioceses of Seattle and Spokane within the boundaries of the new Diocese automatically became priests of Yakima. More missionaries came, many from Ireland.

"In the 1960s, the Second Vatican Council challenged the Church to a whole new mindset," Father Ibach reminded those present. "Pope John XXIII wanted to 'open the windows of the Church,'" he said. New ministries such as the restored permanent diaconate "helped express the goodness that we are as people. It took time, guts, and a mindset that had to be changed, so that we could be effective in bringing people to God, so they could love, know and serve Him."

Today, Father Ibach said, there are new challenges to serve the immigrant people coming to us. "People who have a wonder-



Very Rev. Michael Ibach addressed attendees of the annual Mass for Deceased Clergy.

ful way of expressing their Faith. We again have an opportunity to grow ourselves as well as help them to deepen their Faith," he said. That has brought many priests to us who are immigrants themselves, some of whom have died and been buried here rather than returning to their native lands.

"And so we come to honor these men, who served in the name of Jesus," he said.

"In the Gospel, we heard that Jesus came to do the will of the One who sent Him," Fr. Ibach added. "And the Father's will was that He not lose any of those whom He gave to his Son ... using us as his ministers."

"Really" Fr. Ibach concluded, "we are here to thank the Lord for the ways in which these men ministered, for their willingness to sacrifice their lives for the sake of God's people. We are called to follow their example and make it our mission to continue to invite people, to help them to know, love and serve the Lord. This is the way we build a mission church."

Dioceses Should Commemorate Their Own Saints Each Year, Pope Says

By Michael C. Clellan
VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Starting with the beginning of Holy Year 2025, local churches will annually honor the saints, and other holy figures connected to their communities,

Pope Francis announced. "It is so important to remember all particular saints and blessed souls on this date, as well as the venerables and heroes of God of their respective territories," he said in a letter published last week. "Therefore, I urge particular churches, from the coming of Holy Year 2025, to revere and honor these holiness, every day." "In the Holy Year 2025, all saints are celebrated on fixed dates in the liturgical calendar, the Pope said.

He said that local churches should commemorate their own holy figures both within and outside the liturgy to promote "those figures who have characterized the local Christian path and spirituality."



St. Kateri Tekakwitha, the first Native American to be canonized, is depicted in a stained-glass window at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in West Hempstead, N.Y. (CNS photo/Gregory A. Shemitz)

The letter stated that pastoral guidelines to facilitate the initiative should be developed by bishops' conferences worldwide.

Pope Francis wrote that "everyone can recognize in many people they meet along the way witnesses of the Christian virtues, in particular faith, hope and charity," praising the example of couples, workers, young people, pastors and men and women religious who live out the Faith in their daily lives.

"We cannot forget the poor, the sick, the suffering who in their weakness have

found support in the divine Master. It is about that 'everyday' holiness 'next door,' in which the Church scattered throughout the world has always been rich," he wrote.

The Pope said that Christians are "called to allow ourselves to be inspired by these models of holiness," in particular the examples of the church's martyrs, saints and blessed.

The many processes for beatification and canonization currently underway "show how much the witness of holiness is also present in our time in which the great witnesses to the Faith shine like stars," he said. They have "marked the experience of the particular churches and, at the same time, have been fruitful throughout history."

"They are all our friends, companions on the road, who help us realize our baptismal vocation to the full and show us the most beautiful face of the Church, which is holy and the mother of the saints," the Pope wrote. (Related story, page 1.)

Observe the Important Holy Days of the Christmas Season

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the patronal feast of the United States, a holy day of obligation, will be observed on Monday, December 9. In addition to past practice, Bishop Joseph DiNoia is dispensing the Faithful from the obligation to attend Mass this day. He encourages us nonetheless to honor the

Blessed Mother by attending Mass on December 9, or on December 12, the Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe, or on both days.

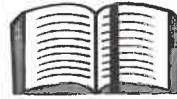
Other Holy Days of Obligation include Christmas, December 25 and the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, January 1.

Please note that in general, Catholics who are unable to attend Mass on a holy day of obligation may seek a dispensation

from a priest or deacon of the Diocese, who can either excuse the person from the obligation completely, or substitute another pious work, such as praying the Rosary. Those who are unable to attend Mass due to old age or illness are already dispensed by church law from the obligation to attend, and we are grateful for their prayers at home.

A NOTE FROM SERRA CLUB OF THE TRI CITIES

Saint Paul tells the Philippians to "Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4) The Lord is near. Soon we will celebrate His Nativity. Wouldn't you love to help people "Rejoice in the Lord always." You can, as a priest, permanent deacon, brother, or sister!



SUNDAY LITURGY REFLECTION

Wednesday 18
at 3:00 pm

On Facebook and YouTube.

By Father Riccardo



Your offering on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day helps Catholic Charities become the hands and feet of Jesus to more than 65,000 people throughout Central Washington. For more information about the Catholic Charities network of services, visit, hopetolife.org.

The Knights of Columbus will be selling fresh noble fir Christmas trees in the parking lot at St. Joseph's until they run out. We will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 8 am to 7 pm and on weekdays from 3 pm to 7 pm.



Pilgrimage to France and Italy with Fr. Tian

When: October 21 through November 3, 2025
Cost: \$5,583

For more information, please contact: Juan Ignacio Zurita 786-656-0594
Scan QR code to register



Milestone: December 18 is the anniversary of Father Riccardo Keolker's ordination to the priesthood. Let us extend our heartfelt congratulations and gratitude for his many years of devoted service to the Church. **December 31** marks the joyous occasion of Fr. Jose Herrera's BIRTHDAY. To extend your heartfelt wishes to him for a "Happy Birthday," please send or deliver cards to the Parish Office for both priests.



Important Announcements: Kindly be advised that reconciliations shall not take place on the forthcoming Thursday, December 19 and there will be no 7:00 pm Mass.

The Eucharistic Missionaries invite you to a monthly **Holy Hour**, featuring the sacred exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, on the last **Wednesday** of each month, held in the **Small Church at 7 pm**. However, please note that this month's gathering will be canceled due to Christmas falling on the same day.

December Office closures

Wed., December 18 9 am - Noon
Tues., December 24 9 am - Noon
Wed., December 25 Closed
Tue., December 31 9 am - Noon
Wed., January 1 Closed

Wishing you a season filled with joy and warmth!

Giving Tree

In the Spirit of the Giving Tree, we are again accepting donations of gift cards this Christmas Season to assist families all year long. The most cherished cards are those from Walmart, WinCo, and Fred Meyer.



Cash donations are also accepted for various ministries we support. Please indicate which ministry you want to support on the back of the envelope.

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Delivering lunches twice a month for the Union Gospel Mission!

First Sunday
January 5
10:15 am

Third Tuesday
December 17
9:15 am



To see a list of donations needed or to volunteer to help, please contact Cindy Meyer through the parish links by visiting: stjoseph-kennewick.org/mtmm/

Advent Penance Services

Mon., Dec. 16	Sacred Heart 6:30 pm	1905 Highland Drive Prosser
Tues. Dec. 17	Christ the King 6:30 pm	1111 Stevens Drive Richland
Wed, Dec. 18	Holy Spirit 6:30 pm	7409 West Clearwater Kennewick
Thurs, Dec. 19	St. Frances Cabrimi 6:30 pm	1000 Home Drive Benton City

"Rejoicing in Our Hope"
Meditations for the Advent and Christmas Seasons

Wednesdays:
December 18, January 8, and 15
Time: 9:30 am
Location: Rooms A & B
Cost: \$20

Please come to the Parish Office to register, pay, and collect materials.

For more information, please contact Laura Sieler at 509-585-7630.

Pilgrimage with Fr. Richard Sedlacek
Medjugorje and Rome

When: October 15 – October 26, 2025
Who: Father Richard Sedlacek
will be our spiritual leader for this amazing adventure. Please contact Tina Daily at 509-308-5003 for more information or to ask questions.

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