

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 08, 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

December 8, 2024

Second Sunday of Advent

"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..." (PHILIPPIANS 1:9-10) During the Christmas shopping season, it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that "gift" truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your "obligation" to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them and learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less "stuff," and spend more time with those you love.

Collection for December 1, 2024

Sunday Offering	\$19,086.64
Building Fund	\$967.00
School Donations	\$2,316.00
Religious Education	\$852.33
Holy Days	\$190.00
Liturgy Flowers	\$1,580.00
Diocese	\$30.00

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 Sckieryczinski, Kolton Hansford, Jeannine Soehnlein, Joanne, Marie Smith, Armandino Gamino, Ana Espinoza, Sara and Johnny Howard.

For our recently deceased: Joseph M. Ginter and Josephine Banda. 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: Thursday, 6 am, Saturday, 4 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

"Virgin Immaculate, perfect lover of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, we ask you to obtain for us the graces we need to become true adorers of our Eucharistic God. Grant us, we beg of you, to know Him better, to love Him more, and to center our lives around the Eucharist, that is, to make our whole lives constant prayers of adoration, thanksgiving, reparation, and petition to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Amen."

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

Scan QR code to request online!



Monday, December 9 6:30 am, 8:30 am 12:05 pm 5:30 pm, 7:00 pm	Saturday, December 14 8:30 am No intentions for this Mass 5:30 pm † John Kennedy Patrick Weller (8-day) † Celestina Mangaliag 7:00 pm † Agustin Mojica † Pablo Nava † Almas del purgatorio
Tuesday, December 10 6:30 am † Coco Jo Coogan 8:30 am † Sister Margaret Cullen 7:00 pm † Delfina Farias	Sunday, December 15 9:00 am † Jadwiga Mosio † Joe Ginter 11:00 am Familia Mendoza Corro Fr. Ricardo Villarreal † Joseph Ginter 1:00 pm † Ezequiel & Adela Barajas † Eliodoro Martinez 5:30 pm † Ann Morgen 7:00 pm No Intentions for this Mass
Wednesday, December 11 6:30 am Alice Marie Chuang (Birthday) 8:30 am † Alex & Clarine Lysiak 7:00 pm † Raul Beltran	
Thursday, December 12 12:30 am, 4:30 am, 6:30 am, 8:30 am 7:00 pm	
Friday, December 13 6:30 am † Antonio Nava 8:30 am † Aura Serrano	

Advent Penance Services

Fri., Dec. 13	Saint Joseph 6:30 pm	520 South Garfield Street Kennewick
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 Cabrini 6:30 pm	1000 Home Drive Benton City

December 9, 2024

The Immaculate
Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary
Holy Day of Obligation

Big Church
Masses in English
6:30 am, 8:30 am,
12:05 pm, 5:30 pm
Mass in Spanish
7:00 pm



Sunday Breakfast

The Knights of Columbus invite you to join them for Sunday breakfast in Dillon Hall after the morning Masses on December 8.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

December 2024

St. Joseph Parish
Fr. Jose Herrera, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. John of the Cross

Born in Castile, Spain, St. Juan de Yepes lived in poverty. St. John embraced poverty and suffering throughout his life. In 1563, he entered the Carmelite Order. He befriended St. Teresa of Ávila, who encouraged and supported him in his efforts at reform. He faced opposition and he was imprisoned in a tower. From this experience came the mystical poetry and inspired writings on the interior life that made him a Doctor of the Church.



Close to the Infant Jesus

"You are nowhere but close to the Infant Jesus, trembling with cold in the stable of Bethlehem... Therefore, I beg you to love the crib of the Child of Bethlehem... stay close to him and be sure that Jesus is in the midst of your hearts more than you could believe or imagine." St. Padre Pio

"And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory"
(John 1:14).



The best gifts come on Christmas

Christmas brings a joy that goes beyond presents—it's a season rich with the gifts God offers: love, hope, family, and the promise of Heaven. These gifts touch every heart, young and old, and hold profound meaning.

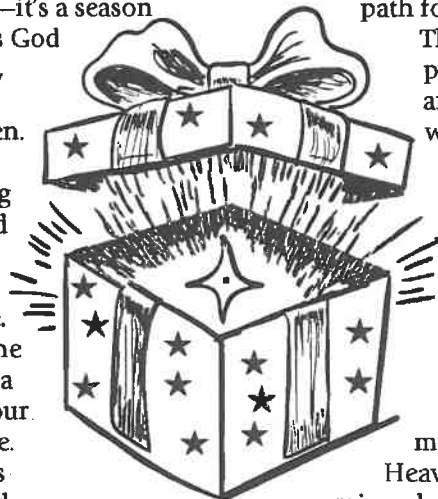
The gift of love. God chose to come into the world as a baby, sharing in our human experience. His love surpasses anything we could imagine. He invites us to embrace His love and let it transform us.

The gift of hope. Although we have moments of sin and can turn from God, the Child born on that first Christmas offers freedom from sin and the hope of a brighter future. This hope

renews us and promises a better path forward.

The gift of family. Family provides strength, comfort, and support. Baptism welcomes us into Christ's divine family, where we are bound by an unbreakable connection. *"See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God"* (1 John 3:1).

The gift of Heaven. The most awesome gift is Heaven itself. Without Jesus' miraculous birth, Heaven would be out of reach. He bridged the gap between Heaven and Earth, offering the promise of eternal joy. This Christmas, we can cherish the enduring gifts of love, hope, family, and Heaven that make the season truly meaningful.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics display nativity scenes?

The tradition of displaying nativity scenes began with St. Francis of Assisi, who was awed that God humbled Himself to be born in humility and poverty. To illustrate, he displayed a manger scene in a cave near the Franciscans' chapel —



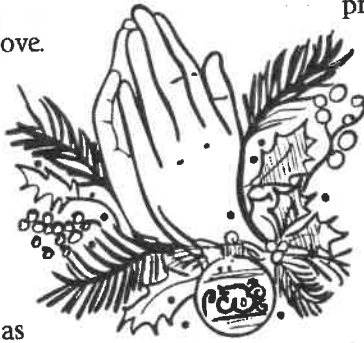
complete with donkey and ox. He celebrated Christmas Mass and, according to an eyewitness, the wax figure of the Christ Child came alive. This pious tradition continues, reminding us that *"the*

Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14).

Two Advent practices for a joyful Christmas

Each Advent, God invites us to deepen our friendship with Him and draw closer to His love. The key to a joyful Christmas lies in responding to this invitation by dedicating daily time to God and helping those in need.

Do the one thing needful: Pope Francis encourages us to “waste time” with God through prayer, even for just 15–20 minutes. This could be offering daily prayers for a special intention, meditating on the Christmas Story a verse at a time, or simply being peacefully



present to Him, who is always present to us. Continue spending time with Him after the season ends.

Go in haste to love: Just as Mary went “with haste” (Luke 1:39) to serve her cousin Elizabeth, we, too, are called to act quickly in love. While no one can do everything, everyone can do something. When we serve others even in small ways, we receive a greater gift in return (Matthew 25:40).

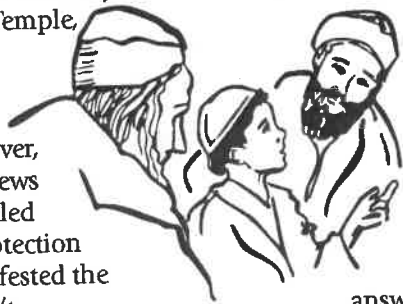
Embrace these practices for a deeper, more joyful Christmas open to God’s love.

from Scripture

Luke 2:41-52, Love and obedience

The Feast of the Holy Family (December 29) includes the story of finding Jesus in the Temple, a story of love and obedience. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover, as was the custom for Jews of that time. They traveled in a large group for protection against bandits who infested the hill country. So it wasn’t surprising that His parents didn’t miss Jesus as they started the return trip. Upon discovering Him missing, they hurried back to Jerusalem.

On the third day of searching, they found Jesus in the Temple. He was



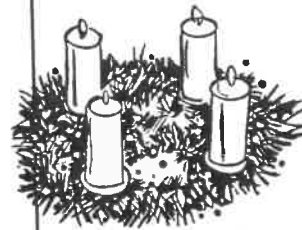
questioning the priests and amazing them with His understanding.

However, Mary asked how He could have caused His parents so much worry and Jesus replied, “Did you not know I must be in my Father’s house?”

Though they were puzzled by His answer, Mary and Joseph took Jesus back to Nazareth. He remained there in obedience to His parents until it was time for His public ministry. We learn from this story to obey not only God but also those in valid authority over us.

Q & A How do I use an Advent Wreath?

The Advent Wreath is a circle of evergreen branches, symbolizing God’s eternal and unending love. It includes three purple (violet) candles and one pink (rose) candle. On the first Sunday of Advent, and each night that week, the first purple candle, known as the Prophet’s Candle, is lit



to symbolize hope. On the second Sunday and throughout that week, light both the first and second purple candles.

The second candle, called the Bethlehem Candle, represents faith. The pink candle, lit during the third week, symbolizes joy and marks Gaudete Sunday. During the fourth week of Advent, all three purple candles and the pink candle are lit. The fourth candle, known as the Angel’s Candle, represents peace.

Consider meditating on Scripture as you light the candles. Week 1 (hope) - Isaiah 9:2-7, week 2 (faith) - Micah 5:2-5a, week 3 (joy) - Luke 2:8-14, and week 4 (peace) - Luke 1:26-38.

Feasts & Celebrations

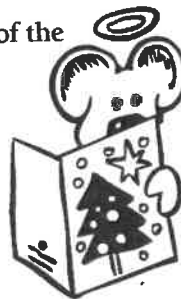
December 1 - First Sunday in Advent. We anticipate Christ’s birth and His coming on the Last Day. Catholics everywhere light candles in an Advent wreath to signal the coming of the light of Christ.

December 4 - St. John Damascene (749). A Doctor of the Church and the last of the Greek Fathers, St. John was born in Muslim-ruled Syria and was counselor to the caliph. He is known for his writings in favor of the use of sacred images for devotion.

December 9 - Immaculate

Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We commemorate that Mary was conceived in St. Anne’s womb without original sin, preparing Mary to be the Mother of God. Pope Pius IX declared this doctrine in 1854. This year, it’s still considered a holy day of obligation and Mass attendance is required.

December 28 - Feast of the Holy Innocents (1st century). Today, we remember the infants massacred by King Herod’s soldiers (Matthew 2:16-18). We also pray for the safety of unborn children.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
<http://www.growinginfaith.com>

(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

CALENDARIO DE ADVIENTO

DOMINGO

LUNES

















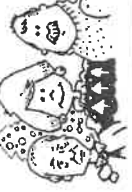











MARTES

MÉRCOLES
























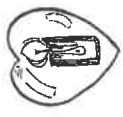

JUEVES

VIERNES

SÁBADO

<p>1 DICIEMBRE Haga o compre una corona de Adviento y bendígala. Encienda la primera vela morada todas las noches de la semana que entra.</p> 	<p>2 Cuando tenga que estar esperando aproveche para rezar una oración simple que comience con una alabanza.</p> 	<p>3 Llamen a la organización Catholic Relief Services (877-HELP-CRS ó www.catholicrelief.org) para ver cómo pueden ayudar.</p> 	<p>4 Ponga su nacimiento o pesebre e imagínesse en la escena. Piense en cómo actuaría si estuviese allí.</p> 	<p>5 Escoja un mal hábito que lo aleja de la santidad. Haga el propósito de superarlo durante el Adviento.</p> 	<p>6 Mostrar el amor en el Día de San Nicolás por ser generoso en la actualidad.</p> 	<p>7 Ponga un arbolito de Navidad y adórnelo. Poner sólo algunos adornos en cada día y terminar el día de Nochebuena.</p> 
<p>8 Encienda dos velas moradas de la corona de Adviento. Siéntese y disfrute la quietud. Lea <i>San Lucas 3,1-6</i>.</p> 	<p>9 Para honrar la Inmaculada Concepción de María, vaya a Misa y rece un rosario.</p> 	<p>10 Realice algún servicio para su parroquia. Pregunte en la casa parroquial cómo puede ayudar.</p> 	<p>11 Pídale a Jesucristo que le sane lo que lo separa a usted de sentir el abundante amor de Dios.</p> 	<p>12 Compre una rosa hoy para honrar a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe y rece un Ave María.</p> 	<p>13 Rece hoy por alguien que no le agrada.</p> 	<p>14 Realizar un examen exhaustivo de hoy la conciencia. Luego asistir a la confesión, para preparar su alma para recibir a Jesucristo.</p> 
<p>15 Hoy es Domingo de Gaudete. Encienda dos velas moradas y la rosada de la alegría. Lea <i>San Lucas, 10-18</i>.</p> 	<p>16 Establecer un reloj que le ayudarán a orar cada mañana y cada tarde este mes. Continuar después de Adviento.</p> 	<p>17 Haga un esfuerzo conciente para ver a su prójimo con cariño.</p> 	<p>18 Ponga una lámpara o una vela eléctrica en una ventana para darle la bienvenida al Niño Jesús. Enciéndala todas las noches hasta el día de Navidad.</p> 	<p>19 Sólo, en un cuarto cerrado, rece en secreto a su Padre.</p> 	<p>20 Haga tiempo hoy para darle de comer al hambriento. Busque a alguien que está físicamente hambriento o que tiene hambre de bondad, también.</p> 	<p>21 Reuna algunos amigos y vecinos e ir villancicos en un hogar de ancianos o albergue para desamparados.</p> 
<p>22 Encienda las cuatro velas de la corona de Adviento esta noche y todas las noches. Lea <i>San I, 39-45</i>.</p> 	<p>23 Rece por los hombres y mujeres en las fuerzas armadas que no podrán pasar la Navidad con sus familias.</p> 	<p>24 Haga una lista de las maneras en que puede hacer más sencillo su estilo de vida para darle más cabida a Dios.</p> 	<p>25 ¡Felicidad! Lea la historia del nacimiento de Jesús en <i>San Lucas 2:1-20</i>.</p> 	<p>19 Sólo, en un cuarto cerrado, rece en secreto a su Padre.</p> 	<p>20 Haga tiempo hoy para darle de comer al hambriento. Busque a alguien que está físicamente hambriento o que tiene hambre de bondad, también.</p> 	<p>21 Reuna algunos amigos y vecinos e ir villancicos en un hogar de ancianos o albergue para desamparados.</p> 
<p><i>"Por aquellos días Augusto César decretó que se levantara un censo en todo el imperio romano. (Este primer censo se efectuó cuando Ciriaco gobernaba en Siria.) Así que iban todos a inscribirse, cada cual a su propio pueblo. También José, que era descendiente del rey David, subió de Nazaret, ciudad de Galilea, a Judea. Fue a Belén, la ciudad de David, para inscribirse junto con María su esposa. Ella se encontraba encinta y, mientras estaban allí, se le cumplió el tiempo. Así que dio a luz a su hijo primogénito. Lo envolvió en pañales y lo acostó en un pesebre, porque no había lugar para ellos en la posada" (Lucas 2:1-7).</i></p>						

ADVENT CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 DECEMBER Buy or make an Advent wreath. Bless it and light the first violet candle each night this week.</p> 	<p>2 Advent is about waiting for the Savior to come. Offer a prayer anytime you have to wait during Advent.</p> 	<p>3 Call Catholic Relief Services (877-HELP-CRS or www.catholicrelief.org) to see how you can help.</p> 	<p>4 Set up your Nativity scene. Picture yourself in the scene and think about how you would act if you were there.</p> 	<p>5 Pick one habit that is keeping you from holiness. Resolve to conquer it during Advent.</p> 	<p>6 Show love on St. Nicholas Day by making at least one generous act today.</p> 	<p>7 Put up a Christmas tree. Put just a few ornaments on each day and finish up on Christmas Eve.</p> 
<p>8 Light two violet candles in the Advent wreath each night this week. Sit in silence and enjoy the quiet. Read Luke 3:1-6.</p> 	<p>9 To honor Mary's Immaculate Conception, go to Mass and pray a Rosary.</p> 	<p>10 Perform some act of service for your parish. Ask at the rectory for suggestions.</p> 	<p>11 Ask Jesus to heal whatever keeps you from feeling God's bountiful love.</p> 	<p>12 To honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, place a rose in a vase in your home and pray a "Hail Mary."</p> 	<p>13 Today, pray for someone you don't like.</p> 	<p>14 Perform a thorough examination of conscience today. Then attend Confession to ready your soul to greet the Savior.</p> 
<p>15 Today is Gaudete Sunday. Light two violet candles and the rose one for joy. Read Luke 3:10-18.</p> 	<p>16 Set a timer or other reminder to help you pray every morning and every evening this month. Continue after Advent.</p> 	<p>17 Make a conscious effort to see everyone with loving eyes today.</p> 	<p>18 Put a lamp or candle in a window to welcome the Christ Child. Light it each night until Christmas.</p> 	<p>19 Go to a private room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret.</p> 	<p>20 Make time today to feed the hungry. Look for someone who is physically hungry or one who is hungry for kindness, too.</p> 	<p>21 Gather some friends and neighbors and go Christmas caroling at a nursing home or homeless shelter.</p> 
<p>22 Light all four candles in the Advent Wreath tonight and all week. Read Luke 1:39-45.</p> 	<p>23 Pray for the men and women in the armed services who won't be able to spend Christmas with their families.</p> 	<p>24 Pick one way you can simplify your lifestyle to make more room for God.</p> 	<p>25 Rejoice! Read the story of Jesus' birth in Luke 2:1-20.</p> 	<p><i>"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn." (Luke 2:1-7)</i></p>		

A NOTE FROM SERRA CLUB OF THE TRI CITIES

Saint Paul writes to the Philippians) that "this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God." (from Philippians 1: 8-11) Isn't that a lovely prayer? Wouldn't you like to be described as someone who is pure and blameless, someone who leads others to Christ? That's what you could do as a priest, permanent deacon, brother or sister!



Catholic Charities
SERVING CENTRAL WASHINGTON
As the social service arm of the church, Catholic Charities brings hope to life to more than 65,000 people throughout Central Washington each year. Please help us serve others by giving generously on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. To learn more about Catholic Charities' network of services, visit www.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.



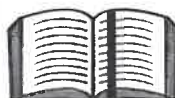
Joyous Holidays! The Parish Office will close at noon on Tuesday, December 24, and will remain closed on Wednesday, December 25, to honor the spirit of Christmas. Furthermore, the Office will close at noon on Tuesday, December 31, and will be closed on Wednesday, January 1, in celebration of the Feast of Mary, Mother of God. Wishing you a season filled with joy and warmth!

UNBOUND
Dear Parishioners UNBOUND would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your kindness in welcoming us to speak on behalf of deserving children, youth, and elders living in poverty. Your generous and strong faith and your continuing fidelity to the values of the Gospel of Jesus Christ are indeed a blessing. If you have not yet done so and would like to form an alliance of friendship with a child, a teenager, a seminarian, an elder, or a child with special needs, call 800-875-6564 or visit www.unbound.org.

December 31 marks the joyous occasion of Fr. Jose Herrera's BIRTHDAY. To extend your heartfelt wishes to him for a "Happy Birthday," you may send or deliver cards to the Parish Office.

JOIN FR. JOSÉ ON A TRIP TO LEAVENWORTH
Saturday, December 14
For more information: 509-586-3820 Ext 101

Departure: 8 am
Return home: approximately 10:30 pm
Transportation: The charter bus is limited to 50 passengers. First come, first served. All minors must be accompanied by a parent.
Price (Transportation Only)
Adults & Teens (age 13+) \$80
Seniors (age 65+) \$70
Kids (ages 2-12 yrs) \$60



**SUNDAY
LITURGY
REFLECTION**

Wednesdays,
at 9:15 am
On Facebook and YouTube.
By Father Riccardo



Traveling Vocations Crucifixes

Courtesy of Serra Club of the Tri Cities, St. Joseph Parish has two Traveling Vocations Crucifixes—one at the 9:00 am Mass and one at the 1:00 pm Mass. Sign up to take a Crucifix (box includes the Crucifix, Rosary, and prayer cards) home for one week and pray for vocations—all vocations, but especially vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate, and Vowed Religious Life. We pray that more men and women will hear God's call and say "yes". Remember, without priests, we would not have access to the Holy Eucharist and other Sacraments.
12/15 Francis, Loren & Zion Dean
12/22 Martha and Joe Klein

With questions or to sign up, contact Celine Petersen, 509-582-8738, or Irma Valdivia, 509-366-4422.

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. Cards may be sent or delivered to the Parish Office.



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**. This time of reflection and prayer offers a deep spiritual connection, allowing you to pause from the busyness of life and immerse yourself in the presence of the divine. you are welcome to join fellow parishioners in this communal act of worship. We look forward to sharing this sacred tradition with you and hope it brings inspiration and renewal to your heart and soul.

MEMORIAL FLOWERS

Thank you **Amy, Tyson, and Carsten** for donating flowers for the weekend of December 8. Thank you for enhancing the Liturgy with live flowers.



Flowers for the Ambo, Altar and Tabernacle: **Eugene, Vidal, Cris and Rona.**

Live flower arrangements enhance the beauty of the Liturgy.

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

Wednesdays:
December 11, 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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