

THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

DECEMBER 14, 2025

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

Email: parish.office@stjoseph-kennewick.org
Bulletin: receptionist@stjoseph-kennewick.org
Website: www.stjoseph-kennewick.org

St. Joseph School Office 509-586-0481
Principal: Catherine Valiant, principal@sjske.org
Children's Center 509-586-1428
Director: Rachel Cobb, director@sjske.org
School website: www.sjske.org

WEEKEND MASSES

- **Saturday Vigil:**
 - 5:30 pm (English)
 - 7:00 pm (Spanish)
- **Sunday:**
 - 9:00 am, 11:00 am, and 5:30 pm (English)
 - 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm (Spanish)

WEEKLY MASSES

- **Monday - Friday:**
 - 6:30 am & 8:30 am, Small Church (English)
- **Thursday:**
 - 7:00 pm, Small Church (Spanish)
- **Last Thursday of the Month:**
 - Holy Hour at 6:00 pm followed by Bilingual Mass at 7:00 pm, Small Church.
- **Saturday:**
 - 8:30 am, Small Church (English)
- **First Friday Mass:**
 - 7:00 pm, Small Church (English)

CONFESSIONS

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
William Mich
Juan Garcia
Herman Farias
Gustavo Valdivia
Mike Palmieri

**Pastoral Assistant
for Administration**
Vacant



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.

Parish Staff

Receptionist
Nancy T.
reception1@stjoseph-kennewick.org

Office Assistants
Tina D.
Rosy M.

Religious Education Coordinators
Maria R.
rel.ed.sat@stjoseph-kennewick.org
Nancy M.
rel.ed.wed@stjoseph-kennewick.org

Bookkeepers
Jessica “Jessie” T.
Sonia P.

Music Directors
Bonnie L.
Luis A.

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.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

"You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand." JAMES 5:8
 Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule. We know things to be convenient. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer, God reveals to us what He wants us to do with the gifts He has given us. We are able to better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.

collection for December 7

Sunday Offering	\$15,443.17
Building Fund	\$502.89
School Donations	\$267.00
Religious Education	\$855.35
Miscellaneous	\$63.50
Holy Day	\$242.00
OLÓG Flowers	\$467.00
Giving Tree	\$160.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$1,100.00
Online Giving	\$4,293.00

For online giving scan the QR code or visit:
<https://pushpay.com/g/stjosephkennewick>

We sincerely appreciate your continued financial support of our parish, as you are able. If you prefer to send your offering by mail, please address it to Saint Joseph Parish, 520 South Garfield Street, Kennewick, WA 98336. If you currently use offering envelopes and wish to transition to on-line-giving or bank bill pay, please contact the Parish Office, so we can ask the envelope publishers to quit sending you envelopes. Thank you for our generosity.



Prayers

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

For our sick: Johanna Stephens, Bill Murray, Drew Schreiber, Jill Gloria, Elaine Himes, Lois and Rick Rutherford, Jan Billings, Cory 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, Janika Whitsett, Jerry Mikkelsen, Kelly Freeman, Gus Perez, Jim Vicacio, Arlene Callahan, Dominic Nicacio, Luca Nicacio, Phyllis Pelletier, Nancy Park, Marlene Madrigal, Sherri McKie, Hugo Garcia, Vanessa Nicacio, Carol Smith, 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, Joanne, Armandino Gamino, Ana Espinoza, Sara and Johnny Howard, Father Kurt Hadley, Sara Melgarejo, John Lyczkowski, Lexie Day, Maria Barrientes, Randy Walker, Carina Ambriz, Tucker Shaw.

For our recently deceased: *Marta G. Sandoval* Kindly ring us when your ailing loved one finds healing, so we may open space for others on our list of prayers for the sick.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Openings: Tuesday at Midnight.

The Adoration Chapel is open to visitors. Please consider accepting the invitation to sign up for regular weekly hours. Please call to obtain personal codes for entry.
Carol at 509-582-5011 or, for Spanish, call Sandra at 509-802-8716.

Virgin Immaculate, you are the perfect model of adorers of the Blessed Sacrament. You adored Jesus in the little white Host with the same faith, reverence and wonder with which you adored Him on the first Christmas night and during all the years you lived with Him." (- from "Treasury of Prayer: Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament")



Welcome to our Parish Community!

If you're new to St. Joseph, we extend a warm welcome to you—whether you've traveled from another part of the country, from around the globe or simply from a different parish. Your presence enriches our liturgical celebrations in a wonderful way. If you wish to join our Catholic community, please complete a registration form available on our website.

MASS INTENTIONS

FOR THE WEEK

Monday, December 15

6:30 am
 † Elaine Loftus

8:30 am
 † Rose Daily

Tuesday, December 16

6:30 am
 No Intentions for this Mass

8:30 am
 † Monica Duncan

Wednesday, December 17

6:30 am
 No Intentions for this Mass

8:30 am
 † Charlotte Martin

Thursday, December 18

6:30 am
 † Gregory Wieck

8:30 am
 † Pat Leskovar

7:00 pm
 † Gladys de Gonzalez

Friday, December 19

6:30 am
 † Rosa Arballo (Delgado)

8:30 am
 † Joe Gallegos, Sr.

Saturday, December 20

8:30 am
 † Pat Leskovar

5:30 pm
 † Peggy Phillips

7:00 pm
 † Michael Ford

7:00 pm
 † Agustin Mojica

7:00 pm
 † Julio Rios Valdovinos

Sunday, December 21

9:00 am
 † William F. Buckley

11:00 am
 † Jack and Pat Hiller

11:00 am
 † Henry and Renee Barr

11:00 am
 † Pat Leskovar

11:00 am
 † Joseph (JoJo) Busz

11:00 am
 † Marcelino Garcia

11:00 am
 † Maria Victoria Reyes

11:00 am
 † Jovita Farias

11:00 am
 † Jose Alfredo Farias (Healing)

11:00 am
 † Angelina Lopez

11:00 am
 † Angel Orozco

11:00 am
 † Cindy Weise

11:00 am
 † Ann Morgen

11:00 am
 † Dr. James Wetter

11:00 am
 † Julio Rios Valdovinos

11:00 am
 † Javier Huerta

11:00 am
 † Cruz Magallon



Scan QR code to request online!

Advent Penance Services

Mon., Dec. 15	Holy Spirit 6:30 pm	7409 W. Clearwater Kennewick
Tue., Dec. 16	Christ the King 6:30 pm	1111 Stevens Dr., Richland
Wed., Dec. 17	Sacred Heart 6:30 pm	1905 Highland Dr., Prosser
Thurs., Dec. 18	St. Francis Cabrini 6:30 pm	1000 Home Dr., Benton City
Fri., Dec. 19	St. Joseph 6:30 pm	520 S. Garfield S., Kennewick

MOTHER TERESA MEAL MINISTRY

Delivering lunches twice a month for the Union Gospel Mission!

First Sunday
 January 4
 10:15 am

Third Tuesday
 December 16
 9:15 am



ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA
 (MOTHER TERESA)
Servant to the Poor

We invite you to donate non-perishable food items to support the Mother Teresa Meal Ministry. Donation bins will be available at both the front of the church and the Parish Office. If you prefer to make a monetary contribution, you may either bring it to the Parish Office or place it in the collection basket labeled for MTMM. To see a list of donations needed or to volunteer, please contact Cindy Meyer at 509-948-2182 or via email at cinmeyer@yahoo.com.

Brothers and Sisters,

Merry Christmas!

The Lord's birth is celebrated by Christians all over the world. We come together and watch children dressed as Mary and Joseph perform the Posada. We attend mass with our families and sing hymns. We gather for feasts. And we do it all in celebration of the birth of the tiny baby who changed the world forever.

Christmas is also a time we think of those who are less fortunate, those who may not have family to gather with, a dinner to enjoy, or even a safe place to sleep. These are the individuals who—like Mary and Joseph—need compassion and kindness most.

Catholic Charities exists to provide support and help to the most vulnerable, regardless of their faith or religious background. But it is **your generosity** that makes this care and compassion available. **Your giving** to Catholic Charities truly changes lives.

Providing affordable housing, diapers and winter coats for families with children, crisis support to the depressed and despondent, or companionship to a lonely senior—none of this life affirming assistance can happen without you.

In a recent letter, Pope Leo expressed his heartfelt gratitude to those who “put into practice the Lord's admonition to see and serve him in the poor, hungry, homeless, and people in any kind of need.” His letter was directed to those attending the 115th Annual Meeting of the Catholic Charities USA Network. But really, he is thanking **you**.

Through your generosity, you are the ones saying “yes” and welcoming Mary and Joseph into your lives. You are the ones offering hope to those who need it most. You are the blessed individuals serving as the hands and feet of Jesus.

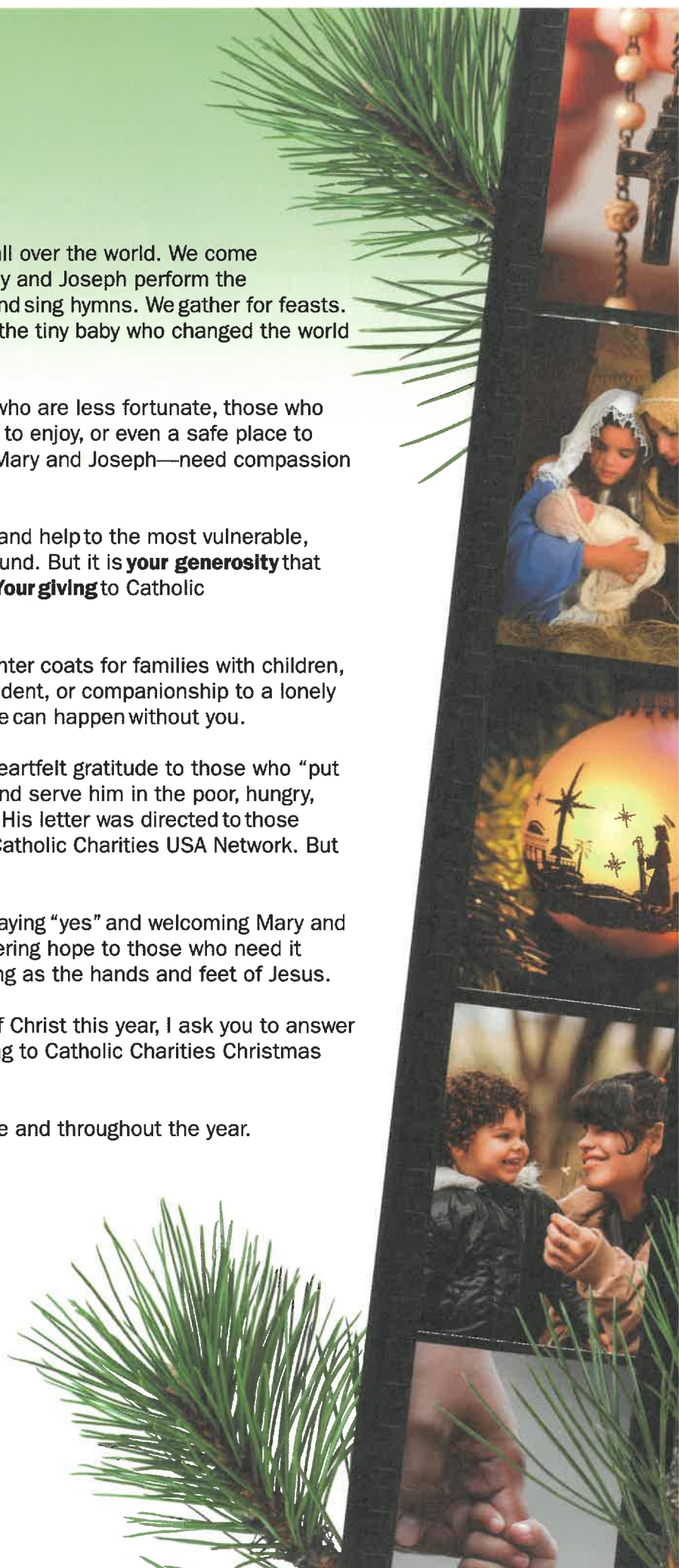
As you and your family celebrate the birth of Christ this year, I ask you to answer the Lord's call to help those in need by giving to Catholic Charities Christmas Collection.

God bless you all during this season of hope and throughout the year.

In Christ,

Father Tom

Monsignor Thomas C. Champoux
Trustee Emeritus and Vicar for Charities



Hermanos y Hermanas,

¡Feliz Navidad!

El nacimiento del Señor es celebrado por los católicos en todo el mundo. Nos reunimos y vemos niños vestidos como María y José realizando La Posada. Asistimos a Misa con nuestras familias y cantamos himnos. Nos reunimos para cenar juntos. Y todo lo hacemos en celebración del nacimiento del pequeño bebé que cambió el mundo para siempre.

Navidad es también un tiempo donde pensamos en aquellos menos afortunados, los que no tienen familia con quien reunirse, ni una cena para compartir, e incluso ni un lugar seguro para dormir. Estas son las personas que, al igual que María y José, necesitan más compasión y amabilidad.

Catholic Charities existe para dar apoyo y ayuda a los más vulnerables, sin tomar en cuenta su fe o formación religiosa. Pero es **su generosidad** lo que hace posible este cuidado y compasión. **Su donación** a Catholic Charities cambia vidas.

Ayudando a una familia tener un hogar seguro, proporcionando pañales y abrigos para el invierno a las familias con niños, y apoyo en situaciones de crisis para personas deprimidas y abatidas, o compañía para una persona mayor solitaria, nada de esta ayuda sería posible sin **ustedes**.

Recientemente, el Papa León expresó su sincera gratitud a todos los que “ponen en práctica la admonición del Señor de verlo y servirlo en el pobre, en el hambriento, en el desamparado, y en la gente que tiene cualquier clase de necesidad.” Su carta estaba dirigida a los asistentes a la 115ava Reunión Anual de la Red de Caridades Católicas de EE. UU. Pero realmente, él está agradeciéndoles a ustedes.

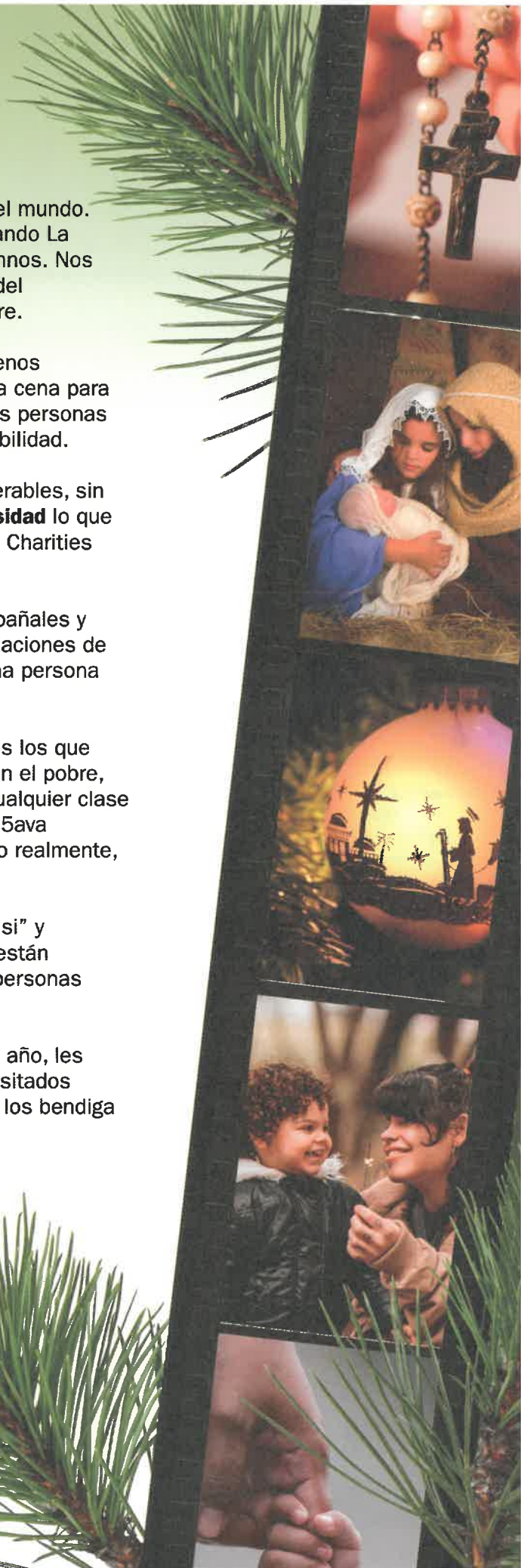
Mediante su generosidad, ustedes son los que están diciendo “sí” y recibiendo a María y a José en sus vidas. Ustedes son los que están ofreciendo esperanza a los más necesitados. Ustedes son las personas benditas que sirven como las manos y los pies de Jesús.

Mientras celebran con sus familias el nacimiento de Cristo este año, les pido que contesten el llamado del Señor para ayudar a los necesitados donando a la Colecta de Navidad de Catholic Charities. Que Dios los bendiga a todos durante esta temporada y durante todo el año.

Sinceramente en Cristo,

Father Tom

Monseñor Thomas C. Champoux
Administrador Emérito y Vicario para Caridades





CENTRAL WASHINGTON CATHOLIC

El Católico de Washington Central

Pāchu Washintin Chmuk Tātpas

DECEMBER 2022

The Angels of God: Guiding Mankind from The First Christmas to Now

By Christine Corbett Conklin

Just as the angels of God played an important role in the first Christmas, they continue to be with us today, guiding us on the path to Heaven.

“Angels were made at the time of creation. They are eternal,” observed Very Rev. Michael Ibach, judicial vicar of the Diocese of Yakima and parochial vicar of Holy Family Parish in Yakima.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church assures us that “from infancy to death, human life is surrounded by their (angels’) watchful care and intercession.” Each human being is said to have a special “guardian” angel.

The Bible gives prominence to the role of angels, surrounding the miraculous birth of Jesus. The Archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary, telling her that “God would like you to be the mother of His Son,” Father Ibach noted. Another Bible account tells us how Gabriel also told Zechariah that he and Elizabeth would have

a son (John the Baptist). Then, there was the angelic message to shepherds watching their flocks, that Jesus had been born.

“Angels are part of the mystery of God,” Father Ibach said. “He not only created us, but wanted to help us on our walk with (Him), to encourage us to know (Him) and love Him.”

Although there is much we do not know about angels, we know that they were created in three “hierarchies,” Father explained. The first level or hierarchy includes the Seraphim, Cherubim and

Thrones, whose duties include surrounding the throne of God, praising Him and singing hymns. The second hierarchy includes Dominions, Virtues and Powers, who help with governing the natural world and protecting against evil. The third hierarchy consists of Principalities, Archangels and Angels, who help protect institutions, serve as messengers and are directly involved in human lives.

In illustrations, angels often are depicted as having human features, sporting wings and



The Angel Gabriel’s appearance to Mary is an important part of salvation history.

wearing flowing gowns. How they actually are spirits who only occasionally take human form for a precise mission. Contrary to popular belief, we do not become angels when we die – although we certainly can become saints.

“Our guardian angels walk with us on the journey of life, may help us when we’re trying to make a decision, nudging us,” Ibach said. Perhaps they can help when temptation comes, for example, and try to encourage us through our conscience.

From ancient times to today, “angels are another layer of God showing His love for us,” Father Ibach concluded.

So, as you look upon the Christmas manger scenes – or even a nativity scene with a luminous angel perched on a cloud – remember that you have a guardian angel always watching over you. Merry Christmas!



We often pray to Archangel Michael today, for protection from evil.

ends:
gaze on the crèche at Christmas, want to consider the plight of the family, especially when considering that of so many families in irregular status across the Diocese of Yakima. It is that normally the Church recalls the plight of migrants and refugees starting with the feast of Epiphany. But due to the Holy Year and the Jubilee for Migrants and Refugees on October 4 and 5, we are called to pray for “peoples on the move” in

Nevertheless, our Christmas-time celebration of the Holy Family and Epiphany offers an opportunity to reflect more on their migratory journey as it relates to the migration of so many of our parishioners here and around the world and indeed the plight of all migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. It is our turn to the scriptures: “The decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all in the world should be numbered.” (Luke 2:1)

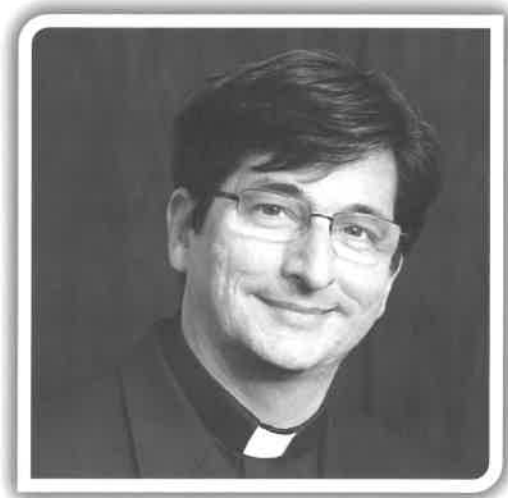
The census not only required an immigration. Its intent had nefarious purposes. Counting people meant a way of increasing taxation rates. And counting at planning the size of an army

in that region there were shepherds dwelling...” (Luke 8)

Shepherds in the field might be considered “campesinos” today. Just as we have hundreds of H2A seasonal workers who come each year, shepherds were often migrant workers in the fields. Whether migrant workers working with an irregular status or H2A with temporary status, the situation creates emotional hardships and distance from family in moments of crisis such as the loss of a loved one at home. The shepherds could see themselves in Jesus, born in an animal shed which some shepherds could well have been

“You are born this day in the city of David who is Christ the Lord...”

“Salvation” and “redemption” are terms often used in trafficking. Those who were sold and often enslaved could not save themselves. They needed to be saved. It led someone to step in and make a “redemption.” Indeed, one of our Yakima saints tells the story of crossing the



Bishop Joseph Tyson

the border at age 11 with some of the “coyotes” requiring adults to be “mules” carrying drugs. Hometowns can be frightening places when cartels are in conflict. But the border can also be a place of terror too. The cost of redemption! In a certain sense, the Church borrows these terms “salvation” and “redemption” to explain the dramatic action of God becoming human, sneaking into the world “behind enemy lines” as the great C. S. Lewis puts it, to free us and rescue us. God does for us that which we cannot do on our own. Jesus is savior because His death to sin is not for himself but for our “redemption” and we see that first glimmer of our full human freedom in the birth of Christ.

“...and suddenly there was a multitude of angels...” (Luke 12)

The Greek word in the earliest Gospel texts for “host” or “multitude” is “strata” which means army. At the time of the census, when Caesar Augustus is counting baby boys to project the potential for his human army, God sends an army of angels at the birth of our Savior!

“...take the child and his mother and flee to Egypt...” (Matthew 2:13)

Saint Matthew includes this account of the Holy Family’s flight into Egypt. They are fleeing violence. As bishop, I am keenly aware of the parallels today. Yet the latest changes to our immigration rules only allow those inside the United States to apply for asylum now. People in danger cannot apply at the border. They cannot apply outside the United States. So how does one do this? By imitating the Holy Family and fleeing in darkness.

Perhaps this is why Pope Saint John Paul II, in his encyclical “Veritatis Splen-

dor,” so wisely included “deportation” as one of a number of “intrinsic moral evils” in our historical era. (80)

In our recent statement on immigration, the bishops are not arguing for “open borders.” Nor are we suggesting that no deportations can ever take place. A moral analysis would suggest deportations could be morally tolerable for the “common good.” But it is erroneous for Catholics in the media and in public life to sweepingly dismiss the morality of deportation as a matter of “prudential judgment.” It is not. We have a teaching! It’s clear. And the “indiscriminate deportation” without due process underway now in the United States ought to weigh heavily on the conscience of every Catholic.

Perhaps the best way to aid in our discernment is to meditate on the artistry of the story of the Holy Family, who lived an itinerant life that echoes the life – not only of so many migrants and refugees – but also the lives of so many of our fellow parishioners across Central Washington.

May our devotion and sympathy for the plight of the Holy Family move us to have compassion for the plight of our many parishioner families in irregular legal status, living under the fear of an immigration policy inconsistent with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and unbecoming of Catholics in public life who promote and execute these public policies.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

With every best wish and blessing!

Yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

Central Washington Catholic

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PUBLISHER

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson

MODERATOR

Monsignor Robert M. Siler

EDITOR

Christine Corbett Conklin

TRANSLATIONS

Indiana Blandón

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Email: robert.siler@yakimadiocese.org

If you have been abused or victimized by a member of the Catholic clergy, please believe in the power of prayer 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.

Take A Deeper Look at The Symbols and Terms of Christmas Season

There is much meaning behind the symbols and terms of the Christmas season. How many do you recognize? Answers follow at the end.

1. What does holly represent?
 - a. A traditional bush used for decoration since the time of Jesus.
 - b. The suffering endured by Jesus and followers of Christ to present day.
 - c. Its wreaths symbolize Jesus' crown of thorns, red berries his blood.
 - d. The coming together of green for hope and red for suffering.
2. What do "two turtle doves" represent in the song, The 12 Days of Christmas?
 - a. Blessed Mother and her cousin, Elizabeth.
 - b. A gift of offering to the Lord.
 - c. The value of the animal world in creation.
 - d. The Old and New Testaments.
3. What does the Christmas tree symbolize?
 - a. The "evergreen" tree stands for eternal life.
 - b. "Evergreen" tree stands for God's unending love; the star, the star of Bethlehem.
 - c. The conical shape of the tree directs our attention to God in Heaven.
 - d. The tree is a symbol of hope in a season of darkness.
4. What does the striped candy cane represent?
 - a. The staff of the "Good Shepherd," with white his purity, red His blood.



- b. The presence of both good and evil in the world.
 - c. A tribute to the clergy who "shepherd" us to this day.
 - d. There is really no meaning. It is just candy.
5. Which saint gets credit for making the Christmas creche (Nativity scene) popular?
 - a. Saint John the Baptist
 - b. Saint Francis of Assisi
 - c. Saint Nicholas
 - d. Pope Leo I
 6. What does the name "Emmanuel" mean?
 - a. God with us.
 - b. God is Savior.
 - c. God is love.
 - d. God is holy.
 7. Why is there a custom of midnight Mass?
 - a. It respects the schedules of many working people.
 - b. It makes the symbolic light of candles and church lights more pronounced.
 - c. It starts Christmas day with more reverence.
 - d. It was believed to be the time when Jesus was born.
 8. What is the liturgical color used in Church at Christmas?
 - a. Gold for celebration
 - b. White for joy and purity.
 - c. Green for hope for the future.
 - d. Blue to honor Mary.

9. When did Mary and Joseph give their baby the name Jesus?
 - a. He was named from the time Gabriel appeared to Mary.
 - b. He was named from the day the angel appeared to Joseph.
 - c. He was named in the stable the day of his birth.
 - d. He was named eight days birth.
10. How long is the "Catholic Christmas season" this year?
 - a. The entire month of December
 - b. From Christmas Eve to January 11
 - c. From Christmas Eve to January 1
 - d. From Christmas Day to Ja



p (01) ;p (6) ;p (8) ;p (10) ;p (12) ;p (14) ;p (16) ;p (18) ;p (20) ;p (22) ;p (24) ;p (26) ;p (28) ;p (30) ;p (32) ;p (34) ;p (36) ;p (38) ;p (40) ;p (42) ;p (44) ;p (46) ;p (48) ;p (50) ;p (52) ;p (54) ;p (56) ;p (58) ;p (60) ;p (62) ;p (64) ;p (66) ;p (68) ;p (70) ;p (72) ;p (74) ;p (76) ;p (78) ;p (80) ;p (82) ;p (84) ;p (86) ;p (88) ;p (90) ;p (92) ;p (94) ;p (96) ;p (98) ;p (100)

Based on information from catholic365.com, dio.org, funtriv and hallow.com.

Edward Jones > edwardjones.com | Mem

Merry Christmas

We hope your home is filled with family and friends sharing joy and laughter this Christmas season.



Kathleen S Wilmes
Financial Advisor
3601 W Washington Ave 100
Yakima, WA 98903
509-654-9063



Scan the code with the camera on your phone



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Best of Yakima 2023





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The more things change, the more they stay the same.











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News

Around the Diocese

Holy Days Are Coming Soon

Two important Catholic holy days are around the corner. **Christmas, December 25**, celebrates the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. **The Solemnity of January 1**, honors the unique role of the Mother of God plays in salvation history.

Attendance at Mass is required on all of these special days. The exception is if someone is ill or infirm, is unable to care for another, is far away from a Catholic church, or is unable to join other members of the parish family to give praise to God.

MED Offers Free Programs

FORMED is a free Catholic app, offering Bible studies, sacramental preparation materials, movies, TV series commentaries for all.

Access it for your phone or tablet, visit <https://formd.org/signup>. Type in your parish name or zip code, then enter your name and email address. It's that simple. (Note: if you are part of a mission parish you'll need to enter the parish name or zip code of the parent parish.) The upcoming holidays would be a great time to test out the app, with the whole family can watch.

Your Marriage Need Help?

Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue – or have you just stopped talking? Do you feel alone? Struggling in marriage (pronounced retro-vie) couples through difficult times in marriages.

For more information or to register for upcoming sessions, call (509) 448-2230 or visit the web site www.HelpOurMarriage.org. Click Find A Weekend tab and scroll to the Yakima and Northwest link.

Know About Events

Over the upcoming year, many special events will be scheduled for our parishes. If you are interested in the *Central Washington Catholic*, please contact the app to help publicize parish events open to the public. Let us know about your upcoming religious celebration, parish anniversary celebration or other special event. For consideration for publication, contact robert.siler@yakimadiocese.org or call on the first day of the month of the event.

Help Everyone Access the Bible, Including Online, Pope

By Cindy Wooden

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – At a time when young people spend so much time in “digital environments,” members of the Catholic Biblical Federation need to ask how they are fulfilling the Second Vatican Council’s mandate to give everyone access to the Bible, Pope Leo XIV said.

“What does ‘easy access to Sacred Scripture’ mean in our time? How can we facilitate this encounter for those who have never heard the Word of God or whose cultures remain untouched by the Gospel?” the Pope asked members of the Federation’s steering committee and its regional representatives.

Pope Leo welcomed the group to the Apostolic Palace November 17, expressing particular concern for people who “find themselves in cultural spaces where the Gospel is unfamiliar or distorted by particular interests.”

At the end of the audience, Mary Sperry, associate director of the U.S. Bishops’ Office for the Biblical Apostolate, presented Pope Leo with two large white binders. They contained a preview copy of *The Catholic American Bible*, slated for publication in 2027.

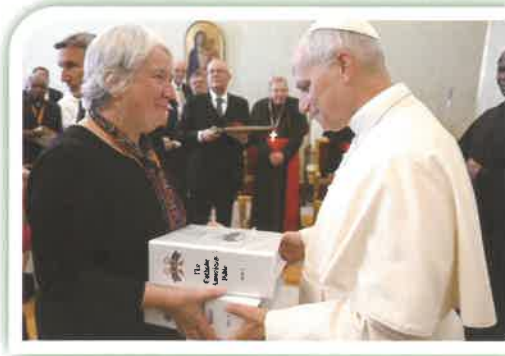
Meeting on the eve of the 60th anniversary of the Vatican II Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, “*Dei Verbum*,” Pope Leo asked members of the group to reflect on how they individually and as a federation respond to the call “to hear the Word of God with reverence and to proclaim it with faith.”

“The church draws life not from herself but from the Gospel,” he said. “From the Gospel she continually rediscovers the direction for her journey, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, who teaches all things and reminds us of everything the Son has said.”

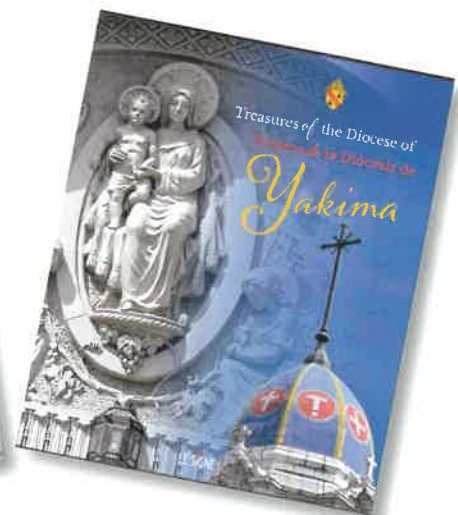
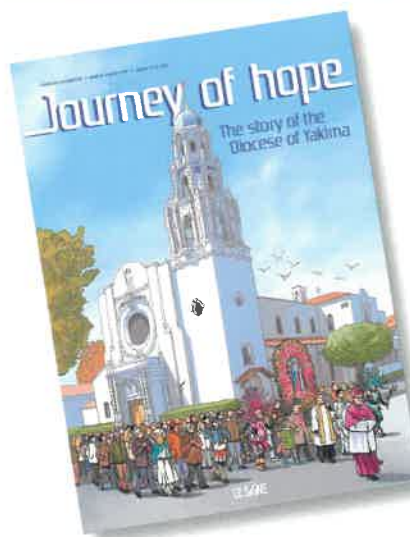
A key part of that, he said, is helping everyone have access to a Bible so they can “encounter the God who speaks, shares His love and draws us into the fullness of life.”

Translations of the Bible, which the Federation promotes, are essential for that, he said, but so are initiatives like encouraging “lectio divina,” a prayerful reading of Scripture.

“Ultimately,” Pope Leo told Federation members, “your mission is to become ‘living letters ... written not in ink but by the Spirit of the living God,’ bearing witness to the primacy of God’s Word over the many voices that fill our world.”



Pope Leo XIV received a preview copy of *The Catholic American Bible* from Mary Sperry, associate director of the U.S. Bishops’ Office for the Biblical Apostolate. (CNS photo/Vatican Media)



As part of our celebration in 2026 of the 75th anniversary of the formation of the Diocese of Yakima, Bishop Joseph Tyson commissioned a pictorial history of the Diocese, along with a graphic novel. Copies should be available for purchase (by donation) in the parishes or through the Pastoral Center in Yakima by mid-December. “I hope you will enjoy reading the history and reflecting on the many images of our parishes and institutions,” Bishop Tyson said.

**A NOTE FROM
SERRA CLUB OF THE TRI CITIES**

"Rejoice in the Lord, always. Again, I say, rejoice! Indeed, the Lord is near." (from the Entrance Antiphon, Philippians 4:4-5) Do you rejoice in the Lord? Is He asking you to help others rejoice as a priest, permanent deacon, or sister?



Discalced Carmelite Seculars



"Look for Christ our Lord in everyone and you will then have respect and reverence for all."

~St. John of the Cross, OCD

Is God calling you into deeper communion with Himself? Are you feeling drawn into deeper prayer? Maybe God is calling you to a vocation as a

Discalced Carmelite Secular! For more information call Wendy Nuxoll at 509-551-0013.

**ST. JOSEPH PENANCE SERVICE
DECEMBER 19, 2025
6:30 PM | BIG CHURCH**



Parish Office Closed
December 24-26

December 24-Christmas Eve Masses

Big Church
English Mass **4:00 pm and 11:00 pm**
Spanish Mass **8:00 pm**

December 25-Christmas Day

Big Church
English Mass **9:00 am**
Spanish Mass **11:00 am**



December 31-Vigil Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

English **5:30 pm**
Spanish **7:00 pm**

January 1-Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Solemnity of the Virgin Mary, Mother of God
English Mass **9:00 am**
Spanish Mass **11:00 am**

January 4 -Feast of the Epiphany

English Mass **9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:30 pm**
Spanish Mass **1:00 pm, 7:00 pm**

POSADAS

The St. Joseph Parish invites all parishioners to participate in our cherished tradition of parish posadas, a novena that helps us prepare for Christmas. Each evening represents the journey of Mary and Joseph as they seek shelter for the arrival of the Savior.

Let us joyfully prepare for the arrival of Jesus!

- December 15 | 6:30 pm | Dillon Hall**
Courtesy of the Guadalupe Society and Schoenstatt Movement (SP)
- December 16 | 6:30 pm | Dillon Hall**
Courtesy of: Altar Servers and Ushers (SP)
- December 17 | 6:30 pm | Dillon Hall**
Courtesy of EMHC and Lectors (SP)
- December 18 | 6:30 pm | Dillon Hall**
Courtesy of Encuentro Arcoiris and OCIA (SP)
- December 19 | 6:30 pm | Dillon Hall**
Courtesy of Carniceria Tres Pueblos, Youth Group and Liturgical Art and Environment Committee
- December 20 | 6:30 pm | Dillon Hall**
Courtesy of Apogetic Bible Study Group and Choir (SP)
- December 21 | 6:30 pm | Dillon Hall**
Courtesy of Religious Ed and Catechists (SP)
- December 22 | 5:00 pm | Dillon Hall**
Courtesy of Marriage Encounter (SP)
- December 23 | 6:30 pm | Dillon Hall**
Courtesy of Knights of Columbus Council and Cursillo Movement (SP)

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.

12/14 Beth and Jose Arroyo
12/21 Antonio and Ermina Abut
12/28 Reeny Olsen

With questions or to sign up, please contact Elizabeth Robas, 509-591-1339, or Irma Valdivia, 509-366-4422.

Milestone:

December 18 marks the sixty-second anniversary of **Fr. Riccardo Keolker's** ordination to the priesthood. We invite you to take a moment to congratulate him and convey your appreciation for his many years of devoted service to the Church.

December 31 marks the special occasion of our Pastor **Fr. Jose Herrera's** birthday.

To share your heartfelt wishes, please feel free to send or drop off cards at the Parish Office.



Your offering on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day helps Catholic Charities become the hands and feet of Jesus to more than 50,000 people throughout Central Washington. For more

information about the Catholic Charities network of services, visit www.hopetolife.org.



2026 Sacrament of Baptism for Infants and Children under Age 7

Deadline: To reserve the dates listed below, the baptismal registration process and all necessary paperwork **MUST** be completed at least one month in advance. For detailed information, please contact the Parish Office.

Upcoming Baptisms: January 17, May 16, and July 18

Note: No Baptisms will be held in February, March, April, or June.

Baptism Class:

Attendance in pre-Baptism classes is mandatory for all parents and Godparents. Once parents have registered, the dates for the in-person classes will be scheduled.

Godparents: If there are two Godparents, one must be male and the other must be female. Godparents should be practicing Catholics, at least 16 years old, and must have received the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion, and Confirmation.

Important Call for Pledges

We have noticed a decline in pledges and warmly encourage you to step up and make your pledge today. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to our loyal donors and the new supporters who have committed to the Diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal. If you couldn't pledge last weekend or weren't quite ready, we invite you to contribute today. Your donation plays a crucial role in supporting the many ministries of the Diocese of Yakima. To donate online, please visit www.yakimadiocese.org or scan the QR code.



YOU ARE INVITED
February 7, 2026

St Joseph Dillon Hall
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www.auctria.event/2026ArtWine



Scan the QR code to visit the event's website

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