



CENTRAL WASHINGTON CATHOLIC

El Católico de Washington Central

Pāchu Washintin Chmuk Tātpas

DECEMBER 2014
Newsletter

Making New Year's Resolutions: Don't Forget The Eternal Rewards

By Christine Corbett Conklin

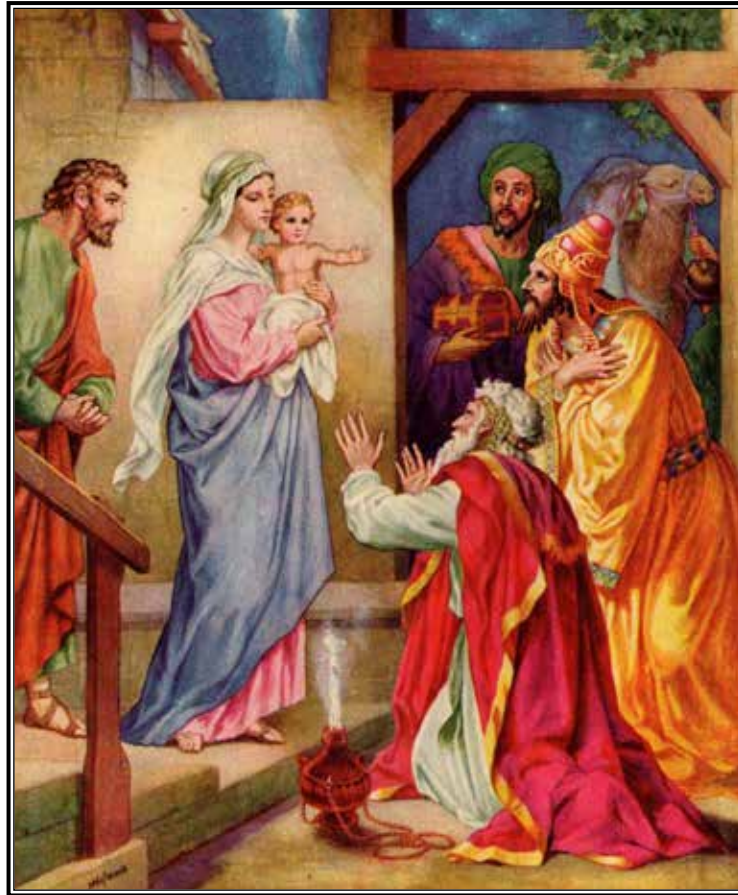
Have you made your New Year's resolutions? How's it going so far? Is your top priority to lose weight, to reduce your credit card balance, maybe to start a new exercise program?

Looking ahead to 2015, what if you made a resolution that would have everlasting benefits? Long after this life has come to an end, you could still be reaping rewards better than any credit card company could imagine!

Try putting your Catholic Faith – and living out that Faith – among your top priorities for this year. Even a small change here or there, a small addition once a week or once a month, could reap powerful benefits in grace.

For example, consider attending daily Mass even once a week or once each month, in addition to attendance on weekends and Holy Days. And remember something called Confession? As the Nike ads say, "Just do it!" – on a regular basis. Pray the powerful prayers of the Rosary – alone or, even better, with those you love. Take time to say Grace before meals. Come to church for First Friday devotions. Through your parish gift shop, online through EWTN, or through one of numerous catalog companies, find a calendar or book which offers daily reflections on Scripture or the lives of the saints.

Put your Faith into action by volunteering



Let us follow the example of the Magi and seek Christ -- throughout the year.

your help in making sandwiches for the hungry, serving in a soup kitchen, standing with pro-life volunteers at an abortion or family planning clinic, or contacting your pastor to see if there is a task that needs doing

around your church. Remember, bulletins don't stuff themselves. Churches don't clean themselves. And decorations for special events don't just miraculously appear.

See if your parish school or religious education program needs volunteers. Even if you can't spare the time to volunteer every week, perhaps you could split a job with another person. Catholic groups such as the Knights of Columbus, Guadalupanas, Young Ladies Institute and St. Vincent De Paul Society can always use a helping hand.

Check out programs in our Diocese that teach about the Faith. The Magnificat series, with both English and Spanish classes, is one excellent example. Marriage Encounters and Engaged Encounters also are offered. In addition, parishes schedule special speakers or presentations that offer Faith enrichment. Make a habit of reading the parish bulletin, visit the parish website or visit yakimadiocese.org to see what's coming up.

In short, as you consider your New Year's resolutions for 2015, plan to do something that will have lasting benefits. Even a minor change or two can make a big difference. Weight

goes up and down – just like credit card balances - but an investment in the spiritual life of you and your family will live on forever!

Pro-Life Events Scheduled in January for Yakima, Wenatchee

Everyone is encouraged to join in two pro-life events scheduled for Yakima and Wenatchee, marking the anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, the U.S. Supreme Court decision which legalized abortion.

A Walk for Life is scheduled for Saturday, January 17 in Yakima. The annual event, which will honor the millions of babies who have died through abortion and call for an end to abortion everywhere, will begin at 1 p.m., with introductory words at Grace of Christ Church, 9 South Eighth Avenue (corner of Yakima Avenue and South Eighth Avenue).

Participants will proceed down Yakima Avenue to Millennium Plaza on South Third Street. Transportation will be available for anyone who cannot walk this distance. Individuals, families, and groups from churches, schools and other community organizations all are invited. Banners representing the various groups joining in the event are welcome.

Following the walk, refreshments will be available back at Grace of Christ Church.

On Thursday, January 22, there will be a Wenatchee Rally for life, scheduled from noon to 1 p.m. in Memorial Park, in front of

the Chelan County Courthouse.

Following the rally, participants will walk to the Liberty Theater to hear Dr. Don Smith, producer of *Silent Screams*, give a short presentation, show a video and make the case for a constitutional amendment on the sanctity of human life.

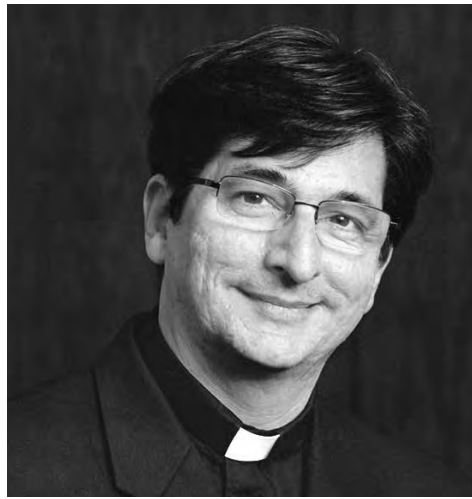
Check your parish bulletin for other pro-life events which may be scheduled around the Diocese of Yakima to mark this solemn anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, or schedule a prayer vigil of your own. Hundreds of babies continue to die each year at Planned Parenthood sites in Yakima and the Tri-Cities alone.

A Message from Bishop Tyson...

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the final issue of 2014, though you will be reading it in the New Year! If I had to select one word that ties together the many stories in this issue it would be “trust.” Trust is the basis for our programs encouraging “safe environments” for our children, youth and vulnerable adults in parishes, especially in our faith formation programs.

Trust is what anchors the great ministry of Retrouvaille and its work to bring together couples who’ve experienced trauma in their marriages. Trust is what happens when a parent bring a child to catechesis and it is this “trust” of the catechist that grounds our Magnificat program. Trust is what enables us to have confidence that the Church will use our donations to our special collections



Bishop Joseph Tyson

wisely – beginning with this month’s Catholic Communication Campaign.

Trust is what enables parishioners to follow the leadership of their priests, including Father Felipe Pulido and Father Lalo Barragan at St. Joseph Parish in Yakima. Trust is the basis of the spiritual life.

As you consider making resolutions for the New Year, my hope and prayer for each of you is that you trust God – even in times of uncertainty and darkness – and in doing so that you discover God’s very closeness to you.

With my every best wish and blessing,

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

Magnificat Offers a Chance to Learn

Begin the new year by learning more about the Catholic Faith. Upcoming classes in the English Magnificat program offer a perfect opportunity. From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., February 14 in Yakima, and again on February 21 in Quincy, three classes will be offered. Father Miguel Gonzalez will teach about Ministries, Bishop Joseph Tyson will discuss Ecclesiology and Stephanie Bafus will explore Catechesis.

Then, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., March 14 in Yakima, and again on March 21 in Quincy, another three classes will be presented. Bishop Tyson will teach about Liturgy, Jeff Thompson will explore Spirituality, and Father Osmar Aguirre will discuss the Mission of the Church.

These classes are designed to help us grow in knowledge of our Faith, creed and doctrine of the Church. Classes in Yakima are held at the Pastoral Center, 5301-A Tieton Drive, while classes in Quincy are held in St. Pius X Parish, 805 North Central Avenue.

There is no charge to attend. A free will offering is welcomed. Pre-registration is not required.

Trusting in God Helps Build Safe Environments *Continued from page 3*

The fears, of course, are real and we find ourselves doing all that we can in order for our family and us to be safe and secure. Knowing God and understanding His plan for us is placing our trust in Him. Understanding that our lives are nothing without God and that He is the first priority in all of our decisions, allows us to freely live the Beatitude: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 5:3).

Using material goods for our benefit and for the good of others is not the same as being a slave to possessing them. The key is learning and living the difference. “Abandonment to the providence of the Father in heaven frees us from anxiety about tomorrow. Trust in God is a preparation for the blessedness of the poor. They shall see God” (Catechism, 2547). Our poorness of spirit allows us closeness to God that frees us from the worries of tomorrow, which allows us every ounce of joy imaginable at the present moment. Trust.

Note: Dr. Ashton is a consultant to the Virtus program, used by many dioceses to help create and maintain safe environments for our children, youth and vulnerable adults.

St. Joseph Parish, Yakima: A Living Tradition of Catholic Faith *Continued from page 4*

what our religion holds for us, what a gift it is!”

Other priests who have played a key role in parish history in recent years, serving as pastors, have included Fathers J. Patrick Hurley, S.J.; Patrick Carroll, S.J.; Arnold Beezer, S.J.; and Francis Schoenberg, S.J. Some of the most active parish groups currently include a charismatic group, catechists and St. Vincent’s Charities.

Another fixture of the parish has been its school, with roots as a small mission school begun in 1875 by the Sisters of Charity of Providence in Union Gap. (St. Joseph Academy was founded in 1887 and Marquette boys’ school in 1918, both in Yakima.) The present school was built in 1947. Under the leadership of Sister Rebecca Berghoff, principal, and after consolidation of Yakima’s three Catholic high schools, the school also began using the Marquette High School building in 1979, officially adopting the name, St. Joseph Marquette, in 1985. Now, there are 366 students in pre-K through eighth grade.

There has also been good support from within the parish for programs such as the annual Hispanic Congresso, said Patricia Martinez, a parishioner since 1989 who helps organize the Congresso and also serves on the parish events committee and has helped with Mexican Independence Day celebrations.

“They make you feel wanted,” she said. “It feels so good to be able to serve there. That’s our church. That’s our parish!”

Gonzales concluded, “I have gotten closer to God because of the unity and the diversity of the church.”

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

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

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PUBLISHER

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson

MODERATOR

Monsignor Robert M. Siler

EDITOR

Christine Corbett Conklin

TRANSLATIONS

Indiana Blandon

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Email: robert.siler@yakimadiocese.org

Trusting in God Helps Build Safe Environments

By Paul Ashton, Psy.D., D.Min.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul, my God, in you I trust. — Psalm 25: 1,2

Hectic times can be frustrating, especially when you spend your hard-earned money on goods and services and end up with results that are far less than you expected as a standard. Conversations with friends and family, sharing and comparing horror stories about these frustrations, can be equally challenging. Whom can you trust? Where can you go?

Online companies have done exceedingly well in providing the answers to exactly these questions. Listings of all kinds of services and professionals are offered along with comments and critiques from actual customers. Such services work well, but there always seems to be someone who was let down and has a horror story about a particular incident. Such is life.

Coping with these daily struggles is often overwhelming. When the going gets rough, though, loved ones often pull us back into the bigger reality that our lives are much more than a chain of unfortunate situations. Sharing our trials, disappointments and difficulties not only lightens our burdens, but also offers us the opportunity to see the bigger picture—that we are loved. Trusting in this message is a big step for many people. Sometimes it takes years to develop and foster, and in many other cases it is just a matter of moments. Children, for example, flourish in the safe arms of their loving parents who protect them from the harsh realities of sharp edges and the elements. A senior immediately feels safe in the hands of a stranger who guides his uneasy steps up a few stairs.

The world operates peacefully each day because of the daily occurrences of billions and billions of random acts of kindness performed by neighbors, strangers, family, friends and loved ones. Without such acts of goodness, the amount of suffering would be immeasurable. The actions of a few persons can disrupt this peace in a matter of moments. Violence, abuse and all other manners of human horror can occur in moments, even by those whom we trust. Such is life.

Where do we go with all of this? Whom can we trust? Placing our lives and fragile emotions in the hands of others is risky, and the process is sometimes difficult, but the rewards of trusting and loving relationships are enormously numerable and far outweigh the risks. God calls us to loving and trusting encounters so we can flourish and thrive in our world as persons who contribute daily to the billions of kind acts that make our world a place of peace and love.

We are held back by fears that our hearts will be broken, and our futures will be bleak and sad. We worry so much about what might happen that we close ourselves off to God's promise to us that He would never fail us; we fail to be present to the moment. We fear for our future and do not trust in God's promise to take care of us and to provide for us no matter what.



We can all take a little time to help each other.

Continued on page 2

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NEWS

from Around the Diocese

2014 ACA Nearly Meets Goal

As the 2015 Annual Catholic Appeal continues to gather steam, final results from the 2014 campaign, which ended October 31, show one of the best responses ever.

Forty of the 41 parishes in the Diocese of Yakima met their goals for the ACA, which helps fund many of the vital programs and services offered each year. The Pastoral Center fell just \$2,753 short of its \$1.52 million goal. And because more than \$1.9 million was collected, from pledges totaling \$2.1 million, many parishes were in line to receive their share of \$393,920 in rebates.

“My sincere thanks to all whose generous support helps me in my work as your chief shepherd,” said Bishop Joseph J. Tyson. “Well done, good and faithful servants!”

Cursillos Scheduled for Ellensburg

Two Cursillo weekends, one for men and one for women, are scheduled for January at St. Andrew Church, 401 South Willow Street, in Ellensburg. The weekends offer attendees the opportunity to reflect on their lives, encounter Jesus more closely and grow in fellowship with other Catholics.

The January 15-18 weekend for men and January 22-25 weekend for women will include a short retreat, review of Catholic values, Catholic instruction by lay persons and clergy, celebration of the Eucharist and time for fellowship. Speakers will offer insights on prayer, Church teaching and Christian renewal.

For more information or to register, call the parish office at (509) 962-9819.

Collection Supports Communication

Catholics throughout the Diocese of Yakima will be asked to support both local and national efforts to promote the Faith, January 24-25, when the Collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) is taken up in our parishes.

Fifty percent of donations remain in the Diocese for such efforts as the expansion of Catholic radio, and the Central Washington Catholic newsletter. Nationally, the CCC provides grants to Catholic organizations that share our experience of faith, worship, and witness through social media sites, podcasts, television, radio, and print media. A year ago, more than \$14,000 was collected here.

“Please support this important work and be generous in the collection. Your generosity is a direct act of witness in itself, as you facilitate the communication of the gospel message,” said Yakima Bishop Joseph Tyson.

Retrouvaille May Help Your Marriage

Rediscover your marriage and help to bring back a loving relationship by attending the Retrouvaille weekend, February 13-15 at Immaculate Heart Retreat Center in Spokane.

“Retrouvaille” – which means “rediscovery” – is designed for any couple who would like to improve communication and awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together.

For more details or confidential information, call (509) 520-4118 or (800) 470-2230, or visit www.Retrouvaille.org.

St. Joseph Parish, Yakima: A Living Tradition of Faith

It didn't take the devastating fire of 1999 for the people of St. Joseph Church in Yakima to recognize an important truth. The St. Joseph community is much more than a building. It's a living tradition of Catholic Faith that has endured for more than 100 years, warmly embracing all who come. For some, St. Joseph is a repository of family history, of weddings, baptisms and other special events through the generations. For others, it is a new experience of welcome.

“This is a strong community, an enthusiastic community,” observed Ana Hernandez, who has served as parish receptionist for 16 years. “Even when we have problems (like the fire), we keep going.”

The church history dates back to 1884, when an outreach of St. Joseph Mission at Ahtanum Creek began in what is now Union Gap. By 1905, a church was built at the present site on North Fourth Street in Yakima, with reconstruction after the 1999 fire. Until 2011, the parish was staffed by Jesuits, with Father Michael Pope, S.J., serving as the last Jesuit pastor.

“One thing that I notice, the people really love St. Joe's. They're really devout Catholics,” said Father Felipe Pulido, who has served as pastor since 2011, bravely stepping into the void left by the Jesuits and shepherding this flock of some 2,500 registered families and perhaps another 500 families who have not yet registered.

“I see the Faith really alive...the parish has been very welcoming, since the Jesuits were here, to new immigrants to the Valley,” Father Pulido said.

Father Pulido and associate Father Lalo Barragan, who was ordained in May 2014, have come to be known by some parishioners as the “A Team,” reflecting what is described over and over as a genuine interest and outreach to church members, along with solid Catholic teaching.



Father Felipe Pulido, second from right, and Father Lalo Barragan, second from left, led an observance of the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, assisted by seminarians Andy Mendoza, far left, and Henry Christopher Méndez, far right.

especially for the youth. Father Pulido's spirituality is so deep.”

Carol Klingele, a parishioner for all of her 76 years who helps out with funeral ministry, kitchen service after Mass and sacristan duties for noon Mass, agreed.

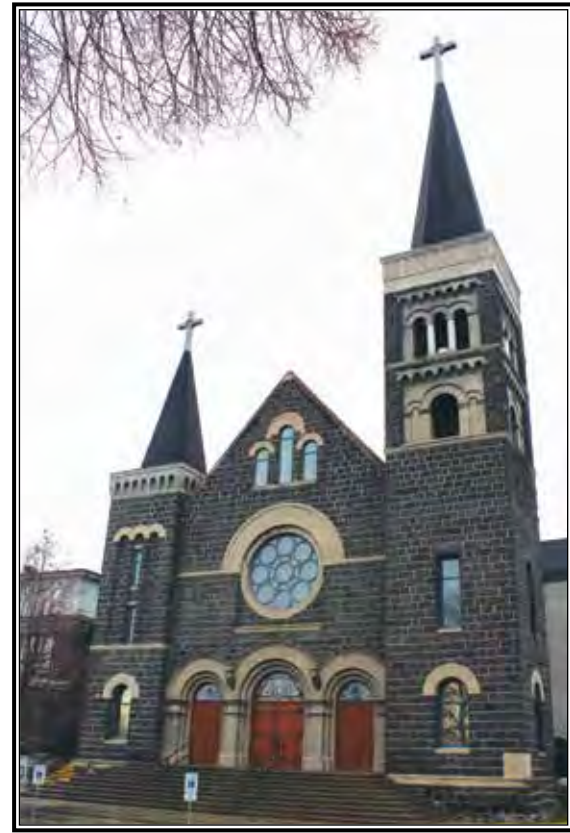
“The priests come right up to us, almost like we're long-lost family,” she said. “You feel comfortable talking to them. They want to know, ‘What can I do to help?’” And they follow through, Klingele says, recalling a recent parish festival in which Father Barragan gamely serving in the dunk tank, getting thoroughly soaked, chilled and later becoming ill.

Father Barragan returns the compliment.

“From the very first day I got here, I felt like a welcome home from both communities,” he said. “For me, this is wonderful, as a newly ordained priest.”

Ernesto Gonzales, who has been a parishioner since 1993, noted that the Hispanic community at St. Joseph is very special to him.

“We also hold a very dear place in our hearts for the priests,” he said. “The priests have allowed us to know them and to share things in our lives and to learn more about



St. Joseph Church: a heritage of more than 100 years.