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JULY 2015 *Newsletter*

Papal Encyclical Echoes Bishops' Message on Environment, Human Life

By Christine Corbett Conklin

In the first-ever papal encyclical on the environment, issued last month by Pope Francis, there are many elements that strike a familiar chord with Central Washington Catholics.

Laudato Si' (which is translated as "Praise be to You, my Lord," a reference from Canticle of the Sun by St. Francis of Assisi) addresses concerns about our environment and focuses on cooperative care for the environment and also for the needs of human life and society.

This document, subtitled "On Care For Our Common Home," contains more than 40,000 words in its English version and calls to mind the pastoral letter prepared by the Northwest bishops in 2001.

Entitled, *The Columbia River Watershed: Caring for Creation and the Common Good*, the pastoral letter quoted Saint John Paul II who said, "Christians, in particular, realize that their responsibility within creation and their duty toward nature and the Creator are an essential part of their faith."

Bishop Emeritus William Skylstad of the Diocese of Spokane, the chair of the steering committee which drafted the bishops' pastoral letter, noted the parallels

between the two documents in a telephone interview with the *Central Washington Catholic*.

"In many ways, that pastoral letter was an exact model and paradigm of what Pope Francis is calling for," he suggested. The letter set down basic principles such as respect for culture, the human being, the land including our own Columbia River watershed, and consideration for the generations to come.

"The Columbia River is a remarkable source for stewardship because it is so complex," Bishop Skylstad said. It offers us everything from salmon to electricity, irrigation, recreation, scenic views and



The Columbia River is a legacy for generations to come.
-Photo courtesy of the Washington State Catholic Conference

transport for barges and other craft.

"One of the geniuses of Pope Francis' message is its theological, spiritual and practical way of approaching the world in which we live," he noted. The new encyclical offers a "more detailed theological explanation of our responsibility

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Plans Are Underway for the 2016 World Youth Day Pilgrimage to Poland

If you're looking for a way to revitalize your Catholic Faith, consider joining the 2016 World Youth Day pilgrimage to Poland.

There are still more than 20 spots available for young people and adults on this July 19 to August 4 journey of faith, said Father Lalo Barragan, parochial vicar for St. Joseph Church in Yakima who will serve as spiritual director for the pilgrimage.

Pilgrims will first spend several days in Czestochowa, Poland, where they will work with local youth, learning how these Polish citizens live and practice their faith. Then, it will be on to visiting

shrines and sites where Saint John Paul II lived. Finally, the group will attend World

celebration, a variety of prayer, music, reconciliation and other gathering times also are planned.

"We will see that our world is bigger than the United States, that our faith is bigger than the Diocese of Yakima," Father Barragan observed. It will be an opportunity to learn from other enthusiastic young Catholics and to return home with new ideas to share with our local communities, he suggested.

For more information, contact Father Barragan at hijodelamor1@hotmail.com or call (509) 248-1911.



Krakow, Poland, will be the setting for World Youth Day 2016.
-Photo courtesy of World Youth Day organization

Youth Day events in Krakow, highlighted by a Mass celebrated by Pope Francis. For this 31st annual World Youth Day

A Message from Bishop Tyson...

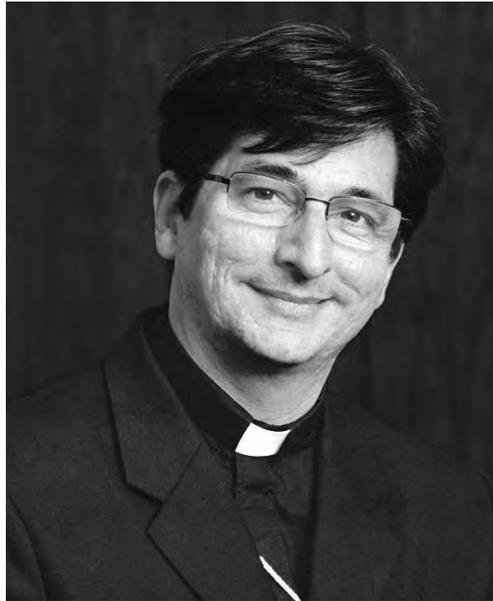
Dear Friends,

Let me start by noting the latest encyclical of Pope Francis titled *Laudato Si'* – the Latin for the opening words of St. Francis's famous "Canticle to Creation" in which the stanzas are tied together with the famous words, "Praise be you."

There are a couple of items to note about this teaching encyclical from Pope Francis. The first is that in citing St. Francis, he uplifts the reality that, as humans, we are not so much "over" creation as we are "part" of creation. This is precisely why St. Francis refers to the sun as a "brother" and the moon as a "sister". In a certain sense, we have a sibling relationship with all creation. The environment is something we all share. Thus, the importance of our seeking the "common good" when considering how to be good "stewards" of creation.

Second, this leads Pope Francis to call for an "integral ecology" grasping the reality that humans are not apart from creation but within creation. "Our insistence that each human being is an image of God should not make us overlook the fact that each creature has its own purpose. None is superfluous. The entire material universe speaks of God's love for us. Soil, water, mountains: everything is, as it were, a caress of God" (§84).

"Since everything is interrelated," the Holy Father goes on to write in a later section, "concern for the protection of nature is also incompatible with the justification of abortion. How can we genuinely teach the importance of concern for other vulnerable beings, however troublesome or inconvenient they may be, if we fail



Bishop Joseph Tyson

to protect a human embryo, even when its presence is uncomfortable and creates difficulties?" Quoting Pope Benedict XVI, he adds, "If personal and social sensitivity towards the acceptance of the new life is lost, then other forms of acceptance that are valuable for society also wither away" (§97).

Ultimately, this leads to the Holy Father calling for an "integral ecology" where we, as humans, better learn how to take our proper place in the order of creation. The Holy Father notes that living with authenticity such an "integral ecology" requires dialogue that not only includes science and technology leaders as well as those in government, economics, politics and public policy, but also an interreligious

dialogue that pulls in a variety of spiritual leaders.

Naturally for us – as Catholics – to engage in such a dialogue means that we begin, not by talking to ourselves, but dialoguing with Sacred Scripture as well as the Church teachings growing from Scripture. This is precisely why St. Francis is such a model of "integral ecology" for our own time and why he was so able to see the connections between treatment of the environment and treatment of the poor and vulnerable.

I suppose this is a rather long introduction to the wide spectrum of articles in this edition of the *Central Washington Catholic*. Yet what ties together our Catholic Housing Service's Ride D'Vine, the upcoming Seminarian vs. Priest Soccer Match, our new principal at St. Paul Cathedral School as well as our jubilarian Sisters of Providence is that everyone engaged in these variety ministries engages in a deeper dialogue with our scriptures and our teaching. What we do as a Church, then, we do as a result of allowing Christ to speak to us in our ministry, day by day, year by year and decade by decade.

I hope that you are inspired by these stories to seek your place as part of creation and to become ever-better stewards of God's gifts of creation, thus echoing the words of St. Francis: *Laudato Si'*!

With my every best wish and blessing!

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

Papal Encyclical Echoes Bishops' Message on Environment, Human Life *Continued from page 1*

for and to each other and for the world in which we live."

This can encompass everything from taking a look at our lifestyles and seeing how we can conserve resources, to limiting pollution to the environment, looking to sustainability of resources, and being sensitive to the poor and other human beings who may be most seriously affected by harm to our land and water.

"We're in this business together," Bishop Skylstad observed.

It will take "years" to implement the *Laudato Si'* encyclical, he acknowledges. Yet, as we try to discover how we can "be better stewards of the world in which we live," two obvious elements come to mind, he says. First, we must educate about our environment and our own responsibilities. Secondly, we must focus on the formation of spirituality which underscores everything we do.

"(Pope Francis) is very strong on a call for dialogue," Bishop Skylstad said. "We need to talk about this and everyone should be involved. That's kind of what the Columbia River pastoral did."

In the rather poetic words of Pope Francis' encyclical, "The universe unfolds in God, who fills it completely. Hence, there is a mystical meaning to be found in a leaf, in a mountain trail, in a dewdrop, in a poor person's face. The ideal is not only to pass from the exterior to the interior to discover the action of God in the soul, but also to discover God in all things."

To read the text of *Laudato Si'*, visit <http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals.index.html>. To read the text of the Columbia River pastoral, visit www.thewsc.org.

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

Central Washington Catholic

July 2015 • Volume 45 • Issue 7

PUBLISHER

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson

MODERATOR

Monsignor Robert M. Siler

EDITOR

Christine Corbett Conklin

TRANSLATIONS

Indiana Blandón

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.

Email: robert.siler@yakimadiocese.net

Priests and Seminarians Are Set For Fourth Annual Soccer Match

The tension is building as the priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Yakima prepare to face off on Sunday, August 2, for their fourth annual soccer match!

Will the seminarians even the score this year, praying their way to a second win in four years? Or will the priests smite the seminarians for a third time?

Gates open at 5 p.m. for this 6 p.m. event at Marquette Stadium, 5400 West Chestnut Avenue, in Yakima. Admission is free, with food, drinks and souvenir tee shirts for sale to help support education of 15 diocesan seminarians. The event helps supplement fund-raising efforts such as the annual collection for seminarian education (see related item).

Bring your family and friends and cheer on your favorite team!



Seven Sisters of Providence Mark Special Anniversaries *Continued from page 4*

Montana, and served as religious education coordinator for families in north Idaho's 120-mile panhandle. She also served as a member of the Sisters' Senate in Idaho and Spokane and president of both; one of two vicars for religious in Idaho; and coordinator of the Neighborhood Parish Program for St. Mary's Parish in the Spokane Valley, and the RCIA program. She has been provincial secretary for the former St. Ignatius Province and on the boards of four Providence hospitals. Since 2000, she has lived in Walla Walla, caring for her mother who died last March. Sister Helen does home visits for Assumption Parish and is writing the chronicles for 15 Providence facilities in Eastern Washington and Montana.



Sister Helen Mason

Maureen Newman, SP



Sister Maureen Newman

Sister Maureen Newman was born at Sacred Heart Hospital in Spokane in 1945 and grew up in Sprague and Grandview, as part of a large Walla Walla pioneer family. She entered the Sisters of Providence in 1964 at Providence Heights in Issaquah, and joined the College of Sister Formation. She began her education ministry at St. Michael School in Olympia. She taught for 35 years, including schools in Vancouver and Seattle, Washington, and served as assistant principal in Seattle. She worked at a day care for migrant workers, tutored Hmong tribespeople, and volunteered in Central America.

Sister Maureen has worked on committees for the religious community's 150th anniversary and for the 150th celebration of Catholic schools in the Seattle Archdiocese, and served as staff and interim administrator at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle. At the end of 2014, she completed a five-year term as a provincial councilor for Mother Joseph Province. She lives in Seattle.

Our thanks and congratulations to all of these Sisters of Providence who have served our communities for so many years!

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NEWS

from Around the Diocese

Ride D'Vine Set To Roll

Calling all bicycle enthusiasts! Catholic Charities Housing Services will host its third annual Ride D'Vine bike-a-thon on Saturday, August 8.

Beginning at 8 a.m. in Yakima's Sarge Hubbard Park, the 25-mile ride will roll down the Yakima Greenway and continue through scenic orchard and farm land to Moxee, then across Konnowac Pass to Zillah's Bonair Winery. Transportation will be available back to Sarge Hubbard Park after the event.

Optional 50- and 75-mile routes also will be offered, beginning and ending at Sarge Hubbard Park.

The registration fee for Ride D'Vine is \$70 per person, which includes an event tee shirt plus a Rattlesnake Hills passport (valued at \$15). For \$100, a catered gourmet lunch also is included. For more details and registration, plus information on a three-mile family ride event slated to begin at 9:30 a.m. that day, visit www.cchsyakima.org or call (509) 853-2900.

Proceeds from Ride D'Vine benefit Catholic Charities Housing Services.

St. Paul School Names New Principal

Theresa Schneiderman has been named Principal of St. Paul Cathedral School in Yakima. She succeeds Terry Faletto, who recently retired for health reasons following two years of service as Principal.

Schneiderman comes to Yakima from a position as Assistant Principal and Theology teacher at Regis High School in Stayton, Oregon. Prior to that, she served as Principal at Sisters Charter Academy of Fine Arts in central Oregon and as a teacher. She has a Master's degree in Theology and a School Administrator license through the State of Oregon.

Schneiderman lived in the Yakima Valley (part of the Koreski family) prior to moving to Oregon for college. She and her husband, Dave, have three grown children and one grandchild.

Seminarian Collection Planned

Seminarians of the Diocese of Yakima are once again visiting parishes each weekend this summer to share a little of their vocation stories and to assist in taking up the annual collection for priest retirement and seminarian education.

Last year's collection brought in \$187,747 to help support more than a dozen senior priests and more than 15 seminarians. Seminarian education is the single largest budget item for the Diocese. The full cost of educating one man for a year in his studies for priesthood is \$45,000.

The Diocese receives grants from the Catholic Extension Society, Catholic Home Missions, the Knights of Columbus and the Young Ladies Institute, and scholarships from seminaries, among other sources. The annual collection helps make up any leftover gap in funding.

"It has been your generosity and kindness that continues to give new life to those senior priests who have faithfully served our local Church so generously for so many years," said Bishop Joseph Tyson. "It is also in your spiritual and financial support of those studying for the priesthood that we see the seeds of future servants of our Diocese sowed and nourished."

Seven Sisters of Providence Mark Special Anniversaries

Seven Sisters of Providence who have ties to Central Washington will celebrate 50, 60 and 70 years of religious life at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, August 1, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 7000 35th Avenue S.W., Seattle.

Most Rev. J. Peter Sartain, Archbishop of Seattle, will be the celebrant for the liturgy, which will be followed by a reception in Guadalupe Hall.

70 years

Georgette Bayless, SP (Sister Mary Joan)



Sister Georgette Bayless

Born in San Jose, Calif., Sister Georgette Bayless trained as a nurse before entering the religious community in 1944 as a 21-year-old. Her first ministry was as a nursing supervisor at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Yakima, Wash., followed by service in Providence hospitals in Washington, Alaska and Oregon, in nursing, pastoral care, outreach, hospice, mission effectiveness and other capacities.

This 93-year-old has organized people to start new programs, raise money for community needs and expand outreach to the forgotten. Her legacy includes a sexual assault center in Everett, and Hospice of Snohomish County. She lives in Seattle.

60 years

Anita Butler, SP (Sister Francesca)

Sister Anita Butler has been a sponsor of Providence Ministries, entrusted with ensuring that the ministries of Providence Health & Services remain Catholic and true to the sisters' mission. Born in Los Angeles and raised in Burbank, California, she entered the Sisters of Providence in Seattle in 1954. She served in teaching and administration for 23 years in elementary and high schools in cities including Moxee.

Sister also served as provincial treasurer in the former Sacred Heart Province, taking responsibility for oversight of construction and development of its first low-income housing projects. She was treasurer of Mother Joseph Province. In addition, she ministered in long-term care and was superior/administrator of St. Joseph Residence in Seattle. She lives in Seattle.



Sister Anita Butler

Lenora Donovan, SP (Sister Stephen)



Sister Lenora Donovan

Sister Lenora Donovan moved with her family from Nebraska to Yakima, in 1941 when she was nine years old. She graduated from St. Joseph Academy in Yakima in 1952, moved with her family to Portland, Oregon, and went to school to become an LPN at Multnomah County Hospital. She entered the Sisters of Providence in Seattle and made first profession in 1956. She was assigned to Mount St. Vincent Home for the Aged, and became a registered nurse, serving in Port Townsend and Portland.

Certified as a chaplain, she served at the parish in Medford, Oregon, and then was assigned to Providence ElderPlace in Portland, assisting the elderly to stay in their own homes by regularly assessing their ongoing health needs. Sister Lenora has been a longtime volunteer with St. Vincent de Paul Society in Portland and now in Seattle.

Mary Catherine McGuire, SP (Sister Mary Margaret)

Fresh out of the novitiate, Sister Mary Catherine McGuire taught second grade at St. Joseph Grade School in Yakima. Over the next 15 years she taught six different grades in nine places, including in Yakima's consolidated Catholic schools: St. Joseph Academy, Carroll High School and Marquette High School.

Born in Everett, she grew up in rural Snohomish. She entered the novitiate after a postulancy at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle, and professed first vows in 1956. She also taught in Western Washington, Alaska, California and Oregon. Sister did parish work and was a receptionist at St. Peter's Hospital in Olympia and in Providence corporate offices. She also ministered in pastoral services, volunteered with community college ESL classes, assisted in the Sisters of Providence library, and was part-time chaplain at Providence ElderPlace in Seattle. She continues a music ministry at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle.



Sister Mary C. McGuire

50 years

Marilyn Charette, SP



Sister Marilyn Charette

Sister Marilyn Charette was born in New York, and moved with her family to Richland. She went to Holy Names College in Spokane, and studied biology and chemistry to become a medical technologist. After graduation, she worked in a hospital laboratory in Richland and then at a lab at St. Joseph Hospital in Burbank, California. She entered the Sisters of Providence, working in her postulant year in the laboratory at Providence Hospital, Seattle.

Her ministry for many years was in hospitals as a medical technologist, in the admissions office, patient transport, and finally as a chaplain. She served in Yakima, Everett and Portland. She also was a team member at Mount St. Joseph, a novitiate team member and novitiate director. Sister Marilyn was one of the five sisters who established the mission to El Salvador in 1995, remaining there for five years. Today, she is once again in El Salvador, having returned in 2012.

Helen Mason, SP

Sister Helen Mason lives in Walla Walla, where she was born in 1945. There she received all of her sacraments, professed final vows in 1973, and celebrated 25 years of religious life in 1990. She entered the religious community in 1964 at Providence Heights in Issaquah. She taught in

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