



CENTRAL WASHINGTON CATHOLIC

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OCTOBER 2012 *Newsletter*

‘Sharing the Fruit of Our Faith’: New Diocesan Employees Direct Programs Funded by Annual Appeal

By Christine Corbett Conklin

As **Janet Heva** encourages Central Washington University students in their Catholic Faith, she doesn’t often think about the Annual Catholic Appeal. After all, she has a full schedule of programs to coordinate, ranging from weekend Mass to guest speakers, Bible study, and social events.

“I really am serving where I’m called to be,” observed the Coupeville, Washington, native who began her job as **Director of Catholic Campus Ministry** in August. “I journey with these students at a time when they’re maturing as adults and developing a more mature faith.”

Yet, Janet is one of four new employees of the Diocese of Yakima who, along with other employees, programs and services, rely upon the generosity of parishioners throughout our area to support the work of the Church through the Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA), which begins in November. This year’s theme is “Sharing The Fruit of Our Faith in Central Washington.”

This ongoing support will help Heva, for example, to form a “partnership” with faculty and staff of CWU, reaching out to “the entire University” – both in educating minds and promoting faith.



From left: *Diana Aparicio-Sosa, Vice Chancellor for Personnel and Policies; Isaac Prieto, Assistant Director of Ecclesial Ministry and Hispanic Lay Formation; Alma Benitez, Director of Stewardship and Development.*



Janet Heva, Director of Catholic Campus Ministry at Central Washington University.

Another of the new employees, **Alma Benitez**, who serves as **Director of Stewardship and Development**, gets a firsthand look at how the Annual Appeal helps – since it’s her job to coordinate all of the logistics of the appeal posters, envelopes and information for parish staff and parishioners alike!

The funds collected from the Appeal are “crucial for Bishop Tyson and everyone to follow the mission of Christ,” she suggests. “The collection really helps parishes in their ministries.” To date, the 2012 ACA

has brought in \$1,586,057. The goal for the upcoming 2013 campaign is set at \$1,464,155, funding programs ranging from vocation and deacon services to social training and family life, administration, cultural & ethnic ministry, youth & young adult ministry, Catholic schools and campus ministry.

If a parish collects more than its goal (16 percent of the previous year’s Sunday collection income) the overage is returned

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R74: It’s Important To Know The Risks of This Proposed Law

By Christine Corbett Conklin

We all want to be kind. In fact, the Catholic Church teaches us a love and respect for all human beings, from the unborn to the elderly, regardless of race, creed or sexual orientation.

This is why R74, the referendum on the November ballot which would change the current definition of marriage as a union between one man and one woman, can be confusing for some. However, sources familiar with this initiative say that R74 does NOT grant any new legal benefits to anyone. In fact, if passed, it would jeopardize religious liberty and the right of conscience, they say.

“Washington State law already provides same-sex couples all of the legal benefits

that married couples enjoy,” explained Chip White, communications director for Preserve Marriage Washington, a “grassroots” coalition of individuals, religious leaders and community organizations opposing R74. “This law redefining marriage provides same-sex couples NO additional rights or benefits because they already have full legal



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equality.”

Retired State Senator Joyce Mulliken, a Catholic who represented the 13th Legislative District until 2006, suggests that Catholics across the nation are struggling with initiatives such as R74, because they do not want to be “judgmental” of others. Acknowledging that she, herself, has a family member with same-sex attraction, she opposes the referendum.

“We love our family member without a doubt,” she said. “Nobody has the right to be judgmental. However, (with marriage) we’re talking about something that God has already defined. We didn’t make the rules. God who created us made the rules. He gave us the

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A Message from Bishop Tyson...

Dear Friends,

"Respect Life Month" is remembered each October in the parishes of our Catholic Church all across the United States. We're no exception here in Central Washington. This is particularly important during an election year. Why? Because the teaching document of our American bishops, "Conscience Formation for Faithful Citizenship," reminds us that beginning- and end-of-life issues are weighed more heavily when informing our consciences on how best to vote.

Stated even more simply, without the right to life for the unborn, there are no other rights. The Church's seamless garment of care for those who stand in the shadows of society – the poor, the underinsured, the homeless, the undocumented, the immigrant, the refugee – all hinge on the most fundamental respect and dignity for the life of each and every human person. As a society, how we treat the unborn and the dying – those at the beginning and at the end of life – sets a tone for how we uphold the dignity of the human person at every stage of the life cycle.

This might help set a context for the very challenging pastoral letter I wrote to all of you at the beginning of this "Respect Life" month on the sanctity of marriage between one man and one woman. In that letter and through our website, I have tried to raise some of the troubling consequences for redefining marriage. Genetically speaking, we are all here on this planet as a result of one man and one woman.



Bishop Joseph Tyson

Whether that relationship between our biological mother and father was lived well or poorly does not alter our basic right to life and the basic human dignity to which we are entitled as we journey through life. The Church's basic moral proposal for our surrounding culture is really this: "Why not the best?"

Isn't it best when we support mothers and fathers to be their best in raising their children? Isn't it best when parents develop a mutual love for each other, sharing that love through the

gift of children? Does not the vast majority of research tell us that children do best when raised in an intact family, with a mother and father, receiving their complementary male and female gifts? "Why not the best?"

The best – Christ-centered lives – is precisely what we feature in this month's Central Washington Catholic. The upcoming Mass for our deceased clergy reminds us of the many ways we've all been led through prayer and worship to Christ – the highest and fullest expression of human dignity. Our jubilant women religious have given their lives teaching about the dignity of the human person through their consecrated life of service to the Church. Our newest diocesan staff assist our parishes in promoting the stewardship of our time, treasure and talent as the key anchor in most fully living our human dignity.

Taken together, I hope these articles enhance your esteem and respect for life and the responsibility we have as members of His Church to witness this dignity and respect in our wider culture. May we entrust our efforts to the Blessed Virgin Mary, whom we remember in a special way during this October's Respect Life Month.

With every best wish and blessing,

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

New Diocesan Employees Direct Programs Funded by Annual Appeal *continued from page 1*

to the parish in the form of a rebate. If a parish doesn't meet its goal, the Diocese suffers a shortfall. The current campaign's shortfall of about \$100,000 to the Diocese is less than in previous years.

Benitez, who began work with the Diocese in July, was born in Toppenish and raised in Sunnyside.

"I am passionate about working for the Church," she said. "For me, it means being of service to others. That's what I enjoy doing."

Along with her other responsibilities, Benitez will work with Catholic Extension and Catholic Home Missions, among others, helping to procure grants which will support a variety of parish programs.

Another new Diocesan employee, **Diana Aparicio-Sosa**, began work in August as **Vice Chancellor for Personnel and Policies**.

Born in Veracruz, Mexico, she has lived in Central Washington since 1989.

Aparicio-Sosa's responsibilities include working on a handbook of personnel policies for the Diocese and schools, covering such areas as background checks for employees. She also works on "ministry clearances" – or checking references for visiting clergy and lay speakers. In addition, she helped with planning

and organization of the October Catechetical Congress.

Although she says she has contributed to the ACA "since college," she never anticipated the connection this fund drive would have with her own work.

"It connected everything together," she observed. "Now, I can represent the Diocese of Yakima and help support values such as integrity."

Last – but just as special – a fourth new Diocesan employee is **Isaac Prieto**.

He began work in September as **Assistant Director of Ecclesial Ministry and Hispanic Lay Formation**.

Born in Guanajuato, Mexico, he came to Central Washington when he was 10 years old.

Before he moved into various management roles,

Prieto spent his earlier years "working in the fields," picking apples and cutting asparagus. It gave him insights, he said, to the challenges which so many Hispanic parishioners face.

Prieto has always tried to support the ACA and has become increasingly aware, he says, "that the priests and the parishes are not rich." His current

position is making him even more aware of that, he noted.

He takes delight in reaching out through his duties in the education and motivation program, "Magnificat," and having helped to organize the recent Catechetical Congress. He also will assist Diocesan priests with various Spanish ministries including working with youth.

"For me, this job is a dream," he said. "I work for God. I do this not only to get paid, but it comes from the bottom of my heart."

Welcome to these four new employees and thanks to all of you who help to support these and so many other Diocesan programs through the Annual Catholic Appeal!



An impressive 90 percent of funds brought in to the Annual Catholic Appeal go to ministries supporting our parishes and parish rebates.

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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

Respect Life From Conception to Natural Death

October is Respect Life month. It's a good time for Catholics to remember that our Church teaches us that all human life is sacred – from conception to natural death. This becomes even more clear when we understand how quickly and remarkably human life takes shape before birth!

Did you know that, about three weeks into pregnancy, the unborn baby's heart has begun to beat? By the fourth week, arms, legs and lungs are starting to form. At 40 days, brain waves are recordable.*

As the Bible tells us, in Psalm 139:13, "You created my inmost self, knit me together in my mother's womb."

Do your part to help defend life in Central Washington! Pray for an end to abortion and euthanasia. Join a prayer vigil at an abortion clinic. Become fully informed on the issues, including where political candidates stand on abortion, and help to teach the young about the sacredness of each and every human life.

*Statistics from the Second Look Project

R74: It's Important To Know The Risks of This Proposed Law *continued from page 1*

rule of one man and one woman for marriage and for procreation."

Mulliken, who, in the late 1990s worked on drafting the Defense of Marriage Act with (then) Bishop Francis George, added that the Catholic catechism is "so very clear," about respecting all people – AND, at the same time, "fair in that it has the same rules for any sexual relations between any two people."

If passed, R74 would make sweeping changes that could affect all of us, White added. For example, "common-sense terms like husband and wife" would no longer be used in official documents, he said.

"The refusal to accommodate and recognize (same-sex "marriage") would be the legal equivalent of racial discrimination," he suggested. White supplied a list of legal challenges in other states, which show how:

- Those who run small businesses, such as wedding photographers and florists, can be sued for refusing to offer their services to same-sex couples planning a wedding.
- Summer camps, day care centers or meeting halls can be sued for refusing to offer their facilities or services to members of a same-sex "marriage."
- Doctors, psychologists and social workers who conscientiously object to same-sex "marriage" can have their licenses revoked.
- Nonprofits objecting to same-sex "marriage" can be denied, i.e., food service licenses or adoption agency licenses.*

In short, in these and other ways, R74 could abridge the rights of religious liberty and conscience for many, he maintains.

When we try to interpret issues on our own, "too often, Catholics want to make Jesus who they want Him to be, rather than who He is," Mulliken concluded, quoting an area pastor. "We all have to, as Catholics, do our best to adhere to the standards of the Church," she said.

Joseph Backholm, who serves as Executive Director of the Family Policy Institute of Washington, which opposes the referendum, noted that R74 is "not a fairness issue."

It is vital to recognize that, "People have the right to be married, but people do not have the right to declare that any imaginable relationship is marriage," he said. "It is not judgmental for someone to recognize that it is ideal for a child to have a mother and a father."

Or, in the words of the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB), "To uphold God's intent for marriage, in which sexual relations have their proper and exclusive place, is not to offend the dignity of homosexual persons. Christians must give witness to the whole truth and, therefore, oppose as immoral both homosexual acts and discrimination against homosexual persons."

The USCCB goes on to explain, "Love and commitment are key ingredients of marriage, and the Church recognizes that a basic purpose of marriage is the good of the spouses. The other purpose, however, is the procreation and education of children. There is a fundamental difference between marriage, which has the potential to bring forth children, and other relationships... This makes marriage between a man and a woman a unique institution."

*Based upon legal actions filed in other states.

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NEWS

from Around the Diocese

Mass Planned for Deceased Clergy

The annual Mass for deceased bishops, priests and deacons who have served the Diocese of Yakima since its establishment in 1951 is slated for November 6.

The Mass will begin at 5:30 p.m., in St. Paul Cathedral, Yakima.

Holy Family Schedules Gala

Mark your calendar now for the Holy Family Church Gala 2012, scheduled to begin at 6 p.m., December 1 in Queen Gym, 5502 West Chestnut Avenue, Yakima.

The event will include a dinner, live and silent auctions, and dance. Admission is \$45 per person. Reservations can be made by calling Jamie at (509) 480-8070.

Pro-Life Volunteers Needed

Could you spare just one hour to pray for the lives of the unborn? Volunteers are needed to join pro-life prayer vigils held each week at Planned Parenthood, 1117 Tieton Drive, in Yakima.

Come at 9:30 a.m. or 2 p.m., Tuesday, or at 9 a.m. Wednesday for a peaceful, prayerful time with other Christians who support respect for life from conception to natural death.

Pro-life supporters in other areas of the Diocese are encouraged to contact your parish office to learn of activities scheduled there.

Traditional Latin Mass Set For November

All are welcome to attend a Traditional Latin Mass, scheduled for 1:30 p.m., November 11, in the chapel of Holy Family Church, Yakima. Experience the rich history of this ancient Roman Catholic rite, including ornate altar settings, classic vestments and Latin hymns. Refreshments will be provided following the Mass.

COMING NEXT MONTH:

Read a firsthand account of the canonization of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, scheduled for October 21 in Rome!

Sisters of Providence Appoint Two New Leaders

Two Sisters of Providence who are natives of the Yakima Valley have been appointed to leading roles within their religious community.

Sister Karin Dufault, who grew up in Moxee and entered the Sisters of Providence in 1959, has been chosen to fill a five-year term as General Superior of the Sisters of Providence. The group is headquartered in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, and includes four provinces and a vice-province, with sisters serving in the United States, Canada, Chile, Egypt, El Salvador, Cameroon, Argentina, Haiti and the Philippines.

Among other titles, Dufault was the former administrator of St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Yakima. Most recently, she has served as Provincial Superior of the Sisters of Providence, Mother Joseph Province, and on the board for the Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest.

Sister Judith Desmarais, who was born at St. Elizabeth Hospital (the facility's earlier name) and grew up on a Moxee hop farm, has been named as the new Provincial Superior for the Mother Joseph Province, which includes Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California, Montana and El Salvador. She will serve the remaining two years of the term vacated by Dufault.

Desmarais entered the Sisters of Providence in 1962. Most recently, she has been the Provincial Counselor for her order. A former elementary school teacher, Desmarais has a particular interest in religious education and ministry for the deaf.

Congratulations to both of these dedicated Sisters on their appointments!



Sister Karin Dufault



Sister Judith Desmarais

Sisters With Ties To Diocese Celebrate Jubilees

Seven Sisters of Providence with special ties to the Diocese of Yakima are celebrating significant milestones with the religious order:

Sister Germaine Chabot (Sister Germaine of Seven Dolors) celebrated 75 years with the Sisters of Providence. A native of Ontario, Quebec, Canada, she pursued a health care ministry, which, at one time brought her to Yakima.

Sister Naomi Hurd (Sister Agnes Elizabeth) is marking 70 years with the religious order. Born in Cle Elum, she taught in Yakima and Walla Walla. She also served as a school librarian in Walla Walla.

Sister Mary Leona Miller (given name Virginia Mary Miller) is celebrating 70 years with the Sisters of Providence. She was born in Glenwood, Minnesota. Her teaching career, which included nearly 50 years with first graders, brought her to both Moxee and Yakima.

Sister Claire Bouffard (Sister Elaine Frances), who has been with the Sisters of Providence for 60 years, is a native of Winooski, Vermont. Her ministry assignments have been in business and finance offices of hospitals in locations including Walla Walla.

Sister Dorothy Klingele (Sister Mary Borgia) is marking her 60th year with the religious order. Born in Yakima, she has served as a laboratory supervisor. Earning a master's degree and PhD, she did post-doctoral work in human genetics and taught both genetics and biochemistry.

Sister Fidela Adriano (Sister Rosario Fideles) is celebrating her 50th year with the Sisters of Providence. A native of Malalos, Bulacan, Philippines, she became a registered nurse, serving in cities including Walla Walla. She also helped to start a religious community in the Philippines.

Sister Rosalie Locati (Sister Angelica) is marking 50 years with the order. She was born in Walla Walla. Her duties have included serving as a teacher, as co-director of vocations, in campus ministry and as director of mission and values for Providence hospitals in Spokane.

Thank you to these wonderful Sisters who have served so many of us so well!

Educators Honored for Long Service to Catholic Schools

Educators from Catholic schools within the Diocese of Yakima are being honored for their years of service to Catholic education.

Those honored included: **Steve Pontarolo**, 22 years, St. Rose of Lima School, Ephrata; **Cam Trammell**, 23 years, **Jennifer Fischer**, 19 years, and **Shelly Benningfield**, 15 years, all from St. Paul Cathedral School, Yakima; **Marie Yanocho**, 24 years, **Margaret St. Clair**, 21 years, **Tracy Kintner**, 19 years, and **Christina Moreno**, 18 years, all from Christ the King School in Richland; **Jane Hines**, 36 years, **Joanne Velasquez**, 34 years, **Virginia Van Amburg**, 24 years, **Mark Congleton**, 23 years, **Gregg Pleger** and **Kathy Wengler**, both 15 years, all from St. Joseph-Marquette School, Yakima; and **Tim Briffett**, 15 years, La Salle High School (plus another seven years at St. Joseph-Marquette!)

Congratulations and thanks to all of these dedicated individuals – plus any others whose names may not have been included, – who have devoted 15 or more years of service to our schools!