



CENTRAL WASHINGTON CATHOLIC

El Católico de Washington Central

Pāchu Washintin Chmuk Tātpas

FEBRUARY 2014
Newsletter

St. Paul Cathedral: A 'Sentinel' of Faith for 100 Years

By Christine Corbett Conklin

With its bell tower soaring 125 feet into the air, St. Paul Cathedral stands as a sentinel for the Catholic Faith in Central Washington.

On February 8, its congregation marked 100 years as a parish, recalling a founding when Woodrow Wilson was President of the United States, the Ford Motor Company announced a minimum wage of \$5 per day's work and Weeghman Park (later known as Wrigley Field) opened in Chicago.

"It's the Cathedral, the Mother Church of the Diocese," observed Monsignor John Ecker, whose name has become

to celebrate with parishioners for the 50th and 75th anniversaries, and now the centennial, and has served under all seven bishops of the Yakima Diocese! In the years he was gone from the parish, Msgr. Desmond Dillon and Fathers Christopher Breen, John Tholen, Peter Hagel, Paul Stecher and John Heneghan served as pastors. Today, Father Rogelio Gutiérrez is parochial vicar for the Cathedral, with Raymond Miller serving as deacon.

Looking back, St. Paul Parish was established by the Diocese of Seattle in 1914, when "there was growth on the west side of Yakima" and it was decided that St. Joseph Church alone could not serve the entire area, Monsignor explained. From 1914 to 1928, there was a temporary church in a new building which would one day come to be remembered as the "old school."

The first Mass in the Cathedral, which was built for about \$175,000, was celebrated on April 18, 1927. A chapel, baptistry and sacristy were added in 1958, and that chapel was rebuilt in 2004-05 following an arson fire.

The original St. Paul School, which opened in 1914, would be replaced by the "new school" in 1949. This "new school," which today houses about 220 preschool through eighth grade students, would grow to become the largest Catholic elementary



St. Paul Cathedral: reflecting the community.
-Photo courtesy of Rick Baumgardner

school west of the Mississippi in 1957-58, boasting an enrollment of 1,300, Monsignor recalled.



A young Father Ecker plays the organ in the early 1960s.
-Photo from St. Paul archives

synonymous with this church, after some 34 years of service here. "It really reflects the demographics of the community of Yakima, with rich and poor, old and young, Hispanics and Anglos," he observed.

Although the Spanish-mission style church, which seats about 600 people, is imposing in its own right, "it's the people who make the parish," Monsignor Ecker believes. "It's a wonderful family of faith."

Having served as an associate and administrator/pastor here between 1958 and 1966 and as pastor from 1988 to the present, Monsignor has been on hand



Excavation of "St. Paul's Parochial School" in 1914.
-Photo from St. Paul archives.

The Sisters of St. Dominic of Tacoma staffed the school from 1914 to 1975.

Among the many groups whom Monsignor Ecker credits with enriching the life of this parish are: RCIA, liturgical ministers and choirs, the school community, Knights of Columbus,

Continued on page 2

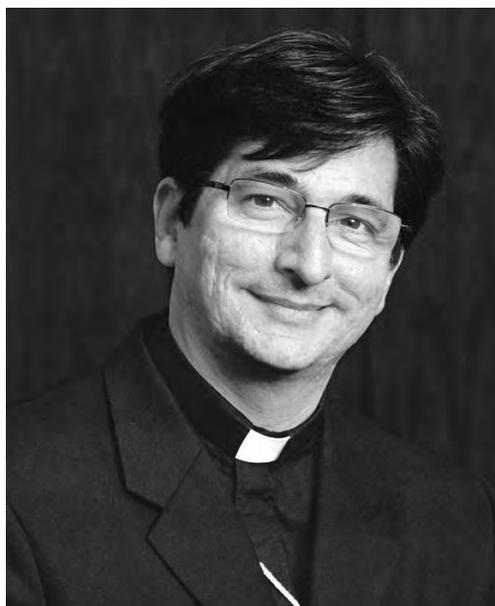
A Message from Bishop Tyson...

Dear Friends,

Front and center on page one, you can see our major article is on the 100th anniversary of our parish at St. Paul Cathedral. That means that long before it was a Cathedral, St. Paul was originally a parish in what was then the "diocese" of Seattle. It was not until 1951, when the Diocese of Yakima was formed, that St. Paul became the "Cathedral" where I preside as bishop.

As many of you know, the Cathedral has a deeply personal meaning for me. My parents were married there on December 1, 1956. I was baptized there nearly a year later. My mom and my uncle went to the Cathedral school as did many of my older cousins and relatives, and I have many childhood memories of the Cathedral tied to the large first- and second-generation immigrant family members who found a parish home at St. Paul Cathedral.

Indeed, one of my strongest memories is that of my grandmother, who once recalled how lonely she had felt moving from the German-speaking homestead town of Selz, North Dakota in the aftermath of the "Dust Bowl" and the "Great Depression." After bouncing between small towns in Oregon, she came to Yakima, where she had relatives. Her first Sunday at St. Paul Cathedral, she remembered being in the back of the church and



Bishop Joseph Tyson

hearing for the first time in many months her native German being quietly spoken after Mass among the parishioners.

I think of this so often when I'm greeting people after Mass in Spanish, because in so many ways St. Paul Cathedral is doing for them what it did for my own family. We speak of the Cathedral as the "Mother Church" of the Diocese and rightly so. The "Cathedral" is meant to be a place of nurturance for every parishioner of every parish. It's meant to be a place where our people can come home. This is what gives so much meaning to the steady presence of Monsignor Ecker as pastor, the beautiful traditional choir under the direction of

Jerry Kaminski and the lively Life Teen and Hispanic choirs as well. All of which makes it the matrix of so many ministries intended to assist people in drawing close to "Mother Church," and hence close to Christ.

Because there are 41 parishes and three missions across the Diocese of Yakima, I am rarely at the Cathedral except for the Church's major feast days and events. St. Ignatius of Antioch suggested in his writings that where there is the bishop, there is the Church.

The Church on its pilgrim journey can be seen in a myriad of efforts: from the Seminarian Challenge Grant, to the ministry of Christian Initiation going on in our parishes, to our expansion of mental health services in the Wenatchee area by Catholic Charities, to our student scholarship funds managed by the Central Washington Catholic Foundation.

All these ministries point back to the one Church that is symbolized by the Cathedral, so as we celebrate 100 years of parish ministry at St. Paul, may we be mindful of the many ministries that point to this One Church so visibly present all across Central Washington.

With every best wish and blessing,

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

St. Paul Cathedral: A 'Sentinel' of Faith for 100 Years *Continued from page 1*

Young Ladies Institute, Catholic Daughters of America, youth ministry and religious education.

Dolores LaCoursiere, who with her husband Vin, has been an active member of St. Paul Cathedral Parish for 59 years, assisting with many parish activities, noted that the parish has been "an inspiration for us."

"Our (four) children were baptized there, had First Communions, Confirmations. Three of our children were married there... Our children and eight grandchildren attended school at St. Paul's," she said. "It's just part of our lives."

Alma Jauregui, a parishioner for 15 years who helped encourage the startup of an Hispanic Mass, Spanish religious education and posadas, among other programs, agreed.

"I feel a blessing to be in St. Paul Cathedral," she said. "The community and the church are like my family. It's my heart. It's home for me. I really love it!"

Everyone is invited to join in the celebration of the St. Paul Cathedral Parish centennial, with a special Mass at 5:30 p.m., March 19, in the Cathedral, followed by a reception in the school!

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

February 2014 • Volume 38 • Issue 2

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.org

The Challenge Is On: Let's Raise Funds for Seminarians!

There's a great new opportunity to make every dollar count – twice – in donations to our diocesan seminarians! Catholic Extension has agreed to provide matching dollars of up to \$50,000 for funds raised in the Yakima Diocese for a seminarian education endowment fund. Our diocesan goal is to raise \$75,000 by December 31.

According to terms set by Catholic Extension, funds raised must be either new or increased major gifts of \$1,000 or more, in the form of cash or marketable securities, or income from special fundraising events such as dinners or auctions designated for this program. (Diocesan annual appeals, for example, would not qualify as contributions for the program.)

There's also one more catch! Our Diocese must raise at least two-thirds of our \$75,000 target amount by the end of the year to receive any matching funds at all from Catholic Extension.

This is the first year in which Catholic Extension has chosen the Diocese of Yakima for this program. Let's all do our part to meet our goal and generously support our seminarians and future priests who are so needed in central Washington!

Anyone wishing to make a contribution, organize a fund-raising event or ask a question about the endowment program may contact Alma Benitez, Director of Stewardship and Development, at (509) 965-7117 or alma.benitez@yakimadiocese.org; or Jim Perko, Chief Finance Officer, at (509) 965-7117 or jim.perko@yakimadiocese.org.



Deacon Lalo Barragan.

Make Lent Meaningful

Lent is the 40-day season of penance in preparation for Easter. Lent begins Ash Wednesday, March 5, and ends on Thursday, April 17, followed by the Sacred Triduum, April 17-19, and Easter Sunday, April 20. For special Lenten observances, check your parish bulletin or website, or visit dioceseofyakima.org.

The Church specifies certain practices of penance during the season of Lent:

1. Self-imposed observance of fasting on all weekdays of Lent is strongly recommended.
2. Catholics are obliged to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, March 5, and Good Friday, April 18.
3. The Fridays of Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.
4. Catholics age 14 and older are bound by the law of abstinence, which forbids the eating of meat.
5. The law of fasting is obligatory for Catholics from the age of 18 to 59. The law of fasting prescribes that only one full meal be taken per day; the other meals should be significantly smaller, but in accord with one's health needs. Fasting assumes avoidance of food between meals.

The "substantial observance" of these laws is a grave obligation; that is:

1. Anyone who neglects all forms of penance, or deliberately shows contempt for the Church's penitential discipline, may be guilty of serious sin.
2. Proportionately grave circumstances – sickness, dietary needs, social obligation – excuse one from the obligation of fast and abstinence, but not from seeking out other forms of penance.

Make this year's celebration of Easter Sunday especially meaningful!

ABEYTA NELSON
Injury Law

800.927.2845 abeytanelson.com Yakima | Ellensburg | Sunnyside

William (Bill) Hays, LUTCF
Agent, New York Life Insurance Company
(509) 494-7825
05.167580

- Investments*
- Life Insurance • Retirement Planning

*Registered Representative offering securities through NYLIFE Securities LLC, Member FINRA/SIPC, A Licensed Insurance Agency
Neither New York Life Insurance Company nor its agents provide tax, legal or accounting advice
1425 Lakeside Court, Yakima, WA 98902
509-494-7825

WE Honor All Funeral homes' prepaid Funeral Plans

Brookside
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY
Owners: Dick Knautz & Janet Roy-Knautz
Your locally owned and operated
Crematory and funeral provider

500 W. Prospect Place • Moxee, WA 98936 • 509-457-1232
101 E. Second Ave. • Ellensburg, WA 98936 • 509-925-2902

Where Quality Services meet Affordable price.
www.brooksidefhc.com

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

BUILT Ford TOUGH

Ford trucks have been getting the job done since 1911. Wearing out? Not an option. Overwhelmed? Not on our watch. Ford trucks have always been engineered and built so tough, you'd think it could outlast the next ice age. So that no matter what the job, it'll be there to get it done.

KM KELLEHER MOTOR COMPANY
"Our family serving your family since 1911"

www.kellehermotors.com 602 N. Pearl Street | Ellensburg | 509-925-1911

NEWS

from Around the Diocese

Rite of Election Scheduled

All are invited to attend the Rite of Election scheduled for 3 p.m., Sunday, March 9 at Holy Family Church in Yakima.

In this special ceremony, the Catechumens (those not yet baptized) and Candidates for Full Communion (those baptized in another faith) put forward by individual parishes and preparing to join the Catholic Church during the Easter Triduum will be introduced.

Bishop Joseph Tyson will preside.

Individuals and parishes with questions regarding the ceremony may contact Ree Kearns at (509) 966-5344 or Deacon Kerry Turley at (509) 840-0980.

Foundation Offers Scholarships

The Central Washington Catholic Foundation is offering its two annual scholarships for 2014.

The Mary Ellen Chott-Mahre Memorial Scholarship is dedicated to the memory of Mary Ellen Chott-Mahre and is funded by her husband David R. Mahre and their nine children. The student who is awarded this scholarship will be active in a Roman Catholic community, planning to or presently attending a Catholic university, and living in the Diocese of Yakima.

The John Rodriguez-Kranz Scholarship is dedicated to the memory of John Francisco Rodriguez-Kranz. His ideals and values exemplified his compassion, generosity, and dedication to God, family, Davis High School, and the greater Yakima community. The student who is awarded this scholarship will be a graduating senior of A. C. Davis High School with a 2.5+ GPA and planning to attend an accredited vocational school, college or university.

Go to www.cwatholicfoundation.org/ for information and applications. The scholarship applications deadline is April 1.

CFCS Takes On Crisis Mental Health Services

Catholic Family & Child Service (CFCS), an agency of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Yakima, assumed responsibility for crisis mental health services in Chelan and Douglas counties in January through a contract with Chelan-Douglas Regional Support Network.

The public Chelan/Douglas Crisis Line numbers remain the same: (509) 662-7105 or toll-free at 1-800-852-2923. The Chelan/Douglas Crisis Line is staffed around the clock for 24/7 service to the public.

In addition, CFCS has added an additional site for crisis services at 701 N. Miller, Wenatchee. CFCS's new suicide prevention coordinator, Carolina Venn-Padilla, will have her office at the new site.

Individuals can contact CFCS to request an appointment for outpatient mental health services at (509) 662-6761 (the crisis numbers should only be used by those in crisis). Outpatient mental health services continue to be provided at 640 S. Mission in Wenatchee.

Catholic Family & Child Service operates a network of twelve offices in Yakima, Moses Lake, Pasco, Richland, Toppenish, Ellensburg, and Wenatchee, which serve more than 35,000 persons annually.

The Month in Pictures

World Day for Consecrated Life



The Knights of Columbus honor guard gathered prior to the February 2 Mass at St. Paul Cathedral, celebrating the World Day for Consecrated Life.



The Religious of the Diocese of Yakima gathered to process into Mass, where they had the opportunity to renew their vows.



Bishop Joseph Tyson, left, and Bishop Emeritus Carlos Sevilla, S.J., paused for a moment before the Mass. Bishop Sevilla celebrated his 25th anniversary as a bishop that day.



The Cathedral was nearly filled for the World Day for Consecrated Life Mass.

Valentine Boxes Spread Cheer



About 70 low-income, elderly and disabled adults in our area had a brighter Valentine's Day, thanks to the Valentine Box Project of Volunteer Chore Services, a program of Catholic Family & Child Service.



Local Catholic schools, area businesses and Volunteer Chore Services personnel donated items, and decorated, assembled and delivered boxes of toiletries, food staples and treats to those in need.