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OCTOBER 2017 *Newsletter*

All Saints and All Souls Days: Offering Benefits That Far Outlast the Candy

By Christine Corbett Conklin

In the midst of the Halloween hype – the candy, costumes and decorations found everywhere this time of year – it's easy to overlook two important days in the Catholic Church calendar.

All Saints Day, on November 1, and All Souls Day, November 2, have a long and very rich tradition within the Church, explained Very Rev. Michael Ibach, judicial vicar for the Diocese of Yakima.

All Saints Day is a Holy Day of Obligation, meaning that attendance at Mass is required, just as it is on Sunday, except if a person is ill or has other special circumstances. It is a day to “give thanks for all of those men and women who have preceded us in living a Christian life,” Father Ibach noted. It's also an occasion which “encourages us to continue to live a holy life.”

The earliest observance of this special day may be traced to the fourth century, in the eastern Church, Father Ibach observed. Then, it was known as the Feast of All Martyrs and celebrated on May 13. Later, the tradition spread to the western churches where it was celebrated on Easter Friday or perhaps the Sunday after Pentecost.

By the year 610, when the Panthe-

on in Rome was converted to a Christian Church known as St. Mary of the Martyrs, “we officially began to talk about All Saints Day,” Father said. In the year 844, Pope Gregory IV transferred the feast day to November 1.

dates back to the early Church. “There's a reference to it in the second century,” Father noted. St. Odilo Cluny of France is known to have promoted it in the 10th century through the Benedictine order, helping to

spread the observance through the mission field. The feast day was accepted in Rome in the 13th century.

In 1915, Pope Benedict XV took the observance of All Souls Day one step further, giving priests permission to say three consecutive Masses on November 2: one for



Image courtesy of "Father's Writings" blog

The saints in Heaven can intercede for us, asking for God's mercy.

This occasion on which “the Church celebrates in Heaven and on earth” has been celebrated on November 1 ever since.

All Souls Day is an occasion to “remember those who have died, praying that the Lord will be merciful and will accept our deceased into eternal life with Him,” Father Ibach continued. “It's part of our celebration of the Communion of Saints.”

Today, some Catholic churches have books of remembrance in which parishioners may write the names of deceased loved ones for whom they ask prayers. It's also customary to ask to have Masses offered for deceased relatives and friends, making a monetary offering if possible.

The tradition of All Souls Day

the souls of their own relatives and friends; one for the souls named in a parish book or through other special requests; and one for the intentions of the Holy Father.

All Souls Day is an important day of prayer for every one of us, Father Ibach emphasized.

“All of us, when we die, are being judged by God as to our final destination,” he said. “Our hope, our prayer, our petition is that those who have gone before us be granted eternal life.”

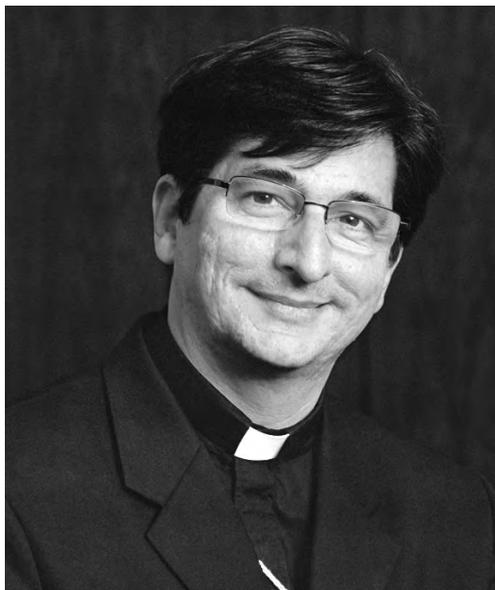
So, as October draws to a close, remember not to let Halloween with its secular party spirit overshadow the beauty of these two sacred days. Our prayers will live on long after the last candy wrapper is swept away!

A Message from Bishop Tyson...

Dear Friends:

Our upcoming celebrations of All Saints and All Souls remind us that we have friends in Heaven and friends on earth – friends among the living and friends among the dead. Such faith realities come alive in a special way when visiting the Eternal City of Rome. It was such a grace and blessing to concelebrate the Mass for the ordinations of Jesús Mariscal and César Izquierdo as deacons. Both seminarians worked the fields here in Central Washington prior to their entry into our seminary formation program.

In the case of César Izquierdo, both his father and his grandfather worked as “braceros” here in Central Washington. When the United States sent an army of young men to fight in Europe during World War II, Mexico sent an army to us to pick our crops. César continued that tradition, but with shifting immigration and documentation requirements, he self-deported and has had his seminary formation in Mexico, Canada and Rome. Ironically, had he stayed he would have been eligible for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program – although now DACA is endangered. He should be able to re-enter the United States next summer for his priestly ordination and after further education in Rome, be able to work here as a priest.



Bishop Joseph Tyson

Because César hasn't been able to come to us, our journey meant Yakima pilgrims went to him. They went to see both men ordained to the transitional diaconate in Rome – the center of the Church, reminding us of the way Christ brings forth a Church that crosses epochs and cultures. All of the pilgrims had the chance to gather with our Holy Father Pope Francis as he launched the “Share the Journey” initiative (Compartiendo el Viaje) with Caritas International, a worldwide effort to learn how we can better accompany campesinos, migrants

and refugees.

The Yakima Diocese has been the place where both Deacon Jesús and Deacon César have shared the journey of faith – Jesús with his family in Kennewick and César with his extended family in Sunnyside. Both were involved in retreat and youth programs here in the Diocese of Yakima as well. Both had a deeper sense of call. Both had a vocational stirring. Both desire to return the gift and share the journey of Jesus as priests for the Diocese of Yakima.

They share the journey because of you, because of your support of the Annual Catholic Appeal, because of your support of Catholic Extension Society, because of your support of youth ministry and retreat programs such as those featured in this month's *Central Washington Catholic*. We are all saints in the making. I hope their stories inspire you to consider your vocation and the way you're called by Jesus to become a saint, too! Friends in Heaven and friends on earth! Friends among the living and friends among the dead! I hope this issue of the *Central Washington Catholic* inspires you to “Share the Journey.”

With every best wish and blessing,

Yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

Two New Deacons Ordained for the Diocese *Continued from page 4*

from St. Joseph's in Kennewick and Sunnyside, friends and family from different parts of the Diocese of Yakima and others from Mexico.”

And now, strengthened by the graces and commitment of ordination, the two deacons say that they are inspired to go forward in a life of service to God.

“As I continue my formation to the priesthood, everything I learn I am trying to pastorally apply to the service of God and for His people,” Deacon César said. “This year, I have been assigned to studying *Public Ethics*, a program based on the Social Doctrine of the Church... I wish to be a witness to the Faith and be articulate in communicating the Gospel. I hope to do this in the best way possible in my future ministry in the Diocese of Yakima. I am extremely grateful to God for the grace of sacred orders, I am grateful in a particular way to the people of the Diocese of Yakima,

to my family and friends.”

Deacon Jesús noted, “I don't know that the ordination has changed me or transformed me into anything new, even though something mysterious happened to my soul. It has not registered completely in my mind that now I am a deacon, but I am often reminded of this in the streets of Rome when pilgrims ask me to bless their religious objects. Then, I am reminded that now, by the grace of God I can actually not only bless their religious objects but themselves as well. ...My desire to become a holy priest has been strengthened.”

Deacon Jesús has been assigned to study Canon Law with a focus on pastoral marriage developments.

He offered one last reflection: “*My heart is ready, O God, my heart is ready. I will sing, I will sing your praise. Awake, my soul, awake, lyre and harp, I will awake the dawn. I will thank you, Lord, among*

the peoples, among the nations I will praise you for your love reaches to the heavens and your truth to the skies. O God, arise above the heavens, may your glory shine on earth!” (Ps 57:7-11)

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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

Annual Catholic Appeal Supports Ministries for All Ages to Encounter Christ

By Sandra Boguslawski

“Encounter Christ on the Journey of the Pilgrim Church” is the theme of the upcoming 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal for the Diocese of Yakima, with the pledge weekend scheduled for November 4 and 5, 2017.

Each year, the Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) provides ministries to help all Catholics within Central Washington encounter Christ as they journey in faith. Whether English or Spanish speaking, youth or adult, rich or poor, there are ministries available for all of the faithful because generous people such as yourself support this once-a-year campaign.

Two popular ministries available to adults of our diocese are the *Magnificat* Program and Migrant Ministry. *Magnificat* is a “school of faith formation” that is open to anyone. It is available in multiple locations and is offered in both English and Spanish. It covers a broad range of topics including sacraments, liturgy, dogma, spirituality, Mary and the saints, apologetics, and more. Some of the program teachers include Bishop Tyson, priests and sisters from our Diocese, and knowledgeable laypersons. Classes began this month, so now it a great time to look

into this program if you are searching for a way to deepen your knowledge of the Catholic Faith. Please visit www.yakimadiocese.org and click on the “Ministries” menu for more information and schedules.

Migrant Ministry is also a beautiful program that brings the sacraments to migrant workers who come to Central Washington each summer. Classes in catechism and sacramental preparation give these workers a chance to deepen their encounter with Christ. They also have the opportunity for Confession, Mass, and a fiesta celebration together.

For our young adults, the ACA assists the Catholic Campus Ministry at Central Washington University. Since 1947, Catholic Campus Ministry (CCM) has provided a spiritual home to students while they are studying at Central’s Ellensburg campus. Like Newman Centers at other public universities, CCM hosts a number of weekly events for the student community: Bible studies, small faith-sharing groups, and social events complementing our Sunday Mass



Central Washington University students gather together for Campus Ministry events.

celebrated on campus during the school year. In addition, retreats and mission trip opportunities are made available to the college students. By deeply engaging young adults while in college, CCM is helping to create life-long Catholics and

train the future leaders of the Church. The ministry is blessed to have the CCM House located by the university (706 N. Sprague Street) where most events take place. If you would like more information about the ministry, please contact info@cwucatholics.com or call (509) 925-3043.

A new program for youth this year is the Literacy Wagon. As a complement program to Migrant Ministry, the Literacy Wagon provides a mobile library for children of the migrant camps so that they can improve their reading skills, gather to play games, and complete crafts. Led by seminarians and volunteers, this program offers fun and learning to the youth while their parents work in the fields.

If you would like to see a full listing of the ministries supported by the Annual Catholic Appeal, visit www.yakimadiocese.org/ministries/annual-catholic-appeal and click “Resources for Donors.” The goal for the 2018 ACA is \$1,568,582. Please consider a gift to the ACA this November to support our fellow Catholics of all ages as we encounter Christ through the ministries and programs of the Diocese of Yakima!

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NEWS

from Around the Diocese

Register Now for Youth Convention

There's still time to register for the annual Diocese of Yakima Youth Convention, scheduled for November 3-5 at St. Joseph Parish in Sunnyside. The convention will begin at 7 p.m., Friday, November 3 and conclude by noon, Sunday, November 5.

The theme for the event is **Viva Cristo Rey**, reminding us that Christ, our king, did not live a life of luxury. Rather, he was rejected, challenged, mocked with a crown of thorns and crucified like a criminal. He is not of this world. The youth convention will reflect on what it means to be living *in* this world but not of this world.

This year's keynote speaker, Jon Blevins, will focus on empowering the youth of our Diocese to change the world by living out the Catholic Faith and encouraging others to do the same even when it's painful and against what the world entices us to do.

The cost of the conference is \$50 for late registration from October 20 - November 2. Limited scholarships are available. Please contact Melissa at (509) 946-1675 or yakimadiocese.ym@gmail.com for more information.

Come Give Thanks at Latin Mass

A Latin Mass, scheduled for 1:30 p.m., Sunday, November 12, will include special prayers of thanksgiving to God for our many blessings. The Mass will be held in the chapel of Holy Family Church in Yakima.

All are invited to share in this beautiful, ancient liturgy with its ornate altar settings and traditional hymns.

Refreshments will be available following Mass.

Breakfast With Santa Is Scheduled

The Catholic Daughters of America will hold their annual Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 2, in the Father Murtagh Gathering Hall of Holy Family Church in Yakima.

The event, which runs from 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., will include a pancake breakfast and opportunity for children to shop for Christmas in a "country store." Families are encouraged to bring their cameras to take photos with Santa.

The cost is \$4 for children age three to 12, and \$7 for anyone over the age of 12.

Tickets will be available at the door.

Two New Deacons Ordained for The Diocese

Two seminarians of the Diocese of Yakima, César Izquierdo and Jesús Mariscal, were ordained "transitional" deacons September 28 at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. The ceremony also included 29 other deacon candidates from across the United States and Australia studying at the Pontifical North American College seminary in Rome.

Bishop James Checchio of New Jersey, a former rector of the seminary, was the presiding bishop. Bishop Joseph Tyson was among the concelebrating bishops and priests. Some 45 people from the Diocese of Yakima attended in all, as part of a pilgrimage, including Fathers Salomón Covarrubias, Felipe Pulido and Jacob Davis, plus parishioners from across Central Washington.

More pilgrims came from Mexico.

Father Rex Velmonte from Penticton, B.C., who assisted in Deacon César's seminary formation in Canada, also took part in the pilgrimage. Father Tomás Vázquez from Kennewick and Father Mario P. Salazar joined the pilgrims for the ordination Mass.

Both Deacon César and Deacon Jesús, who are set to be ordained priests next year, were very moved by the occasion.

"While preparing for diaconate ordination I found joy and peace in reflecting upon a life-long commitment of prayer, obedience and celibacy," observed Deacon César. "There were certainly some fears leading up to the ordination but I surrendered to God

and trusted that he will help me with whatever He will ask me as an ordained minister."

Deacon Jesús recalled that, "The night before the ordination I went to bed worried about everyone making it safe and on time to the ordination and about other random things. But in the morning when I woke up I was overtaken by a sense of awe, calmness, peace, and confidence that assured me that my entire life had been leading up to that day, and that this was the vocation for which I was born, and for which I had been chosen by God."

"There was a sense of stillness in everything; there was a dense aura of awe, reverence and a fear of God as there was a very palpable presence of the Holy Spirit during the last few minutes leading up to the ordination," Deacon Jesús added.

It meant a lot to the two young men to have the large group of clergy and lay people there from the Diocese.

"The day of the ordination I greatly experienced that I am not alone in this journey," Deacon César said. "Having Bishop Tyson with the pilgrimage from our Diocese attending the ordination gave me an opportunity to meet people from different parishes around the Diocese. Something that I told the pilgrims is that I had prayed for them and for the

people of the Diocese of Yakima while I prostrated during the litany of the saints at St. Peter's Basilica - I knew they were praying for me as well."

"Around 2,300 pilgrims attended the ordination at St Peter's Basilica out of which about 110 were friends and family of César and myself," Deacon Jesús added. "(This) included a few parishioners



Deacon César



Deacon Jesús



Gathering for the ordinations were: first row behind Bishop Tyson, l-r: Fr. Mario P. Salazar, Deacon César, Deacon Jesús and Fr. Rex Velmonte. Back row, l-r: Fr. Felipe Pulido, Fr. Salomón Covarrubias-Piña, and seminarian Martin Amaro, Diocese of Little Rock.

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