



CENTRAL WASHINGTON CATHOLIC

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Pāchu Washintin Chmuk Tātpas

SEPTEMBER 2012
Newsletter

Representative from Bishops' Subcommittee Tours Diocese

With an interest in “a lot of important issues” facing the people of Central Washington, Bishop John Manz, auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Chicago, toured numerous cities in the Diocese of Yakima, September 4-8.

As a representative of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Subcommittee on the Pastoral Care

of Migrants, Refugees and Travelers, Manz focused, in particular, on the challenges and opportunities for migrant farm workers in our area. Traveling from Yakima to Granger, Toppenish, Wenatchee, Chelan, Bridgeport, Prosser, Kennewick and Vantage, among other stops, he met with a cross-section of area residents, listening and learning about matters ranging from pastoral care to housing, education and medical care.

In his pastoral visit to Central Washington,



After Mass with migrant farmworkers at a work camp near St. Anne's Parish in Bridgeport, Bishop John Manz offered a blessing to each of the more than 100 workers and parishioners present.

Cultural Diversity; Sister Karen Bernhardt, HM, with the Catholic Migrant Farmworker Network; and

Monsignor Robert Siler, chief of staff and chancellor for the Diocese of Yakima.

At the beginning of his visit, Manz also met with Bishop Joseph Tyson and Father Ron Patnode for an historical introduction

Manz was accompanied by Sister Myrna Tordillo, MSCS, a staff member for the USCCB Committee on

to the Diocese, as well as with John Young, director of Catholic Charities, and Tadeo Saenz-Thompson, executive director of the Washington State Migrant Council.

“I think that the Diocese (of Yakima), in regard to pastoral care of migrants, is far ahead of many dioceses,” Manz said.

He also had favorable comments on the Migrant Council's Headstart programs that

allow parents to leave their children in a learning environment while they go to work.

“A lot of places don't have that,” he observed.

Manz added that he was “impressed” by Yakima Valley Farmworker Clinic services available to migrant workers and others, including seniors, who have reduced

income. He also mentioned Catholic Charities housing programs among the encouraging notes of his visit.



Bishop John Manz celebrated Mass at the Auvil Fruit Orchard in Vantage with the help of Fr. Tomás Vázquez of St. Andrew's Parish in Ellensburg, which serves the farmworker community there, assisted by Msgr. Robert Siler, a former pastor of the Parish.

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Creighton Fertility Method: Letting Science and Faith Work Together

Science and our Catholic Faith can go hand in hand when a married couple is considering whether to have – or not to have – a child, say two Catholic experts within the Diocese of Yakima who teach the Creighton FertilityCare method.

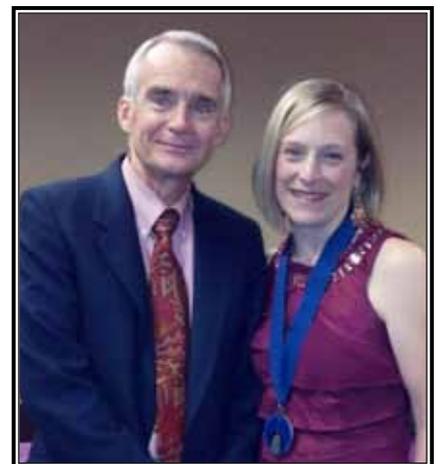
Following techniques in keeping with Church teaching, couples may not only be successful in their family planning, but also “receive many graces and benefits” in the process, suggests Dr. Ted O'Donnell, a board-certified physician specializing in family practice and fertility care in Wenatchee.

O'Donnell has been a member of St. Joseph Parish in Wenatchee for more than 20 years and is a Certified Creighton

FertilityCare Medical Consultant. His “mission” is to help couples address fertility issues through a method which teaches them to “read” the woman's peak times of fertility and, through a process of understanding and communication, work together to achieve desired results.

Shira Wise, supervisor of the Lourdes FertilityCare Center, located across the street from Lourdes Hospital in Pasco, collaborates with O'Donnell in this effort. Currently, Wise and her associates in Pasco work with some 430 individuals and couples who either want to achieve or avoid a pregnancy at this time.

According to results of a study of 1,876 couples who used the Creighton method, published in the



Dr. Ted O'Donnell and Shira Wise attended the Celebration of Faith event in Yakima where she was honored as a recipient of a Cardinal George Medallion.

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A Message from Bishop Tyson...

Dear Friends,

The Annual Catholic Appeal for 2012 is winding down, and a new Appeal will begin in November. I hope these various stories in this issue of the Central Washington Catholic begin to tell you the story of your donations as they touch the faith lives of those we serve here in the Diocese of Yakima.

This particular issue narrates the importance of faith in a variety of ways. We read of Dr. Ted O'Donnell and Shira Wise who work diligently uplifting the "Creighton FertilityCare method," not only as a way to strengthen the relationship of the couple, but, in the context of our Church teachings, to help couples live out their faith. Similarly, we read about Thomas Aquinas, Pickett, OP, and Rachael Lowe as they begin their journey of religious life centered on the three traditional vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.

Bishop John Manz and his team came to see how we are attempting to share



Bishop Joseph Tyson

the gift of faith with our migrant workers across Central Washington. The pastor and parishioners of St. Andrew's Parish in

Ellensburg continue to live out the Catholic faith well, as the parish has done for over 125 years now. The Diocese's Catholic Campus Ministry in Ellensburg supports college students in their faith.

Pope Benedict XVI has declared this coming year the "Year of Faith." Your gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal last year was a gift of faith allowing us to inspire and touch the people of Central Washington with the gift of the Church's sacraments and the food of the Church's teachings. Your gift to the ACA for the coming year will build on those efforts.

My hope and prayer is that, even as you share the gift of faith, you might find ways of deepening and learning about your own faith during this "Year of Faith."

With every best wish and blessing,

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

Creighton Fertility Method: Letting Science and Faith Work Together *continued from page 1*

Journal of Reproductive Medicine, 98 percent of couples with no infertility issues were able to achieve pregnancy within six months. This large study also demonstrated that the method is 99.5 % effective to avoid pregnancy when the couple so chooses. This is comparable to any artificial birth control means, Wise said.

Up to 80 percent of couples facing fertility challenges can achieve a pregnancy, depending on the cause, by using the system and its medical applications, she added.

Like the Billings method, which was introduced in the United States in 1972, the Creighton fertility method uses no chemicals, no artificial contraception, and thus can be adopted by a couple with peace of mind.

O'Donnell trained in Omaha, Nebraska, the location of the Pope Paul VI Institute where the Creighton FertilityCare system is based, where ongoing research is done, and where medical professionals are trained in the various aspects of what are called "NaproTechnologies" (a new non-contraceptive approach to gynecologic care based on the Creighton method). There are multiple sites around the world where teachers of the method are trained.

"We want couples to know their fertility, to understand the mystery that God has placed in their bodies," O'Donnell noted. "This is a field of gynecological care that is very respectful of nature. It takes a certain amount of unselfishness to use. Yet, with this system, couples become much more sensitive to each other and to their individual needs. You begin to realize the gift that the other person is to you. There is often a growth of tenderness and affection. We have found that couples who routinely use this method rarely divorce."

This sensitivity to nature – and to each other – can even help to pinpoint fertility problems and assist with diagnosis, he said, as charting of physical signs and patterns is done month by month.

Instruction in the Creighton method may be done in Wenatchee or the Tri-Cities, in English or Spanish, with an introductory group session and one-to-one follow-up sessions. Or, the instruction may be done totally on-line, Wise said. Costs may be billed to medical insurance. A sliding fee schedule is available for instruction, and financial assistance or even free instruction is available for those who qualify.

Those interested in learning more about the Creighton method may visit www.fertilitycare.org or www.lourdeshealth.net (where you would navigate to "services" and click "fertility care"), or call (509) 542-3036.

Despite its advantages, O'Donnell admits that the Creighton method can be a "tough sell". "It requires a conversion of heart," he said. "You have to realize that the current culture is on the wrong track and couples have to make a decision that they're not going to go there. This technique is not about me, me, me. It's about God and us."

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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Two Answer the Call to Religious Life

Two young people from the Diocese of Yakima have answered the call to religious life.

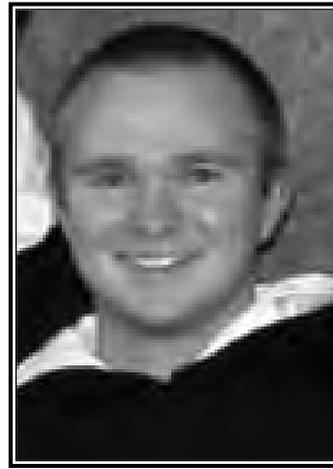
Brother Thomas Aquinas Pickett from Ellensburg is beginning his novitiate with the Order of Preachers, Western Dominican Province. He is a graduate of Gonzaga University and Bishop White Seminary.

Presently, there are 150 Dominican friars assigned to 18 communities in the western United States and Mexico. They continue the mission begun by St. Dominic of "preaching everywhere in the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ."

Rachael Lowe from Richland, will move to Washington, D.C., next month to become a postulant with the Little Sisters of the Poor. The religious order is dedicated to care of the aged poor.

Lowe graduated in May with a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing. She served as a nurse's aide with the Sisters during the summer of 2011. Currently, she is in the Bronx, New York, working as a nurse.

Please keep them both in your prayers as they move forward in service to God and others.



Brother Thomas Aquinas Pickett, OP



Rachael Lowe

Representative from Bishops' Subcommittee Tours Diocese *continued from page 1*

In addition, Manz said he met with "faith-filled people" from many walks of life, including those who "don't make the headlines" – as he does on annual pastoral visits to other areas such as California and Arizona. While here, he spoke to everyone from farm workers to orchardists, medical personnel, those from social service and education programs, religious, and priests.

He described Bishop Tyson as "full of enthusiasm," and commended Sister Kathleen Ross, SNJM, president emeritus of Heritage College, for her role in the school's accomplishments.

When it comes to dealing with social issues, "It's not a question of good guys and bad guys," Manz said. "Growers and workers (for example) both have their challenges." And both groups are subject to the same larger issues such as the economic climate and weather, he added.

Other than a brief pass through Yakima "20 or 25 years ago," this was Manz's first visit to Central Washington.

"It's just beautiful," he commented. "I like the dry climate. Chicago is too humid!"

Among highlights of the visit were Masses in "an open field" with migrant workers in attendance in Bridgeport, and near the river in Vantage. Manz added that he had eaten an apple every day he was here and sampled fresh pears. He also had been served "fish head soup" – about which he had no comment.

After his return home, Bishop Manz will report back to the USCCB on his experiences here, noting that the bishops "want to be supportive" of those living and working in our area.

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NEWS

from Around the Diocese

St. Andrew's Church Schedules Festival —

St. Andrew's Catholic Church in Ellensburg will hold its annual October Festival from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday, October 4, in the church activity center.

Highlights of the festival include a \$5 lunch (served between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.) with homemade soup, bread, pie and beverage. There also will be a craft store, bakery shop, coffee shop and "country store," plus several raffles.

Proceeds from the event go toward parish needs, community charities and the Diocesan Seminarian Education Fund.

Holy Redeemer: 50th Anniversary —

Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Yakima will celebrate its 50th anniversary, October 14. That day, there will be an 11 a.m. outdoor Mass on church grounds, concelebrated by Bishop Joseph Tyson and pastor, Father Francisco Gutierrez. Refreshments will follow.

Plans for a new office building also will be on display.

Former members of the parish are encouraged to come for the occasion.

Group Mails Packages To Troops —

If you have a loved one serving in the United States military, stationed overseas, or just want to express appreciation to these individuals so far from home, Operation Thank You of The Yakima Valley would like to hear from you!

Group members mail between 10 and 15 care packages each month to military personnel stationed from Afghanistan to Kuwait and Iraq. Packages are sent to both male and female personnel in all branches of the U.S. military, containing items such as beef jerky, trail mix, spices and toiletry items.

To submit the name of a loved one serving overseas, to volunteer time or contribute items, contact Deanna Pemberton, a member of Holy Family Parish in Yakima, at (509) 452-0106.

YLI Dinner Is Coming Soon —

The 60th annual salmon and ham dinner, held by the YLI (Young Ladies Institute) of Yakima, is scheduled for noon to 4 p.m., October 7, in the Father Murtagh Gathering Hall of Holy Family Church in Yakima.

Proceeds of the event benefit seminarians of the Diocese of Yakima.

Tickets are \$15 each, with children aged six and under admitted free. Tickets may be purchased in some parish offices (see your parish bulletin), or by calling Pat Kramper at 945-5436, Robyn Klingele at 248-4068, Dolores LaCoursiere at 452-9960, or the Holy Family parish office at 966-0830. A limited number of tickets also will be available for purchase at the door.

Special Thanks Due to Photographer —

Special thanks are due to Rick Baumgardner of Baumgardner Imaging in Yakima for his continuing, kind donation of photos to the Central Washington Catholic!

From his photo of Bishop Tyson in the first issue of the new publication, in May 2011, to his photo last month of a Nativity scene on display at St. Paul Cathedral School, he is generous with his time and talent.

St. Andrew's Parish: Many Talents Come Together In Vibrant Small Town

Just east of the Cascade Mountains in Ellensburg, Washington – the "most centrally located city in the state" – you'll find St. Andrew's Catholic Church. Situated on South Willow Street, adjacent to its thriving Community Garden, the church attracts people from a number of diverse groups. They include the farmers who cultivate timothy hay in the surrounding Kittitas Valley, students and faculty from Central Washington University (CWU), business people, a growing Hispanic community and many visitors who come to events such as the annual Ellensburg Rodeo.

"We are blessed because the community is very active," observed Father Tomás Vázquez, who has served as pastor since 2009. "Many families move here and there are a lot of events and services associated with the University. I have a lot of professors, staff and students who attend Mass."



The "Tree of Life" and stained glass windows are focal points of the church.



St. Andrew's parish recently celebrated its 125th anniversary.

In the words of Peg Snyder, a parishioner since 1954 who served as parish secretary for 13 years, "We've always been a very close-knit community."

When the University is in session, the Ellensburg population expands from just over 18,000 people to encompass some 10,000 students. There has been a good interchange between St. Andrew's and CWU, parishioners say.

"I've seen a lot of college kids helping out with youth ministry, even with the smaller kids," observed Josh Mattson, a parishioner since 2003 who served as a high school youth minister. "And parishioners help out with Confirmation at the University." In addition, the Knights of Columbus have supported prayer vigils held by CWU's pro-life group, he said.

Other parishioners point out that CWU music students make a great contribution to weekend Masses. And it was a CWU History professor who compiled the church history back a few years ago in celebration of the parish's 125th anniversary. In turn, the Catholic Campus Ministry, offered through the Diocese of Yakima, further supports CWU students.

The annual October Festival sponsored by the parish (see related item on this page) since 1979 is another good means to bring the entire community together. Whether in cooking, working on crafts, or otherwise helping, many people get involved.

"Everybody's preparing – from the whole town, not just the church," observed Gerry Stacy, a parishioner since 1990 and English professor at CWU.

The parishioners at St. Andrew's – currently some 1,080 registered households in all – have what Father Vázquez calls "real ownership" and involvement in parish life. Some of the most active organizations include the Knights of Columbus, the October Festival committee, a funeral committee, Wives in Prayer, Young at Heart, a craft group and many others.

"They support the church. They support the programs, volunteering, and with money and talent," he said. Some parishioners have very definite ideas, he noted, but in the end, they all manage to work together for the greater good.

Stacy returned the compliment. "Father Tomás is a very religious man and he seems to have a knack for getting along with people," he said.

This is just the latest chapter in the history of St. Andrew's Church. It all began in 1847, with a mission chapel for local Indians. The first church in town was built in 1884. Today's parish was established by Jesuits in 1885, with the present building dedicated in 1980. Among striking structural details are the wooden "Tree of Life" rising over the altar and stained glass windows.

The list of pastors for the parish is quite lengthy. Since the mid-1960s, alone, they have included Fathers Seamus Kerr, Arthur Waters, Richard Wuertz, John Murtagh, Richard Scully, John Heneghan, Brendan Dorian, (Msgr.) Perron Auve, (Msgr.) Robert Siler, Michael Brzezowski and now, Tomás Vázquez.

Through the years, the parish groups and activities may change somewhat, but the basic principle remains the same at St. Andrew's, observed Katherine Spall, a parishioner for 35 years who has helped lead the October Festival preparations for numerous years.

"It's a really living church. It all works," she said. "People appreciate the talents of everybody."