



CENTRAL WASHINGTON CATHOLIC

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FEBRUARY 2013
Newsletter

Lenten 'Renewal' To Include Election of New Pope

Dear Friends:

Like many of you, I was surprised to learn of the decision of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, to resign due to advanced age, effective Thursday, February 28.

While I received this news with some sadness, I also greatly appreciated the Holy Father's carefully-discerned decision. I also recall the interview he had given some years ago to the German journalist, Peter Seewald. When asked about the possibility of a Pope resigning, Pope Benedict indicated that this would be a possibility, especially if the Holy Father were incapacitated in carrying out his ministry. This is what Pope Benedict determined with reasonable moral certainty in prayer and reflection.

As I said to the press the week of the announcement, I felt a personal connection with the Holy Father. I was among the very first to be named a bishop just days after his election as Pope in 2005. Of course, it was also our Holy Father who asked me to leave as auxiliary bishop in Seattle and to become the seventh bishop of Yakima just under two years ago. I had the chance to see him with my brother bishops almost a year ago in April, when the bishops from the Pacific Northwest had their "ad limina" visit – "ad limina" meaning in Latin, "to the threshold" (of the Apostles). Those visits generally happen on a five-year cycle and are times when we personally meet the Holy Father, reviewing with him the graces and challenges in our local dioceses. I was struck by the manner in which he so intently listened.

Similarly, I was honored to concelebrate the Mass of canonization for Saint Kateri Tekakwitha – the first Native American woman uplifted by the Church as a saint for us all. This extraordinary event in Rome brought believers from all around the world. St. Kateri and the six other saints were branded as "Saints for the New Evangelization." In different ways, the Holy Father reminded us in his homily that each of



Pope Benedict XVI greeted Bishop Joseph Tyson last April during the Bishop's "ad limina" visit to Rome.

these saints faced particular challenges in living out the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Looking back, Pope Benedict XVI has consistently demonstrated an amazing ability to teach these basic human truths. And, he's done so in the context of an era in which human dignity continues to be marred by degradation of our humanity through the millions of children aborted and the manner in which we treat our dying. During his life, Pope Benedict witnessed the bloodiest and deadliest wars in human history. Seven million Jews died at the hands of Nazi hatred. Nearly 80 million people in all died in the course of the Second World War. In many ways, from the guns of 1914 to the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, we were in the middle of a 75-year assault on the dignity of the human person and the distortion of human freedom as one of radical individual choice. Indeed, those challenges

continue today!

I consider it a great blessing that Pope Benedict XVI chose to make his announcement as we were preparing to enter Lent. For Lent is ultimately a time of deepening our freedom, turning away from the enslavement of sin and the false allurements that too often hold us hostage to the powers and principalities of our world. Prayer, fasting and alms-giving – the three Lenten disciplines – are actually the spiritual tools of human freedom. They give us the moral stamina to embrace the unique freedom witnessed by Jesus Christ and taught by the Church.

This Lent will prove to be an extraordinary time of spiritual renewal, preparing our hearts for a renewal of our faith in this "Year of Faith" and preparing our Church for a renewal of its leadership through the election of a new Holy Father. I know I can rely on all of you during this Lenten season to include in your prayers a special intention for Pope Benedict as well as for that person who will be elected the next Pope.

With every best wish and blessing,

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

Prayer For Selection of Our New Pope

O God, eternal shepherd,
who govern your flock with unflinching care,
grant in your boundless fatherly love
a pastor for your Church
who will please You by his holiness
and to us show watchful care.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with You
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Joseph: A Saint for the Year of Faith

Guest column by Sister Constance Veit, Little Sisters of the Poor



This statue of St. Joseph graces St. Joseph Church in Yakima. Photo courtesy of Rick Baumgardner, Baumgardner Imaging.

Editor's note: The Solemnity of St. Joseph, on March 19, will have special significance in the Diocese of Yakima this year. It will coincide with the Solemn Chrism Mass at 7 p.m. in St. Paul Cathedral. During this Mass, the oils used throughout the Diocese for sacramental celebrations will be blessed and consecrated. Concelebrating priests also will renew their commitment to priestly service. All are invited to join with Bishop Tyson and the clergy of the Yakima Diocese for this special event.

Anyone who knows the Little Sisters of the Poor knows that we have a deep devotion to Saint Joseph; he has been our patron since the beginning of our congregation. Our foundress, Saint Jeanne Jugan, turned to Joseph with unshakeable confidence to obtain bread and a lot of other necessities for the elderly poor. We continue to look to him as a father, like our heavenly Father, whose Providence watches over those who trust in him.

But Joseph is much more than a heavenly ATM machine or real estate agent! March has traditionally been dedicated to Saint Joseph and his feast day is celebrated on the 19th. On this day, we don't so much honor Joseph as a provider, or even Joseph as workman (this feast is celebrated on May 1); but Saint Joseph as the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster father of Jesus.

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Small Contributions to Operation Rice Bowl Make Big Difference

How much difference can a few cents make?

When those pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters are gathered by Catholics from around the Diocese of Yakima, it can make a \$353,995 difference!

That's how much money has been raised since 1993 in our Diocese's parishes and schools through Operation Rice Bowl, a program of Catholic Relief Services to alleviate hunger throughout the world.

Of that total, the Diocese of Yakima has retained 25 percent for local hunger-fighting efforts. About \$49,000 of that amount has already been spent, through distribution to food banks, and to parishes and other community organizations in response to such disasters as the fire in White Swan two years ago, and the Kittitas County wildfires last year. The rest, about \$39,000, is in reserve for future efforts.

Operation Rice Bowl, a program of Catholic Relief Services (CRS) – which sometimes goes by the name CRS Rice Bowl – is a 37-year-old program with a goal of helping prevent hunger and otherwise assisting people who are in need. This year's campaign runs until Holy Thursday, March 28, when parishioners and students begin returning the small cardboard boxes they have used during Lent to save spare change.

Money collected through the program is used internationally for everything from helping farmers improve harvests to clean water projects, and health and nutrition services for mothers and children.

The Rice Bowl campaign is conducted during Lent, offering a positive way in which Catholics can tie in with the themes of fasting and sacrifice, perhaps using some of the money they would have spent on meat, larger meals or other special items to help the disadvantaged.

If you would like to see some simple, meatless recipes recommended by CRS, or learn more about the Rice Bowl program, visit www.crsricebowl.org.



Donating to the Rice Bowl program is one means of making Lenten sacrifice.

Joseph: A Saint for the Year of Faith *Continued from page 1*

It is in this role that Joseph manifested his true spiritual greatness. In his latest book in the Jesus of Nazareth series, Pope Benedict XVI wrote that the mission given to Joseph was “overwhelming,” that it demanded “extraordinarily courageous faith.” Father Frederick L. Miller, a professor of systematic theology at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and a good friend of the Little Sisters of the Poor, has written of Saint Joseph that, like Mary, his “greatness is rooted in his faith, a faith that demanded incomprehensible confidence in God's power and a heroic degree of charity.”

Reflecting on Joseph's example during this Year of Faith, it occurred to me that in life's ups and downs we might just call on Joseph as the Saint of the Incomprehensible. Think about it – a young man of faith and integrity is engaged to a lovely young woman. Suddenly, his fiancée is pregnant and he knows he is not the father of the unborn child. What should he do? A mysterious voice tells him that everything will be okay because the baby was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And that is just the beginning!

Then comes the mandate to make a very inconvenient trip to Bethlehem, the baby's birth in – of all the unaccommodating places – an empty stable, a midnight visit from shepherds recounting stories of angel choirs, the arrival of strange men bearing precious gifts, and a divine directive to head first to Egypt, and then finally to Nazareth. This was no vacation or geocaching adventure, but a high-risk pilgrimage of faith that would change their lives and the history of the world forever. As Father Miller suggests, Mary and Joseph's response to the challenges they faced demonstrated an “incomprehensible” confidence in God!

Through his faith-filled obedience, Saint Joseph made his entire life a service of love, a sacrifice to the mystery of the Incarnation and to Christ's redemptive mission. Now as patron of the Church, Joseph can obtain for each of us a measure of his great faith and the grace to obey God's will, however incomprehensible it may seem.

Saint Joseph is our friend in moments of darkness, someone who understands our doubts and uncertainties. This humble, silent man who followed God's commands with his whole heart – no matter how disconcerting they were – can help us grow in faith, trust and confidence in God's Providence. Joseph, Saint of the Incomprehensible, pray for us!

Sister Constance Carolyn Veit, LSP, is director of communications for the Little Sisters of the Poor in the United States. Father Miller's booklet about St. Joseph can be found by using the following link: <http://www.kofc.org/un/en/resources/cis/cis328.pdf>

Two Small Parishes Treasure Long Devotion to Faith

Continued from page 4

to reinforce that sense.

St. John the Baptist has its own special ambience, said Ron Sullivan, a parishioner for five years.

“It's a tiny traditional church, an old church,” he said. “Inside, it's bright with some beautiful stained glass windows, small pews that hold six people each, a huge cross, statues and some beautiful woodwork.”

For Christy (Beedle) Wersland, whose family membership at Immaculate Conception dates back to the 1950s, “the history is almost palpable here. When you walk into the building or even see the church from the outside, (you're struck by) the numbers of people who have been baptized here, married here,” she said. “For me, it's home. It's where I've always been.”

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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Recall and Meditate Upon the Stations of the Cross This Lent

With the arrival of Lent comes a special opportunity to take advantage of the “sacramental” devotion called the Stations of the Cross. As explained by the “Catechism of the Catholic Church,” a sacramental is a sacred sign instituted by the Church which prepares us to “receive the fruit of the sacraments and sanctify different circumstances of life.”

The “Way of the Cross” is a concept which, according to the Office for the Liturgical Celebrations of the Supreme Pontiff (OLCSP), goes back to the late middle ages. Toward the end of the 13th century, there was mention of the “stations” of the cross – although this was not yet a pious practice. Both terms, however, refer to a recollection and meditation on “the last stage of the journey that Jesus walked in his earthly life,” suggests the OLCSP. The individual “stations” refer to the various events which occurred in this final earthly journey of Christ.

Today, the Stations of the Cross may be observed in several ways. The OLCSP reports that, each year, on the eve of Good Friday, the Pope goes to the Colosseum in Rome for the practice of the Way of the Cross, joined by thousands of pilgrims from around the world. For the Catholic churches of the United States, the stations are often observed on the Fridays of Lent – inside a church, before fixed images on walls; or outside, before crosses or other religious images. The principle, however, remains the same: to follow the journey of Jesus to the Cross, with prayer, song and respectful genuflection.

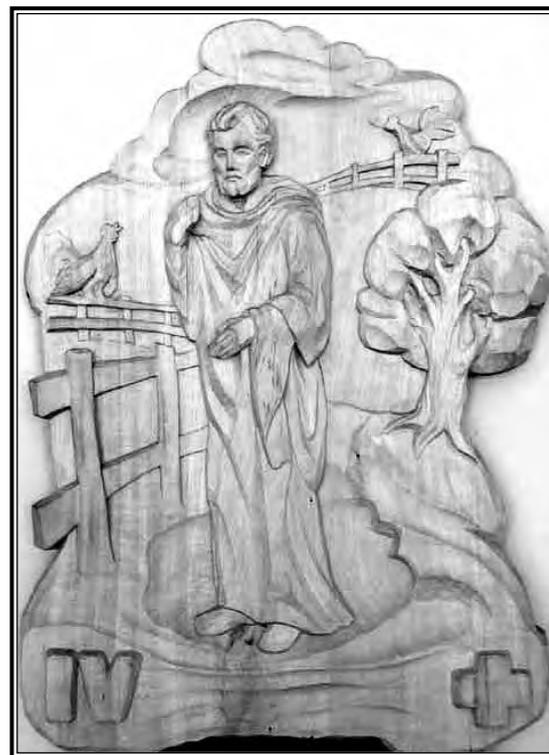
Two of the most popular forms of the Stations of the Cross are the traditional form and the “scriptural stations” prayed by Pope John Paul II in 1991, which are suggested by some as a means to “focus more deeply on the scriptural accounts of Christ’s passion.” They include:

Traditional Stations

1. Jesus is condemned to death
2. Jesus carries His cross
3. Jesus falls the first time
4. Jesus meets His mother
5. Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry the cross
6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus
7. Jesus falls the second time
8. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem
9. Jesus falls the third time
10. Jesus is stripped of his garments
11. Crucifixion: Jesus is nailed to the cross
12. Jesus dies on the cross
13. Jesus is taken down from the cross
14. Jesus is laid in the tomb

Scriptural Stations

1. Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane
2. Jesus, Betrayed by Judas, Is Arrested
3. Jesus is Condemned by the Sanhedrin
4. Jesus is Denied by Peter
5. Jesus is Judged by Pilate
6. Jesus is Scourged and Crowned with Thorns
7. Jesus Bears the Cross
8. Jesus is Helped by Simon the Cyrenian to Carry the Cross
9. Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem
10. Jesus is Crucified
11. Jesus promises His Kingdom to the Good Thief
12. Jesus Speaks to His Mother and the Disciple
13. Jesus Dies on the Cross
14. Jesus is Placed in the Tomb



One of the scriptural Stations, “Jesus is Denied by Peter,” found at St. Andrew’s Church in Ellensburg.

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NEWS

From Around the Diocese

Valentine Boxes Spread Cheer

Low-income, elderly and disabled adults in our area celebrated a brighter Valentine's Day this year, thanks to the Valentine Box Project of Volunteer Chore Services, a program of Catholic Family & Child Service!

Sixty clients in the Yakima area each received a decorated box of toiletries such as soap and lotion, food staples and treat bags, plus a bag of fresh produce. The boxes were delivered on February 8 by La Salle High School sophomores and their parents and Volunteer Chore Services personnel.

Donations for the boxes came from numerous groups, including St. Joseph/Marquette and St. Paul Catholic schools, La Salle, 16 churches, two food banks, dentists, Johnson Orchards, Borton Fruit and Tree Top. La Salle students decorated and assembled the gift boxes.

Tuition Assistance, R.E. Grants Offered

Thanks to the generosity of hundreds of attendees at the Celebration of Faith event last September, the Central Washington Catholic Foundation is able to help both Catholic school students and parish religious education programs. Two-thirds of the proceeds from the event will go toward tuition assistance to Catholic schools in Central Washington and one-third will assist the needs of parish religious education programs.

In keeping with the Foundation's mission to support Catholic education, its goal is to reach as many children as possible. Currently, the focus is on helping to fill at least 80 of the 371 empty seats in eight Catholic schools in Central Washington through tuition assistance to new students. The application (in English and Español) is available online at www.cwatholicfoundation.org/tuition.

Supporting Catholic education means giving all children the chance to learn about Jesus, not just those enrolled in Catholic schools. With that in mind, the Central Washington Catholic Foundation also will award grants to parishes for the support of their religious education programs. This could, for example, fund training RE coordinators and catechists, providing materials or assisting with wages for RE coordinators. The grant application is at www.cwatholicfoundation.org/REgrants.

Two Scholarships Offered

Perhaps you know someone who would be interested in receiving one of two college scholarships offered by the Central Washington Catholic Foundation.

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 receives this scholarship will be active in a Roman Catholic community, plan to or presently attend a Catholic university, and live 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 receives this scholarship will be a graduating senior of A. C. Davis High School with a 2.5+ GPA who plans to attend an accredited vocational school, college or university.

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

Housing Services Awarded \$2.5 Million

Genesis Housing Services (GHS) has been awarded \$2.5 million by the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development to develop 51 units of affordable housing for farmworkers and their families in Royal City.

Genesis Housing Services will own the development and has partnered with Catholic Charities Housing Services to help develop the property and provide services. The development is currently known as Royal City Family Housing II.

Plans include 51 units of low-income rental housing, including one site manager's unit. The units will be a mix of two-, three- and four-bedroom apartments. Some 38 units will be set aside for farmworkers and their families and 12 units will be available to other low-income families.

Two Small Parishes Treasure Long Devotion to Faith

By Christine Corbett Conklin

Set on the western edge of the Diocese of Yakima, the small parishes of St. John the Baptist in Cle Elum and Immaculate Conception in Roslyn have distinct and special histories, with a common thread of long devotion to the Catholic Faith.

The community of Immaculate Conception, whose church was built in 1886 – three years before Washington State was admitted to the Union – has strong Croatian roots and a history of coal mining which ended by the 1960s. Several older parishioners, who are veterans of the mines, still are able to speak the Croatian language. Today, there are about 105 families in the parish.

St. John the Baptist is set in a community that grew up as a diverse town, both ethnically (with deep Italian, English and Finnish roots) and with economic industries that included logging, coal mining and The Northern Pacific Railroad. The church itself was built in 1902. Today, there are some 160 parish families.

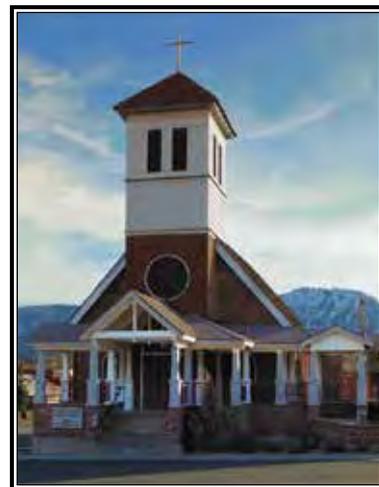
"These are two freestanding parishes," noted the pastor, Father Brooks Beaulaurier, who has administered both parishes from the Cle Elum parish office since June of last year. "They may be small, but their size is counterposed by their enthusiasm. There is a strong sense of community and commitment here."

Located three miles apart, and 20-some miles west of Ellensburg off Interstate 90, these two

communities have recently come to rely heavily upon tourism. Roslyn received a boost in attention through the 1978 filming of the Dick Van Dyke movie, "The Runner Stumbles," and also filming done for the 1990s "Northern Exposure" television series. Both towns are set in natural beauty, with the area drawing snowmobilers in the winter and water sports enthusiasts who enjoy Lake Cle Elum in warmer weather.

Even fire and natural disaster have failed to slow these vibrant parishes for long. In 1918, St. John the Baptist's original church was destroyed by fire, with the "new" church dedicated in 1921 at the current location. There also was a fire in the 1920s that badly damaged Immaculate Conception. An earthquake in 2001 shook the foundation of Immaculate Conception (which was already leaning a bit). However, structural reinforcement, including new buttresses, and three years of interior refinishing brought the church back to its original beauty, explained Jim Barić, an Immaculate Conception parishioner whose family history in the parish goes back to 1910 when his mother and father arrived from Croatia.

Pastors who served one or both parishes, in more recent years prior to Father Beaulaurier's arrival, include: Msgr. John Marasciulo and Fathers John Shaw, Patrick Burke, Joseph Graaf, William Byron, Ronald Patnode and most recently, Lawrence Reilly.



St. John the Baptist Church, in Cle Elum, is "bright with beautiful stained glass windows."

"The people here are marvelous," observed Father Beaulaurier. "They have welcomed me with open arms. They forgive me the fact that I'm not Croatian and I'm not Italian." Although the two parishes remain separate entities, Father Beaulaurier encourages them to come together for inter-parish picnics and other events.

People travel from far and wide to experience this warm atmosphere. One recent weekend, at a St. John the Baptist Mass, Father asked who was visiting for the first time, and people identified themselves as coming from places as diverse as Poland, Venezuela and Manhattan. A number of local residents travel back and forth to the Puget Sound area for work opportunities.



Father Brooks Beaulaurier was installed as pastor of the two parishes in July 2012.

"I like this small community," remarked Grayce Benjamin, 79, who describes herself as "kind of a newcomer," even though she's been a parishioner at St. John the Baptist for 30 years, serving as chair of the parish council and in numerous other roles. "You know everyone (here), and it's kind of a comfortable, family-like feeling."

Holli Sullivan, a St. John parishioner who joined the Catholic Church in 2009, and whose family history in the area goes back

to the early 1900s, agreed.

"Everyone is really caring about each other," she said. "People greet you and they're concerned about you. That's what I love about this church."

Mae Barić, a parishioner at Immaculate Conception since 2001 (who also describes herself as a "newcomer") continued with that thought.

"It's the people who make the church," she said, adding that the historic Immaculate Conception building "is a very special place. You get that feeling as soon as you go through the door. There's a spirit of holiness you can just feel." The light blue paint of the interior, stained glass windows and statues help



Immaculate Conception Church, located in Roslyn, has "a spirit of holiness."

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