



# CENTRAL WASHINGTON CATHOLIC

*El Católico de Washington Central*  
Pāchu Washintin Chmuk Tātpas

JULY 2013  
*Newsletter*

## Great Joy Results After Long Journey Toward Priesthood

By Christine Corbett Conklin

No one can say that Lalo Barragan rushed into the priesthood! In an interview before his July 19 ordination as a transitional deacon at Holy Family Church in Yakima (one step before priesthood), he suggested that, sometimes, good things take time.

At about age 11, growing up in Pajacuaran, in central Mexico, Barragan told his parents that he might like to become a priest. However, his father suggested that he wait until his mid-teens to consider the issue. Later on, after his family had moved to Washington State, and he was an altar server at St. Juan Diego Parish in Cowiche, parishioners would tell him that he “looked good” up there on the altar and should become a priest.

“I told them that looking good wasn’t enough,” he recalled. “I needed to have a vocation.”

In his 20s, Barragan was dating and seriously thinking about getting married.

“I wanted a nice house with several bedrooms and a big kitchen, because I like to cook,” he said. However, the young

women he dated seemed to think that he spent entirely too much time at church!

“Some priests also invited me to come to

the seminary,” he said. “I always told them, ‘Well, you know what, I like to joke. I don’t

However, in 2001, after Barragan had been volunteering in youth ministry at St. Juan Diego Church for about six years, something finally seemed to click.

“A couple came to talk to me about their marriage problems,” he explained. “I told them that I couldn’t help them, but they really wanted to talk to me. I thought to myself, ‘I should do something to help them.’” In addition, through work with an Hispanic youth group in Cowiche, Barragan was inspired by the need that young people have for role models and mentors.

“Our actions say more than our words,” he observed. “We can inspire people to pursue something greater just by looking at us. I was thinking, ‘How can I be a leader in the Church?’”

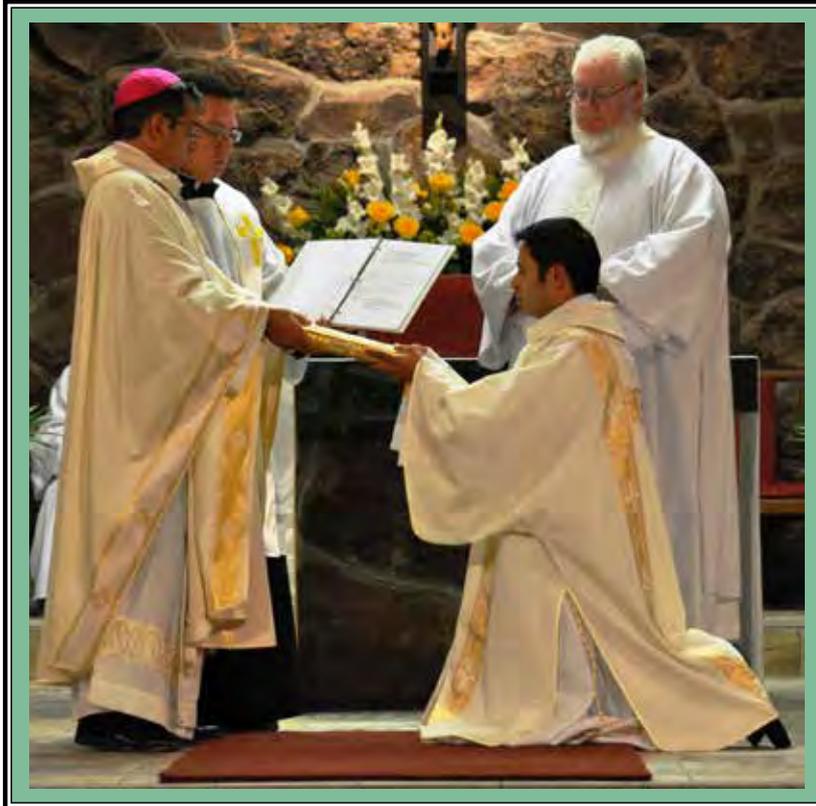
When the moment came that Barragan decided to enter the seminary, there was no (audible) celestial choir, no whisper from the Holy Spirit, “the tabernacle door never opened” with a clear message, he recalled.

“I felt that the Holy Spirit

spoke to me through the people who encouraged me,” he said.

Now, after five years at Mount Angel

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Lalo Barragan received the Book of Gospels at his ordination as transitional deacon. Photo courtesy of Gustavo Rubin.

know if that place would be proper for me, with prayer and studying. I don’t think so. I will let you know!”

## Fortnight for Freedom, Sponsored by USCCB, Observed In Diocese

Parishioners from several Catholic churches in Yakima gathered July 4, on the corner of South 40th and Summitview avenues in Yakima, to “Stand Up for Religious Freedom.” Holding American flags and signs in support of religious liberty, the group drew many appreciative honks and waves from passing motorists.

The turnout marked the national “Fortnight for Freedom,” from June 24 to July 4, sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in response to the “still looming threats to our religious freedom like the HHS mandate.” According

to the event link for the USCCB website, the HHS mandate or “contraceptive/abortifacient/sterilization mandate will (soon) begin to be enforced against nonprofit religious schools, charities and health care providers.”

Those who turned out for the Yakima rally shared the USCCB concerns.

“America stands for freedom and freedom of religion,” observed Deanna Pemberton, a parishioner of Holy Family Church.

“The Fourth of July was the perfect day to let people know to stand up for religious freedom.”



Sandy Kahle of Holy Family Parish in Yakima showed her support for religious freedom.

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# A Message from Bishop Tyson...

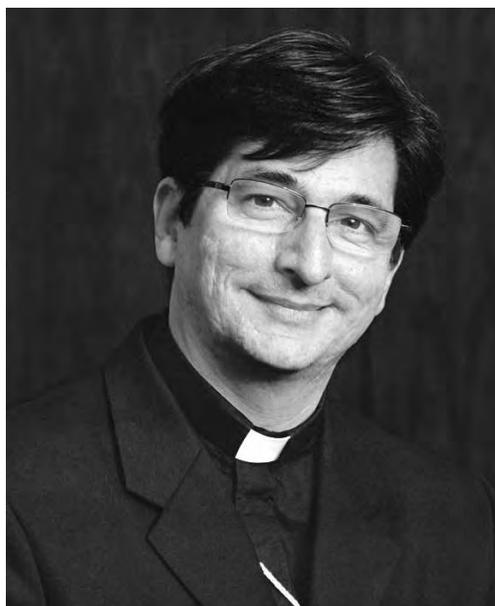
Dear Friends,

Our lead article covers the ordination of our seminarian Lalo Barragan as a deacon. As you may know, we're blessed with many permanent deacons here in Central Washington. Lalo Barragan is a "transitional" deacon, meaning that we anticipate him becoming a priest – God willing – next spring in 2014.

I was reminded of the intimate link between the three-fold ministry of priest, deacon and bishop at my own ordination as a bishop. There, underneath the chasuble of the priest we also wear the dalmatic of a deacon. The bishop is considered to have the "fullness" of priesthood with priests as co-collaborators with the bishop and deacons being ministers of charity and service directly related to the bishop.

Deacons, as ministers of charity, serve to the needy what has first been given to the Church by the holy people of God. The origins of this ministry are found in the Acts of the Apostles (6: 1-7) where the early Christian community – made up of Hebrews and Greeks – found themselves in a situation where the more recently arrived Greeks (especially the widows in material need) were being neglected.

The first deacons about which we read in the Acts of the Apostles all had Greek names – an indicator that the early Church wisely targeted their ministry to the newest arrivals and the neediest in their midst. They did so, we are told, to



**Bishop Joseph Tyson**

ensure a just distribution of the donations made by the early Christians for the poorest around them.

In our liturgy, the fact that the Roman Missal has the deacon assisting the priest in receiving from the Faithful the bread and wine, along with any gifts for the poor (GIRM 140, 178), reflects that the gifts of bread and wine represent all of our labors and all of our sacrifices.

This issue of the Central Washington Catholic provides a wide variety of stories about our Church here in the Diocese of Yakima: the 2013 Catechetical Conference, the Catholic Charities bicycle fundraiser (in which I am riding), the parish of Our Lady of Fatima in Moses

Lake (where I was born), our annual "Clash of the Titans" soccer match between the priests and the seminarians (where I will be playing as a midfielder), the YLI convention of Catholic women (for whom I celebrated Mass), our World Mission Collection, as well as the "Fortnight for Freedom" on behalf of religious liberty here in Central Washington.

The bread and wine offered in the Eucharist and received by the deacon symbolically represent all these gifts about which you will read in this month's edition of the Central Washington Catholic. Indeed, those are the gifts received by Deacon Lalo Barragan on his day of ordination and those are the gifts for which he gave thanks and praise during his closing comments at his diaconal ordination. Thank you for making his ordination possible. Thank you for strengthening his "yes" to Christ through your prayers. Thank you for placing yourselves and your lives alongside the bread and wine Sunday after Sunday. Thank you for your many gifts. I hope this issue reminds you that you are not alone and that many are making a gift of themselves, allowing all of us to become ever more transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ!

With every best wish and blessing,

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson  
Bishop of Yakima

## Great Joy Results After Long Journey Toward Priesthood *Continued from page 1*

Seminary in Oregon and three years at Mundelein Seminary outside of Chicago, the 37-year-old Barragan has become a transitional deacon, the last stage before his anticipated ordination as a priest next year.

"I am so excited that my stomach hurts sometimes," he said. "It is very inspiring. I'm happy."

For those who are discerning a religious vocation, Barragan offers this advice.

"Open your heart to the Lord's call," he said. "You never know how God can use you. You must follow your heart. For me, it was worth it to be a seminarian. There is education, a process of knowing more about yourself, knowing more about the Faith, a prayer life, skills in communicating and listening."

In recent weeks, Barragan has been speaking to congregations around the Diocese about the annual collection for seminarians and retired priests.

"(The years in the seminary) have been the greatest years of my life," he told the congregation at St. Joseph Church in Yakima. "When I said 'yes' to the Lord, that changed my life. People like you encouraged me. Pray for vocations, pray for holy priests."

May God bless Lalo Barragan on his continuing road to the priesthood!

## Fortnight for Freedom *Continued from page 1*

Cheryll Lover, a parishioner of St. Paul Cathedral, agreed.

"I felt it was important for people to recognize that we're all in this together," she said. "If we don't stand up for religious freedom, our other freedoms will be taken away, also."

Greg Sherman, a parishioner of Holy Family Church, recalled how his older brother was killed in World War II.

"He was fighting most of all for freedom of religion," Sherman said. "As a patriot, I feel I have to stand up. As a Catholic, I've GOT to stand up."

Elsewhere in the Diocese, other parishes marked the Fortnight for Freedom through bulletin announcements and distribution of relevant fliers to congregations, for example.

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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# Catechetical Congress Coming Soon

The Diocese of Yakima invites teachers, catechists, lectors, ministers of Holy Communion, youth ministers and other interested individuals to attend the upcoming 2013 Catechetical Congress. The event begins with required registration and late check-in at 8 a.m., Saturday, October 12, on the campus of Holy Family Church in Yakima.

The mission of the Catechetical Congress is to provide vision and leadership to those involved in the many aspects of evangelization and faith formation in our Diocese. All catechetical leaders are called to develop and grow in the knowledge of our Faith! The theme of this year's event is "Called to Communion."

For details and registration, please visit [www.yakimadiocese.org](http://www.yakimadiocese.org) or call the Diocesan offices at 965-7117 and ask for Rebecca. Washington State clock hours will be available for professional development for public, Catholic and other private school educators.

Volunteers are also needed to help with the Congress. Duties range from set-up to greeting, registration, directing attendees to workshops, and clean-up. If you are interested in assisting, please email [rebecca.garza@yakimadiocese.org](mailto:rebecca.garza@yakimadiocese.org) or call the Diocesan offices by August 16.

Diocese of Yakima  
Diócesis de Yakima  
**Catechetical Congress**  
Congreso Catequético  
2013

*Year of Faith:  
Año de la Fe:  
Called to  
Communion  
Llamados a la  
Comunión*

## Our Lady of Fatima Parish *Continued from page 4*

have been lovingly crafted by a committee of parishioners (with assistance from a designer in Seattle), observed Pat Stevens, who has spent all 43 years of his life in the parish.

Stevens, who serves as volunteer director of Religious Education programs in the parish, is quick to point out another source of light in the parish: re-energizing of these R.E. programs.

"Father (Dufner) has really ramped things up over the past couple of years," Stevens said. "We have more Religious Education teachers than ever before – two for every grade – and we're in the process of hiring a youth minister."

Perhaps Deacon Gonzalez, a parishioner for more than 30 years, best summed it up.

Our Lady of Fatima Parish is "just great people, both Hispanic and the Anglo community," he observed. "They are caring. I feel like I'm at home."

Gonzalez has also noticed some promising signs for the future.

"I see a lot more young people in the Hispanic community coming to church," he said. Why is that? "I think they have a hunger for God," he suggested.

It's a beautiful spirit in which to begin writing the next chapter of the history of Our Lady of Fatima Parish!

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# NEWS

## *From Around the Diocese*

### **Bike With The Bishop**

How would you like to take a scenic, 25-mile bicycle tour through the Yakima Valley in the company of Bishop Joseph Tyson – and benefit a good cause at the same time?

You'll have just such an opportunity on Saturday, August 10, in the first annual Ride D'Vine, hosted by Catholic Charities Housing Services (CCHS). Cyclists will travel from Yakima to Zillah, beginning at Sarg Hubbard Park, going along the Yakima Greenway, through hop fields, up Konnowac Pass, and through orchards and vineyards.

Highlights of the trip will include a stop at Buena Nueva, a housing development owned and managed by CCHS; plus wine tasting at local wineries with Bishop Tyson, at the end of the tour.

The cost is \$65 per individual or \$140 per family, with proceeds benefiting Catholic Charities. Transportation back to the starting point will be available for a modest fee.

To pre-register, visit [www.ridedvine.org](http://www.ridedvine.org) or call (509) 853-2800.

### **World Mission Collection Set**

The World Mission Sunday collection, to assist our Holy Father, Pope Francis, in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ throughout the world, will be taken up in the Diocese of Yakima August 24-25.

The theme for this year's collection in the United States is: "Do good on earth." This is taken from the words of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, the young Carmelite Sister who is the Patroness of the Missions.

Materials will be sent to each parish by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, highlighting the missionary efforts of the Salesian Sisters in Chennai, India, and their pastoral work among young women and girls who are victims of trafficking and slavery.

This is a time for us to be inspired by the heroes of our Church who serve God's beloved children in places of poverty, injustice, even outright persecution.

### **Soccer Tournament Open to All**

All are invited to the second annual Priest and Seminarian Soccer Tournament, scheduled for 6 p.m., Sunday, August 4, at Marquette Stadium, 5400 West Chestnut Avenue, in Yakima.

Admission is free, with food and drink available to purchase.

The tournament will pit the priests of the Diocese of Yakima against our seminarians from Mount Angel and Mundelein seminaries. Last year, the priests reportedly eked out a "narrow victory," so the seminarians are hoping to even the score this year!

### **YLI Holds Annual Convention**

Some 340 members from California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington gathered July 11-14 at the Red Lion Columbia Center in Kennewick for the annual Young Ladies Institute (YLI) convention.

"Forever Young" was the theme of the event, which featured meetings, Mass celebrated by Bishop Joseph Tyson, banquets, election of officers and a tour of the Hanford Reach.

The event was organized by the five YLI institutes of District 16, including groups based in Yakima, Richland, Selah, East Wenatchee and Ephrata, in cooperation with the YLI Grand Office in San Francisco. Event chairs were Frances Gordon of Richland and Amanda Robel of Yakima.

## **Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Moses Lake: Grace Through The Generations**

*By Christine Corbett Conklin*

Ann Wilson clearly recalls the early days of Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Moses Lake, circa 1955, when the first church building on Knolls Vista Drive had been completed. It was a new day for this parish which had begun as a mission of the Catholic church in Ephrata.

"Right to begin with, we were like a family," she remembered. "We all worked together. We were all about the same age, with little kids. I'd say the average age was about 35. We didn't even have any funerals."

In those days, there were about 800 parishioners, estimates Wilson, who went on to serve for 50 years as parish secretary. Larson Air Force Base, Boeing and a local sugar beet plant were among the biggest drawing cards in the area. Then, still in the 1950s, when the Columbia Basin irrigation project brought water to the land, more people arrived.

Through the years, Wilson has been impressed with the dedication of the many pastors who have served the parish, including, in more recent times, Fathers Anthony King and Arthur Waters, Monsignor Martin Skehan who stepped in to administer the parish upon Father Waters' death, and Fathers John Morse, S.J., Felipe Pulido, and current pastor, Daniel Dufner

Today, Our Lady of Fatima Parish has about 1,500 member families, and as a bit more gray hair has come into evidence among parish leaders, attention is again focused on

drawing younger people into the fold, said Father Dufner, who became pastor in 2011.

"There's an effort underway to try to involve the younger generation, the generation that currently has children, to prepare them to take the baton," he explained. "We're working on getting some of the older generation of parishioners to recruit and mentor 30- and 40-somethings, for a smooth transition. Some groups in the parish have done everything for 30, 40 years and more."



*Father Dufner relaxed with his parents and Bishop Tyson, following his installation as pastor of Our Lady of Fatima Parish.*

Working together with associate, Father Mauricio Munoz, Deacons Bob Schrom and Agapito Gonzalez, two additional deacons who are assigned to Queen of All Saints Parish in Warden and who sometimes help out at Our Lady of Fatima, plus many parishioners, good things are happening.

"We're getting more people involved all the time," Father Dufner said.

"The church is used almost constantly," agreed Deacon Schrom. "There's always something going on, from retreats to funerals, speakers, daily Mass, Quinceanera and baptismal classes, marriage prep and rehearsals, and confessions. I'll bet you've got 100 volunteers in 17 or 18 different ministries in the parish."

When the present church on North Dale Road was designed, the plans called for creating a welcoming facility, and, since the church was consecrated in 2001, the design has worked well, Schrom believes. The Spanish-mission style building features a courtyard with fountain, gathering space with baptismal font, large 8-by-12-foot crucifix over the altar, and a theater-style seating arrangement.

Ornate stained glass windows, depicting scenes ranging from Noah's Ark and the blessing of the loaves and fishes, to a "Jesus window" and image of the Holy Spirit,



*Our Lady of Fatima Church has a welcoming presence.*