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Newsletter

Bishop Joseph Tyson: Being Here is 'Greatest Privilege' of His Life

By Christine Corbett Conklin

It's been three years since Bishop Joseph Tyson stood before St. Paul Cathedral, knocking on the door, and waiting to be admitted. It was the first ceremonial step of his installation on May 31, 2011 as bishop of the Diocese of Yakima.

Now, many thousands of miles later, after driving to hundreds of special observances throughout the 41 parishes



Bishop Tyson met with Pope Francis in Rome.

of the diocese, attending meetings throughout the world, and speaking with countless individuals and groups in his Chancery office, he says that he is truly blessed in his role.

"This is the greatest privilege of my life, being Bishop of Yakima, walking with the people, and being an instrument to draw them to Christ," he said recently in a telephone interview.

It was quite a change from being an auxiliary bishop in Seattle, overseeing the Catholic Schools there, to becoming Bishop of Yakima, he admits.

"For one thing, I had a larger budget for the school department than I do for the whole diocese here," he noted. "There are not a lot of financial resources here." However, on the plus side, "the weather's better here," he says. "I love it over here. There's a different pace. People take time for each other and for the Church."

Bishop Tyson said that he's been especially impressed with how parishioners in Central Washington "have a capacity and an ingenuity

to keep the mission (of the Church) moving even if they don't have financial resources. There's a great volunteer effort and great devotion," he said.

He's also been impressed with the "wonderful expressions of faith" he's seen, including how the English community, in the midst of so much demographic change, has had "the seed of faith, working to welcome the Hispanic community."

Bishop Tyson carries with him many images of the good-hearted people of our diocese. There's the small town of Hartline, where parishioners have worked so hard to keep St. Patrick Church functioning. The community of Bridgeport where parishioners process in freezing temperatures in winter, carrying a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The town of Warden where parents take such an active role in their children's Confirmation program. Even the annual soccer match between priests and seminarians in Yakima where two cultures come together for a worthwhile cause. And so much more.

Among his most satisfying accomplishments thus far, the bishop counts launching an English version of the Magnificat faith formation program for catechists. Now offered in Yakima



Bishop Tyson and other players took a break during the 2013 priest vs. seminarian soccer match.

only, the program is scheduled to expand to Quincy next year. It builds on the success of the Spanish Magnificat, which has 300 participants in Yakima,



Bishop Tyson posed with Father Robert Himes and parishioners of St. Patrick Parish in Hartline.

Quincy and the Tri-Cities and is directed by the Very Rev. Jaime Chacón, Vicar for Hispanic Ministry.

Bishop Tyson says he's also "very excited" about the statewide pregnancy initiative which is beginning, planning to offer services to support pregnant women on their journey through pregnancy and the first five years of parenthood.

The Bishop's priorities for the future include continuing to develop the pregnancy initiative, continuing to build up faith formation efforts for English-speaking parishioners, and developing a growing spirit of stewardship throughout the diocese. He's also intent on continuing to build community across cultures and languages, and moving forward with a program to foster excellence in our parishes - in everything from evangelization to stewardship.

There isn't a whole lot of leisure time, with all of his responsibilities, Bishop Tyson admits. "It's pretty much a 365-day-a-year job," he says. Most

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A Message from Bishop Tyson...

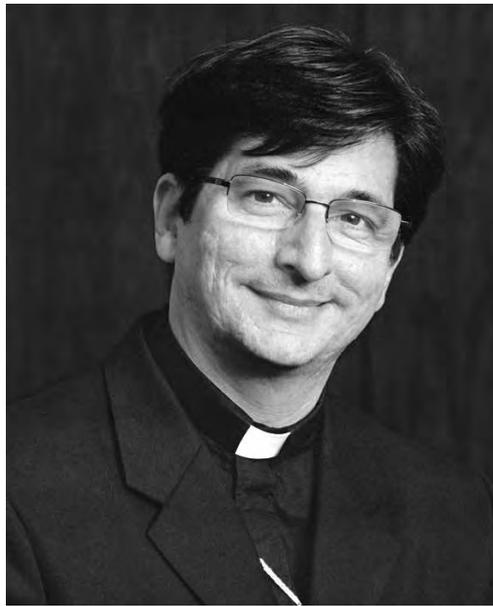
Dear Friends,

We're already into summer so this month's issue features a number of stories tied to the great weather here in Eastern Washington. We have our third annual Quo Vadis Days for high school-aged men helping them discern their vocation in life. The second annual "Ride D'Vine" supports the ministry of Catholic Charities Housing Services and – being a biking fan – is one of my personal favorites in which to participate.

We also have our annual "clash of the titans" – the Priests vs. Seminarians Soccer Match. I play mid-field in this event. It's not exactly the "World Cup" but this event draws a cross-section of folks from both our English- and Spanish-speaking communities to Marquette Stadium in Yakima.

What's the connection here? In a word: incarnation. We hold our most precious gift in the person of Jesus Christ, whose Body and Blood we receive at Eucharist. But often it is through our humanity that those around us come to discover Jesus. These summer events that bring together a bit of athletics with living as Jesus taught, provide all of us with deeper and more lasting lessons on how to live the Gospel with joy.

Our Holy Father Pope Francis, in fact, recently highlighted three lessons from sports that represent three essential attitudes for the cause of



Bishop Joseph Tyson

peace: the need to train, "fair play," and respect among competitors.

"Firstly, sport teaches us that to win, you have to train," Pope Francis observed, in a message for the start of the recent World Cup soccer tournament. "We can see in sport a metaphor for our lives. In life, you have to struggle, to 'train', to strive to obtain important results. Sportsmanship thus becomes an image of the sacrifices needed to promote the growth of those virtues that build character."

The Holy Father also reminded us that sports teaches us fair play. "To play as a team it is necessary to think

first of the good of the group, not of oneself. To win, one must overcome individualism, selfishness, all forms of racism, intolerance and the exploitation of the human person," he said.

The final lesson that sports can provide for peace is respect among competitors, Pope Francis concluded. "The secret of victory on the field – but also in life – is learning to respect not only my teammates, but also my opponents. No one wins alone, on the field or in life! No one should feel isolated or excluded. And be careful! No segregation, no racism!"

My hope and prayer is that as you read and assimilate this month's features, you'll be equipped to share with those around you the attractiveness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the great solidarity we share as members of this – His Catholic Church – here in Central Washington. It's an attractiveness and solidarity that transcends and brings together the Spanish- and English-speaking cultural communities as well as our smaller enclaves of Yakima, Filipino and Vietnamese communities into a beautiful tapestry that shows the very face of Jesus Christ.

Prayers and blessings on your summer events!

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

Bishop Joseph Tyson: Being Here is 'Greatest Privilege' of His Life *Continued from page 1*

weekends, he has at least two parish functions to attend out of town. However, he still manages to find a little time to read books on theology and history. He enjoys the occasional bicycle ride, especially along Yakima's Greenway. And he tries to visit the gym a couple of times each week to exercise.

Then, there are the lighter moments which help to keep life in perspective! Once, while attending a bishops' meeting, Bishop Tyson was in a hotel lobby and was mistaken for a bellman. After being asked questions about hotel services and city sights, the bishop figured out that people had confused the diagonal chain across his chest, which supports his bishop's cross, with part of a bellman's uniform.

He also still smiles when remembering his first Confirmation ceremony after coming to Yakima. He was at St. Joseph Church in Yakima, with a very young, Hispanic altar server in attendance. When it was time for the bishop to be seated, the young boy was supposed to hand him his bishop's ceremonial head-dress or "mitre." However, nothing happened.

"I tried to whisper 'mitre' to him, but he just looked at me," the bishop recalled. "Then I whispered 'mitra' (the Spanish word for mitre)." Still nothing. "Then, I tried 'hat,' still to no avail. "Finally, I said 'sombbrero,' and I got my mitre," he recalled with a laugh.

It's all part of the life of a bishop, shepherding his flock in good times and in challenging times – and, sometimes without a hat!

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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Foundation Awards Scholarships, Grants

The Central Washington Catholic Foundation (CWCF) has been working to advance Catholic education through awards of scholarships and parish religious education grants.

Congratulations to the following individuals and parishes within the Diocese of Yakima who have been named as recipients:

The 2014 Mary Ellen Chott-Mahre Scholarship was awarded to **Andrew McCarthy**, graduate of Eisenhower High School in Yakima. Andrew is a member of the National Honor Society and the Technology Student Association. His community service projects included the Eisenhower Christmas Drive, American Cancer Society Hope-on-the-Slopes Skiathlon, work with the Union Gospel Mission Recycling Center, and Madison House Goat Rocks Wilderness program. Andrew plans to attend Gonzaga University and study business.



Andrew McCarthy



Jennifer Morales Mata



Emma Patello

The 2014 John Rodriguez-Kranz Scholarship was awarded to **Jennifer Morales Mata**, graduate of Davis High School in Yakima and parishioner of St. Paul Cathedral. Jennifer has participated in varsity sports including basketball, soccer and swimming. She has volunteered at Madison House Youth Center as a tutor and sports coach for younger girls. Jennifer plans to attend the University of Washington with the goal of becoming a high school math teacher.

The 2014 Celebration of Faith Scholarship was awarded to **Emma Patello**, a student at Carroll College in Helena, Montana. Emma is a graduate of Hanford High School in Richland and a parishioner of Christ the King Catholic Church. She is active in volunteer activities through Catholic Social Services of Montana, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), American Cancer Society, Girl Scouts, Knights of Columbus and Christ the King Parish. Her goal is to become a physician, specializing in pediatrics or gynecology.

Twenty-one parishes shared more than \$40,000 in 2014 Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) grants awarded by the Foundation. These funds may be used to pay religious education coordinators/directors, cover attendance at an annual religious education conference and/or purchase Bibles, curriculum materials and computer equipment.

The parishes include: **Blessed Sacrament**, Grandview; **Holy Redeemer**, Yakima; **Holy Spirit**, Kennewick; **Immaculate Conception**, Roslyn; **Our Lady of Fatima**, Moses Lake; **Our Lady of the Desert**, Mattawa; **Our Lady of the Snows**, Leavenworth; **Queen of All Saints**, Warden; **St. Aloysius**, Toppenish; **St. Andrew**, Ellensburg; **St. Anne**, Bridgeport; **St. Francis de Sales**, Chelan; **St. Francis Xavier**, Cashmere; **St. John the Baptist**, Cle Elum; **St. Joseph**, Kennewick; **St. Joseph**, Sunnyside; **St. Joseph**, Wenatchee; **St. Joseph**, Yakima; **St. Mary**, White Swan; **St. Peter Claver**, Wapato; and **St. Rose of Lima**, Ephrata.

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NEWS

from Around the Diocese

CCHD Collection Relieves Poverty

The annual collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) will be taken up in our parishes July 19-20. The CCHD was founded more than 40 years ago to end the cycle of poverty in the United States by funding organizations that help people help themselves.

With the tradition of improving education, housing situations, and economic development, CCHD continues to make a positive impact in communities nationwide. Your contribution will defend human dignity and help those living on the margins of our society.

Youth Conference Slated for Lacey

“Ignite Your Torch” is the theme of a Catholic youth conference scheduled for July 31 to August 3 at St. Martin’s University in Lacey.

An apostolate of Catholics United for Life, the event will offer young people an opportunity to make new friendships in Christ, to receive the sacraments, to pray, learn and have fun together. The event also is designed to teach youth practical ways to build up the culture of life.

For more information, contact Joshua Johnson at (360) 627-8925 or visit www.ignite.org. Scholarships and special discounts may be available for those interested in attending, if requested by June 30!

Quo Vadis Days Scheduled

Young Catholic men between the ages of 13 and 19 will have the chance to better discern their vocation in life – and have fun with their peers – at the second annual Quo Vadis Days camp.

The gathering is scheduled for August 4-6 at Camp Koinonia in Cle Elum, with registration required by July 23. The cost is \$50, with scholarships available.

For more information, contact Father Felipe Pulido at St. Joseph Parish in Yakima, Father Cesar Vega at Holy Family Parish in Yakima, Andy Mendoza at (509) 965-7117, or visit www.yakimadiocese.org.

Priests and Seminarians Play Soccer

Come and pray for your favorite team, as the priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Yakima face off in their third annual soccer game, Sunday, August 3!

Admission is free for this fun family event which will begin at 6 p.m. at Marquette Stadium, 5400 West Chestnut Avenue in Yakima.

Proceeds from food, beverage and tee shirt sales will be matched by Catholic Extension and benefit the Seminarian Education Trust.

Ride D’Vine Bicycling Event Set

How would you like to take a scenic bike ride from Yakima to Zillah, enjoying the view of hop fields, orchards and vineyards, and then refresh with wine tasting?

You’ll have just that opportunity on Saturday, August 9, by joining the second annual Ride D’Vine bicycling event, sponsored by Catholic Charities Housing Services. Riders will have the choice of 25-, 50- or 75-mile routes.

To register, or receive more information, contact Martha Castro at (509) 853-2800 or visit the Catholic Charities website at www.cchsyakima.org.

St. Peter Claver Parish: One Faith, Many Cultures

By Christine Corbett Conklin

St. Peter Claver Parish in Wapato is truly an international community! Just wander through the parish’s annual Mayfest some time for a vivid glimpse of this rich ethnic diversity. There, you’ll spot concession stands and displays resembling anything from a Filipino hut to Native American teepee, German cottage, pioneer log cabin and European castle.

In 1907, when the parish was formed, many of the first parishioners had Native American and Northern European roots, explained Father Juan Manuel Godina, pastor since 2010. Then, as the years went by, the parish welcomed those with roots in the Philippines, Mexico and other Hispanic countries.

“We’re all just one community. Everybody gets along really well,” observed Alan Quantrille, a member of the parish for 50 years and parish council member.

“You learn from each other. It broadens your perspective,” agreed Lorena Silva, a member of the parish for all of her 72 years and also a member of the parish council.

When numerous statues which had been in storage were returned to places of honor in the church a couple of years ago, this representation of a variety of cultures was reinforced.

“The people were very surprised and happy to see them,” Father Godina remarked.

Now, within the church, you’ll find statues of St. Peter Claver, the patron saint (from Spain); St. Kateri Tekakwitha (Native American); St. Francis of Assisi (Italy); St. Jude (born to a Jewish family in the town of Galilee); St. Patrick (a Romano-British missionary known as the patron saint of Ireland); St. Joseph the Worker (from Nazareth); and St. Lorenzo of Ruiz (Philippines). Our Lady of Guadalupe and Our Lady of Lourdes also grace the church.

“So many children from RCIA ask, ‘Father, who is that saint?’” as they point to a particular statue, Father Godina observed. Or, someone new to the parish will ask about a statue. It’s an opportunity for “teaching moments,” he says, as he explains the beautiful traditions of our Catholic Faith.

Father Godina also has supervised the return of an “almost-eight-foot,” lifelike crucifix to the church. The tabernacle was moved back to a more central location. And a colorful fresco painted by Native Americans was uncovered above the altar, featuring the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove with a cloud.

“I believe that’s part of the Faith and the beliefs of the people,” he said, referring to the fresco. “It’s a visual aid to their faith.”

Father Godina describes St. Peter parishioners as being “very respectful, very loving, with a lot of devotion for the sacraments. They really care about the children’s faith, the roots of their faith,” he said.

In turn, parishioners give Father Godina high praise for his preaching!

“Our priest is a teacher,” said Kathleen Quantrille, a parishioner for more than 70 years. “His sermons are really, really good! He keeps you listening.”

“He has a message in there. He explains everything,” added Lorena Silva, noting how Father also explains the cultural elements of special rites such as Filipino weddings in which a veil and a knotted cord are gracefully draped over the couple being married, symbolizing their unity.

Built in 1926, the present St. Peter Claver Church has had many shepherds through the years. In more recent years, before Father Godina arrived, pastors have included Fathers Anthony King, Larry Gosselin, Lawrence Reilly, Kevin Minder, William Shaw, and Salomón Covarrubias.

And the presence of this loving church community continues to ring out in the city of Wapato each day, with the chiming of the electronic bell system which can play seasonal hymns and even selections like “Taps” for Veterans Day or Memorial Day, Alan Quantrille pointed out.

“You just feel like you’re at home here,” concluded Kathleen Quantrille.



St. Peter Claver Church was built in 1926.



A fresco by Native Americans is above the altar.