



CENTRAL WASHINGTON CATHOLIC

El Católico de Washington Central
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Newsletter

Jesuits Recall Fond Memories As They Prepare To Leave Yakima

By Christine Corbett Conklin

For more than 140 years, the Yakima Valley has been blessed by the presence of the Society of Jesus. As missionaries, teachers, parish priests and even a bishop, Jesuits have played a key role in helping to foster the Catholic Faith in Central Washington. Now, that era is radically changing as the four Jesuit priests assigned to St. Joseph Church in Yakima prepare to leave the Valley on July 31 for new destinations.

“Bishop Emeritus Carlos Sevilla and Fathers Bill Vogel and Thomas Bunnell, all Jesuits, will remain in the Yakima Valley,” noted Father Michael Pope, outgoing pastor of St. Joseph Church. “However, the Jesuit order will, for the first time, not be represented at St. Joseph Church as Fathers Neill Meany, Eugene Delmore, Alan Yost and I leave.”

It’s a time of wistfulness, yet also a time of looking forward for St. Joseph Church, as Father Felipe Pulido becomes pastor and Father Jose Herrera becomes associate pastor.

“We are leaving the people of our parish in very capable hands,” Father Pope observed.

The Jesuits cite several reasons for being reassigned by their Provincial: Father Pope’s health concerns, no trained bi-lingual pastors available within the Jesuit order, and needs for priests elsewhere in the Province.

“I am grateful for the time we had here,” said Father Pope, who came to Yakima in 2001. “Serving at St. Joseph has been full of much grace for me. I have become a better man and

a better priest from my experiences with the loving people of this parish, the challenges of this ministry, and my associations with the clergy, religious and laity. It is hard to leave.”



Fathers Gene Delmore, Neill Meany, Alan Yost & Michael Pope

Father Neill Meany, who has spent more than 30 years in Yakima altogether and also served as sacramental priest at St. John Parish in Naches for six years, agreed. He recalled the satisfaction of helping to design the sanctuary and numerous stained glass windows for the new St. Joseph Church, ministering to hospital patients and visiting with the children at St. Joseph School.

“I practically lived on the playground for a time,” he said. “The children just swarmed me.

We had a lot of fun.”

For Father Eugene -- or “Gene” -- Delmore, the “wonderful people here and working with the spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius” stand out among his six years of ministry in Yakima.

“I want to thank everyone, the parishioners in particular, for being so faithful in helping their brothers and sisters and building up the Kingdom of God,” he said. “I have grown to greatly appreciate the cultural mix of people... The school has also become special to me.”

Father Delmore noted that he came to Yakima, from an assignment in Alaska, with “kind of a grandiose notion of being able to learn Spanish well enough to celebrate Mass.” It was more difficult than he expected!

Father Alan Yost, who came to Yakima almost three years ago, said that he has been struck by how people here “are in love with God, in love with the Church.”

Highlights of his time here include the celebrations in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, “even if it meant getting up at 3:30 in the morning,” and officiating at the “Triduum” – the special religious rites on the three days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday – for the first time this year.

“I am very sad to be leaving, but I take heart in the (scripture) reading about sowing the good seed (Matthew 13:1-23),” Father Yost said. “Maybe the Lord is telling us we’ve done what we’ve been called to do. The seeds have been sprouting here. It’s been 140 years now. Maybe it’s time.” (See related item, page 4.)

Jesuitas Recuerdan Tiernas Memorias Mientras Se Preparan Para Dejar Yakima

Por más de 140 años, el Valle de Yakima ha sido bendecido por la presencia de la Compañía de Jesús. Como misioneros, maestros, sacerdotes parroquiales y aun un obispo, los Jesuitas han sido un factor clave en ayudar a fomentar la Fe Católica en Washington Central. Ahora, eso se está cambiando radicalmente ya que los cuatro sacerdotes asignados a la Iglesia St. Joseph en Yakima se preparan para dejar el Valle el 31 de julio a nuevos destinos.

“El Obispo Emérito Carlos Sevilla y los Padres Bill Vogel y Thomas Bunnell, todos Jesuitas, permanecerán en el Valle de Yakima, continuando el servicio de la gente aquí,” hizo notar el Padre Michael

Pope, que ha sido el párroco de la Iglesia St. Joseph. “Sin embargo, la orden de los Jesuitas, por primera vez, no será representada en la Iglesia St. Joseph ya que los Padres Neill Meany, Eugene Delmore, Alan Yost y yo nos vamos.”

Es un tiempo de añoranza, y también un tiempo de mirar hacia adelante a nuevas posibilidades para la Iglesia St. Joseph, ahora que el Padre Felipe Pulido toma el mando como párroco y el Padre José Herrera será párroco asociado de la iglesia.

Estamos dejando a la gente de nuestra parroquia en manos muy capaces,” observó el Padre Pope.

Los Jesuitas citan varias razones para

ser reasignados por su Provincial: la salud del Padre Pope, no hay párrocos bilingües disponibles dentro de la orden Jesuita, y las necesidades de sacerdotes en otras partes de la Provincia.

“Yo estoy muy agradecido por el tiempo que estuve aquí,” dijo el Padre Pope, quien vino a Yakima en el 2001. “Sirviendo en St. Joseph ha sido lleno de mucha gracia para mí. He llegado a ser un mejor hombre y un mejor sacerdote por mis experiencias con la gente amorosa de esta parroquia, los desafíos de este ministerio, y mis asociaciones con el clero, los religiosos,

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A Message From Bishop Tyson...



Bishop Joseph Tyson

Dear Friends:

Leaving Easter season and entering the Sunday Gospels of Ordinary Time involves a real geographical shift. We've moved from the city of Jerusalem where

the Pentecost Church begins and out to the countryside where Jesus uses agrarian images to describe the Kingdom of God.

That geographical shift also involves a relocation of our spiritual lives back into the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God is likened to a field of wheat that not even weeds can be allowed to destroy. The growth of that kingdom is compared to a mustard seed – the smallest of all the seeds – that when planted, blossoms into the largest of all the bushes. Our heavenly Father, Jesus tells us in another parable, is the seed sown across all kinds of soil. Jesus is the sower yet the parable challenges us to examine what the condition of our interior soil might be.

Driving through Central Washington, I cannot help but notice the beautiful alignment between these rural images of the Kingdom and the stories we're featuring in this edition of the Central Washington Catholic. Like the small mustard seed, our Church is flourishing thanks to the responsive Church soil all across our diocese. The Jesuit community started small

140 years ago, but leaves Yakima today with a beautiful legacy of faith.

A few small donations eventually added up to the planting of KYTR at 88.1 on the FM dial with Catholic programming 24 hours a day! Our faith expressed through Catholic Charities Housing Services teamed with state housing grants allowed for new homeowners in Sunnyside. Similar growth in faith is also very evident in our generous response to the White Swan fire victims. Finally, Father Siler gives a brief report on our legacy of faith supported through our annual collections for seminarians as well as retired priests.

I am grateful to all of you for taking the parables of the Kingdom so seriously and thus extending the preaching of Jesus into our neighborhood and our geographical setting.

Peace be with you!

Most Reverend Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

Un mensaje del Obispo Tyson ...

Queridos Amigos:

Saliendo de la temporada pascual y entrando a los Evangelios Dominicales del Tiempo Ordinario involucra un cambio verdaderamente geográfico. Nos movemos de la ciudad de Jerusalén en donde la Iglesia de Pentecostés comienza y nos vamos al campo en donde Jesús usa imágenes agrarias para describir el Reino de Dios.

Ese cambio geográfico también involucra una relocalización de nuestras vidas espirituales dentro del Reino de Dios. El Reino de Dios es como un campo de trigo que ni siquiera la maleza puede destruir. El crecimiento de ese reino es comparado con una semilla de mostaza – la más pequeña de todas las semillas – que cuando es plantada, crece hasta llegar a ser el más alto de todos los arbustos. Nuestro Padre Celestial, nos dice Jesús en otra parábola, es la semilla sembrada en toda clase de tierra. Jesús es el sembrador y la parábola nos cuestiona para que examinemos la condición en que puede estar nuestra tierra interior.

Manejando alrededor de Washington Central, no pude dejar de notar la bella alineación entre estas imágenes rurales del reino y las historias que estamos presentando en esta edición de El Católico de Washington Central. Al igual que la pequeña semilla de mostaza, nuestra Iglesia está floreciendo gracias a esa tierra de la iglesia que está respondiendo en toda nuestra diócesis. La comunidad Jesuita comenzó pequeña ciento cuarenta años atrás, pero deja Yakima hoy con un bello legado de fe.

¡Unas cuantas pequeñas donaciones eventualmente se sumaron a la plantación de KYTR 88.1 del dial FM con programación católica las 24 horas del día! Nuestra fe expresada a través de Servicios de Vivienda de Caridades Católicas en conjunto con las concesiones estatales para vivienda asigna nuevos dueños de casa en Sunnyside. Similar crecimiento de fe se nota muy evidente en nuestra generosa respuesta a las Víctimas de Incendio en White Swan. Finalmente, el Padre Siler da un breve reporte de nuestro legado de fe apoyado

por nuestras colectas anuales para los seminaristas y para los sacerdotes jubilados.

Yo estoy muy agradecido con todos ustedes por tomar las parábolas del reino tan seriamente y de esa manera extender la predicación de Jesús hacia nuestros vecindarios y nuestro marco geográfico.

¡Que la paz esté con todos ustedes!

Reverendísimo Joseph J. Tyson
Obispo de Yakima

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

Si usted ha sido abusado o ha sido víctima de un miembro del clero católico, le pedimos que crea en la posibilidad de esperanza, ayuda y sanación. Le animamos a que nos hable.

La Diócesis de Yakima ha establecido un numerotelefónico especial para personas que desean dar un informe concerniente un abuso sexual cometido por un obispo, sacerdote, diácono, empleado diocesano o voluntario. (888) 276-4490

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Jesuitas Recuerdan Tiernas Memorias Mientras Se Preparan Para Dejar Yakima

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religiosas y los laicos de la Diócesis de Yakima. Es difícil dejar mi vida aquí.”

El Padre Neill Meany, quien ha pasado más de 30 años en Yakima y que también ha servido los fines de semana en la Parroquia St. John The Apostle en Naches por seis años, está de acuerdo. Él recuerda la satisfacción de ayudar a diseñar el santuario y numerosas ventanas de azulejos para la nueva Iglesia St. Joseph, atendiendo a los enfermos y los pacientes moribundos en el hospital y visitando a los niños en la Escuela St. Joseph, entre sus más memorables experiencias aquí.

“Prácticamente yo viví en los campos de juego por un tiempo,” dijo él. Los niños me acaparaban. Nos divertíamos muchos.”

Para el Padre Eugene – o “Gene” – Delmore, la “maravillosa gente aquí y trabajando en los ejercicios espirituales de

San Ignacio,” resaltan entre sus seis años de ministerio en Yakima.

“Yo quiero agradecerle a todos, a los feligreses en particular, por ser tan fieles al ministerio de ayudar a sus hermanos y hermanas y formar el reino de Dios,” dijo él. “He crecido apreciando grandemente la mezcla cultural de la gente... La escuela también ha sido muy especial para mí.”

El Padre Delmore notó que cuando él vino a Yakima, de una asignación en Alaska, con “una grandiosa noción de poder aprender suficiente español para celebrar la Misa.” Fue una tarea más difícil de lo que él esperaba, dijo.

El Padre Alan Yost, quien es el “recién llegado” del grupo, llegó a Yakima hace casi tres años después de una asignación de enseñar en Bellarmine Prep en Tacoma, también habló de “lo maravillosa que

es la gente aquí.” Él dijo que le había impresionado ver cómo la gente “está enamorada de Dios, enamorada de la Iglesia.”

Entre las cosas que se destacan de su tiempo aquí están las celebraciones en honor de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, “aún cuando significara levantarse a las 3:30 de la mañana,” y officiar el “Triduo” – los ritos religiosos especiales de los tres días de Jueves Santo, Viernes Santo y Sábado Santo – por primera vez este año.

“Me siento muy triste por tener que irme, pero me animo con el texto bíblico sobre el sembrar la buena semilla (Mateo 13, 1-23),” dijo el Padre Yost. “Tal vez el Señor nos está diciendo que hicimos lo que habíamos sido llamados a hacer. Las semillas han estado germinando aquí. Ya son 140 años. Tal vez ya es tiempo.”

Retirement and Seminarian Collection Needs More Support

Through July 13, the special collection which began in May for Priest Retirement and Seminarian Education had raised nearly \$108,000, well below the target of \$150,000.

“We very much appreciate the generosity of our many donors,” said Father Robert Siler, chancellor of the diocese. “The people of our diocese are always willing to help care for retired priests, and to educate future priests.”

Parishioners donated \$119,000 a year ago in a separate priest retirement collection. The diocese also received about \$133,000 last year from a special “crisis fund” collection for seminarian education.

Some of that money has been budgeted for the current year, reducing to \$150,000 the total needed from the special collection in the diocese’s preliminary budget.

“The good news is the shortfall can be funded through part of the proceeds of an anticipated land sale,” Siler said. “Unfortunately, we won’t be able to invest that extra money in our seminarian trust fund.”

The diocese spends more than \$400,000 a year caring for retired priests, and more than \$400,000 a year educating seminarians. The funds come from a variety of sources, including the Annual Catholic Appeal, investment funds, national grants, and gifts from groups such as the Knights of Columbus and the Young Ladies Institute.

To make a donation, please send a check marked “Priest Retirement and Seminarian Education” to: Finance Office, Diocese of Yakima, 5301-A Tieton Drive, Yakima, WA 98908.

Colecta Para Jubilacion Y Seminaristas Necesita Mas Ayuda

Hasta el 13 de Julio, la colecta especial que empezó en mayo para los Sacerdotes Jubilados y la Educación de los Seminaristas había recaudado cerca de \$108,000, muy debajo de la meta de \$150,000.

“Nosotros apreciamos mucho la generosidad de nuestros muchos donadores,” dijo el Padre Robert Siler, canciller de la diócesis. “La gente de nuestra Diócesis esté deseosa de ayudar a proveer para las necesidades de sacerdotes jubilados, y para educar a futuros sacerdotes.”

Cerca de \$119,000 fueron donados en una colecta separada para los sacerdotes jubilados hace un año. Sin embargo, la diócesis también recibió cerca de \$133,000 hace un año de una colecta especial “fondo de crisis” para la educación de los seminaristas.

Una parte de ese dinero ha sido presupuestado para el año actual, reduciendo a \$150,000 el total necesitado de la colecta especial en el presupuesto preliminar de la diócesis.

“La buena nueva es que el déficit puede ser financiado con parte de las ganancias de una venta anticipada de un terreno,” dijo el Padre Siler. Desafortunadamente, no podremos invertir ese dinero en el fondo de nuestros seminaristas.”

La diócesis gasta más de \$400,000 al año en el cuidado de los sacerdotes jubilados, y más de \$400,000 al año en la educación de los seminaristas. Los fondos vienen de varias fuentes, incluyendo la Petición Anual Católica, fondos de inversión, concesiones nacionales, y donaciones de grupos tales como los Knights of Columbus y Young Ladies Institute.

Para hacer una donación, envíe por favor un cheque marcado “Priest Retirement and Seminarian Education” a: Finance Office, Diocese of Yakima, 5301-A Tieton Drive, Yakima, WA 98908.

Catholic Charities Programs Build – and Bloom – for the Future

It’s been a busy, yet rewarding summer, thus far, for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Yakima! Among highlights:

- Twelve, single-family homes were dedicated June 30 in Sunnyside by Bishop Joseph Tyson. The homes were built by Catholic Charities Housing Services, as part of a program which allows hardworking families to achieve their dream of first-time home ownership. Thus far, 44 of these “New Life Homes” have been built – 32 in Mabton and these 12 in Sunnyside – with another 18 homes starting up in Grandview. All home buyers meet qualifications, attend classes and invest 250 hours helping with the construction and finishing process.

- The seventh annual Festival of Flowers fundraiser, held June 17 and 18 in Yakima, drew more than 3,000 people and raised more than \$71,000 for Catholic Family & Child Service. The event was hosted in a lavish garden setting, created next to the Chancery and Catholic Charities offices on Tieton Drive. It included over 40 vendors, gardens, and landscapers with plants and assorted garden, vintage and antique items for sale. A variety of community businesses, including Banner Bank, provided generous sponsorship.

NEWS

From Around the Diocese

Catholic Radio Is On The Air

Now, 24-hour Catholic radio programming is available to the Yakima Valley, on EWTN Radio affiliate station KYTR (Yakima Truth Radio) at 88.1 FM.

Since June 17, this programming has been offered, thanks to financial contributions from organizations and individuals who have longed to have a Catholic presence in local radio choices. KYTR is owned and operated by Catholics In Action, a lay ministry based in Yakima.

John Haberman from Waterville was instrumental in making this dream a reality, with enthusiastic support from additional KYTR committee members including Father Gary Desharnais. It is hoped that some local programming may be added in the future.

The KYTR committee is grateful to all who helped to bring Catholic radio to our Valley. Donations still are needed. Mail to Catholics In Action, P.O. Box 673, Zillah, WA 98953, or call Casey at (509) 840-1812.

Fund Helps White Swan Families

Thanks to contributions from many parishes of the Diocese of Yakima, more than \$36,000 was raised to help 20 White Swan families who lost their homes in a wind and fire storm in February.

Father William Shaw, the pastor of St. Mary Church in White Swan, is grateful to those who contributed to the St. Mary's Fire Victim Fund.

"The response was quick and generous," he said. "God bless your generosity!"

St. Mary Parish has provided gift cards, vouchers and cash to pay bills and meet other needs for the 20 families affected.

Jesuits Depart For New Locations

The four Jesuit priests who will be leaving St. Joseph Church at the end of this month will be heading out in four separate directions.

Father Michael Pope will be on a health-related sabbatical, most likely in Spokane. Father Neill Meany will move to a Jesuit retirement residence on the Gonzaga University campus in Spokane. Father Gene Delmore will become the new pastor of St. Rita of Cascia, a small parish in the Hilltop area of Tacoma. Father Alan Yost will travel to Spain where he will spend about eight months completing his Jesuit "tertianship" – the last stage of Jesuit formation.

Parish Profile:

St. John Parish Is Known For Sense of Community

Talk to anyone about St. John Parish in Naches and you'll hear about the wonderful spirit, generosity and sense of community that characterize this 52-year-old parish which extends from the crest of the Cascades to Glead and Ramblers Park.

"What's unique is that everybody here has their part and they do it," observed Pam Cleaver, parish council president and granddaughter of two original parish members. "You don't see much of the 'Catholic hour' where people arrive late and leave early from Mass. Here, people usually come early and stay for coffee, too, because it's community!"

St. John Parish now includes about 85 families. The original building was a small Presbyterian church which was built near White Pass highway in 1909, moved to its present location and then sold to the Christian Scientists. In 1959, the Catholic parish was established and the church was dedicated by Bishop Joseph Dougherty. Renovations through the years have brought extensive changes. Under Father George Purdy's leadership, the church was enlarged and a parish hall was added. The entryway and tower are about all that now remain of the original building.

When Father Richard House becomes pastor of St. John, August 1, he will follow a veritable "Who's Who" of priests who have led the parish. The journey began with Father Desmond Dillon, and continued through Fathers Joseph O'Grady, Robert Himes, Lawrence Reilly, Michael Moore, and George Purdy, all pastors, and continues today with Monsignor John Ecker, who administers the parish and Father Neill Meany, S.J., who has been the "sacramental priest".

At St. John's, "they have a marvelous spirit of caring for each other and for the community," observed Monsignor Ecker. He cited an example of how the parish tithes five percent of its income for area programs such as helping Catholic school students or assisting other parishes with special needs.

"The people are wonderfully generous," agreed Father Meany. Whatever needs to be done, from cleaning, to yard work, parishioners jump in and get the job done, he said.

St. John's is much like a family, added Paul Kauzlarich, who has been a member of the parish since "day 1".

"It's a very small community," he observed. "The people are true believers in God. They are very active, friendly and caring."

Of course, there can be one disadvantage to membership at St. John's, Kauzlarich jokes.

"Some of my friends in the bigger parishes say they never get asked to do anything," he said. "Here, that's not likely to happen!"



St. John Church

Introduce Young People to Catholic Books

There's still time this summer to encourage your children, grandchildren or other young ones in your life to take some time off from the computer and enjoy a good Catholic book!

Once you begin looking – at the library, in a book store, online or in a catalog – you'll find that there are many choices available.

As examples, preschoolers, kindergarteners, and young elementary students may listen to – or read – St. Joseph Picture Books about the lives of individuals ranging from Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha to St. Juan Diego. Seton Educational Media also offers more stories about the lives of great Catholics from Blessed John Paul II to Mother Cabrini for older elementary school-age children. If children enjoy mysteries, you might consider the "Adventures With Sister Philomena" books such as **Lost In Peter's Tomb** set in Rome.

Middle schoolers and junior high students may enjoy more action-oriented stories such as **The Bronze Bow**, the story of a young Jewish boy living in the time of Christ who faces his anger with the Romans and has a change of heart through meeting with Christ. **The Singing Tree** is the story of a Hungarian Catholic family, set just before World War I, and offering a message of hope and love. **The Outlaws of Ravenhurst**, described by Seton Books as a tale with danger and courageous daring, is set in 17th century Scotland.

For high school students, don't forget the classics such as **Lilies of the Field**, or **Out of the Silent Planet**, a science fiction story with a Christian theme by Catholic author C.S. Lewis. You might also take a look at **Joan of Arc**, by Mark Twain, about the life of St. Joan, based on extensive historical research by Twain with a touch of his own humor.

For more information about Catholic books available for young people, visit www.setonbooks.com, www.bethlehembooks.com, or www.emmanuelbooks.com.