**Three New Priests Are Ordained for The Diocese of Yakima**

*By Christine Corbett Conklin*

In a beautiful ceremony, July 3 at Christ the King Church in Richland, three new priests were ordained for the Diocese of Yakima.

Jesus Alatorre, 33, originally from Colima, Mexico; Cesar Izquierdo, 30, originally from San Luis Potosi, Mexico; and Jesus Mariscal, 37, originally from Zacatecas, Mexico, became priests with a crowd of clergy, family members, relatives and well-wishers filling the church to standing room only.

The three young men were obviously moved by this powerful rite of the Church.

“I was crying,” admitted Alatorre, who will serve as parochial vicar at St. Paul Cathedral in Yakima. The most inspiring moments were when Principal Celebrant, Bishop Joseph Tyson, anointed Alatorre’s hands with holy chrism (oil) and when some 40 participating priests, one by one, laid their hands on his head, both praying for him and showing their support for his priesthood, it was very emotional, he said.

Father Alatorre graduated from Mundelein Seminary in Chicago this past May, where he received a Master of Divinity Degree.

In an earlier interview, Father Izquierdo noted that he “found joy and peace in reflecting upon a life-long commitment of prayer, obedience and celibacy.” He expressed gratitude to God “for the grace of sacred orders” and thankfulness to the “people of the Diocese of Yakima, to my family and friends.” Father Izquierdo will return to Rome this fall for two more years of studies in public policy and social ethics.

Father Mariscal, in an earlier interview, quoted Psalm 57, “…. I will thank you, Lord, among the peoples, among the nations I will praise you for your love reaches to the heavens….” He happily observed that this is the vocation “for which I was born, and for which I have been chosen by God.”

**Celebration of Faith Funding Awards Announced**

*By Kathleen Wilmes, Executive Director, Central Washington Catholic Foundation*

The Central Washington Catholic Foundation has announced awards for the Celebration of Faith Funding for Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) grants and the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) grants. Celebration of Faith funding was initiated seven years ago to align with Bishop Joseph Tyson’s goal that, “Every child who wants a Catholic school education should be able to get one and every child should be able to learn about Jesus regardless of their parish’s financial resources.”

Seventeen parishes and four Central Washington events have received $29,750 in funding to support programing for the 2018-19 school year.

Parish funding includes stipends for volunteer Religious Education Directors, stipends for catechists to attend the National Religious Education Conference in Los Angeles, and for direct support for religious education programs. Parishes receiving financial support for religious education include: Holy Trinity in Goldendale; Immaculate Conception in Matson; Immaculate Conception and St. John the Baptist in Roslyn and Cle Elum; Our Lady of the Desert in Mattawa; Our Lady of Fatima in Moses Lake; St. Joseph in Wenatchee; Our Lady of Guadalupe in Granger; Our Lady of Assumption in Leavenworth; St. Andrew in Ellensburg; St. Joseph in White Salmon; St. Joseph in Yakima; St. Peter Claver in Wapato; St. Joseph in Sunnyside; St. Mary in White Swan; St. John in Naches; St. Francis X Cabrini in Benton City; and St. Paul Cathedral Parish in Yakima.

Four events that will receive support are the Central Washington Catholic Youth Camp; the Diocesan Youth Convention; the Church Mission Congress; and the Building Bridges Middle School Youth Rally. The amount awarded to each program was based on the statement of need and request of the parish or organization.

The eight Central Washington Catholic Schools will share $139,750 in Tuition Assistance (TAP) support for 147 students. TAP funding is directed to students with the greatest financial need, making Catholic school accessible for all families who desire a Catholic education for their child. Each school combines the TAP funding with school-based scholarship support to make tuition more affordable for struggling families. Christ the King School in Richland, Christ the Teacher School in Yakima, and Tri-Cities Prep in Pasco have each utilized the funding to double the number of students qualifying for TAP grants in just two years.

The 2018 Celebration of Faith event will take place at the Yakima Convention Center on Saturday, October 13. To register or for more information, contact the Foundation office at (509) 972-3732 or jchapman@cwcatholicfoundation.org.
A Message from Bishop Tyson...

Dear Friends:

Our newsletter this month features the ordination of three men to priesthood for the Diocese of Yakima: Fathers Jesús Alatorre, César Izquierdo, and Jesús Mariscal.

Our men requested to be ordained at Christ the King Catholic Church in Richland – one of the most English-speaking parishes in the Diocese – especially to let everyone know that while they come from the Mexican cultural heritage, they are priests for everyone.

This desire reflects the overall thrust of the very meaning of “Church.” “Church” is not simply a Sunday destination. Church is who we are: one with Jesus Christ. The Vicar of Christ – our Holy Father Pope Francis – holds the title “Pontiff,” which comes from the Latin word “pontifex,” meaning “bridge.”

National boundaries and geographical borders provide security and sense of solidarity. This is important. But it’s more important to note that in a world obsessed by walls, the thrust of the Church is to build bridges. Why? Because it takes all of the languages, all of the cultures, all of the races, and all of the world’s peoples from every age to give adequate expression and praise to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Instituted in 1925 by Pope Pius XI, the Feast of Christ the King closes the liturgical year with the reminder of where our ultimate allegiance is owed: to Jesus Christ, who is our King. Pope Pius XI instituted this feast at a time when so many had an eye on the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution sweeping across Russia as well as the 1917 Mexican Revolutionary Constitution. Both closed churches. Both ignited violence.

It is easy to forget amid today’s headlines that refugees at the southern border of the United States is not something new. Indeed, as I mentioned in my ordination homily, the Knights of Columbus donated $1 million to support refugees crossing the southern border between the United States and Mexico in the 1920s – an enormous amount of money for that time.

Can we live up to this legacy of faith today? Can we build a bridge of faith in the eternal God to the current world with its harshness and struggles?

“God comes as a baby,” notes Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI. The famous Christian writer C.S. Lewis proposed that God comes as a baby in order to sneak behind “enemy lines” – a powerful image considering he spoke those words as comfort on the radio to his embattled fellow British who faced bombing raids and lived in bomb shelters during World War II.

God sneaks behind enemy lines through the ordination of these three men. Their individual histories and the sacrifices of their families challenge the debates of today’s worldly power brokers and point out how the power of God breaks into our world.

Note well: God deliberately enters this world – not with a military army – but as St. Luke notes in his Gospel, a “strata” of angels – “strata” being the Greek word for army. God’s kingship resides not in a royal palace but in an animal manger. God comes – not in Rome or Jerusalem, centers of religious and political power – but in Bethlehem, the royal city of the defeated House of David.

God does the same today. God comes to us as an unusual king from an unusual kingdom into the most backwater corners of our world, in order to proclaim a human dignity inherent in every person from conception to natural death regardless of their social, political or legal status.

Gratefully, the ordination of three new priests, all who have been deeply shaped by both Mexican heritage and life in North America, brings to us a witness of how to become bridges between peoples.

The Eucharist is where God in his radical hospitality gives his very self – Jesus Christ – in all of his humanity and all of his divinity. The Eucharist shapes the hospitality and welcome expected from each of us, especially to those in need, standing on the edges of society. The Eucharist is the dress rehearsal on Sunday of how we are to live with each other every day of the week. Given this precious gift, why would we want to do any less?

Here in Central Washington, given our mix of English and Spanish, we have a unique opportunity to witness to a new way of living, flowing from the very real human encounters across the language and cultural divides in our 40 parishes and missions. We are uniquely poised to witness to a social solidarity that doesn’t depend on an “us vs. them” mentality so often used to increase voter popularity or cable news ratings.

No, the kingdom we proclaim is the kingdom of the Cristeros, who shouted “Long Live Christ the King” rather than renounce their faith during the persecutions in the 1920s and beyond in Mexico. Their martyrdom showed that love is stronger than death and that the cross has the power to save.

How appropriate, then, to see our three newest priests ordained at Christ the King Church. What a gift to see in their faces a reflection of the Mexican Cristeros, whose blood watered their vocations as priests. How grateful we should be to have priests dedicated to replacing the pagan blood sacrifices of our culture – for power, pleasure, and prestige – with the bloodless sacrifice of Christ in the Eucharist. May we live up to the high call of the Eucharist by seeing in each other the body and blood of Christ.

With every best wish and blessing,

Yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

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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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Sister Dona Taylor was born on the family farm in West Wapato and attended school in White Swan. As a student at Seattle University, she attended a novitiate open house and later entered the religious community. She completed liberal arts studies at the Providence Heights campus and then a nursing degree. Her first missions were in critical and coronary care units in Medford and Portland, Oregon.

In 1969, she was elected to the Provincial Council of the former Sacred Heart Province. She was president of the Providence Health and Social Services Corporation. She later began an MBA program and was assistant administrator at Providence Hospital, Anchorage. She also served as administrator at Providence facilities in Oakland and Anchorage. She developed and ran WomanSpirit, and spent years in Hermiston, Oregon, raising animals and providing vegetables and eggs for the food bank. She returned to Yakima three years ago to assist the poor and homeless.

Christ dies a slow, agonizing and painfully excruciating death on the ultimate instrument of human torture: the cross. Jesus — fully human and fully divine — travels to the most horrific and forsaken places of our humanity. Jesus — as God — brings God into the darkest and most sinful aspects of the world. This is what you are ordained to do!”

Please keep our three new priests and all of the clergy and religious of our Diocese in your prayers!
Students for Life Meeting Planned

All young people between the ages of 13 and college age are invited to a Students for Life meeting at noon, Tuesday, July 31, at Pizza Hut on Kern Road (just off 40th Avenue) in Yakima.

The meeting, which will include free pizza and door prizes, will feature a presentation on the PREPARES program. Anyone interested in forming a Students for Life chapter in another Central Washington community may call (509) 985-6248 for more information.

Priests and Seminarians Plan Soccer Match

The annual soccer match between priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Yakima is scheduled for 6 p.m., Sunday, August 5, at Marquette Stadium, 5200 West Chestnut Avenue in Yakima.

Come and cheer for your favorite team at this event which benefits the seminarian education fund. Food and drinks will be available for purchase, with gates opening at 4 p.m.

Catechist Training Is Scheduled

The annual course for catechists, presented in Spanish at St. Joseph Church in Yakima for religious education teachers in the Yakima Valley, will begin August 7 and continue through August 31. There are 16 sessions in all.

For more information, contact the director, Marta Wilson at (509) 379-5931/(503) 895-2515 or by e-mail marta2826@yahoo.com.

Retrouvaille Encourages Married Couples

If you would like to receive encouragement for your marriage, consider attending a Retrouvaille weekend planned for September 7-9 in Spokane.

Retrouvaille is an organization that teaches married couples how to deal with difficult times and to improve communication, while rediscovering the positive aspects of their relationship.

For confidential information and/or to register, call (509) 520-4118 or (800) 470-2230.

Sisters of Providence Mark Anniversaries

Numerous Sisters of Providence will mark special anniversaries of religious life at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, August 4, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, 7000 35th Avenue SW, Seattle. Reverend John R. Walmesley will be the celebrant for the liturgy, which will be followed by a reception in the parish hall. Those Sisters with ties to Central Washington include:

- 70 years -

Born at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Yakima, Sister Alice St. Hilaire grew up on the family farm in Wapato, Washington, and was educated by the Sisters of Providence at St. Joseph Academy in Yakima. After graduation, she stayed on the farm for a time to help her mother, then entered the religious community in 1948 in Seattle.

Sister Alice taught primary grades and music in Missoula, Montana; Walla Walla; Fairbanks, Alaska; and Seattle. Later she taught philosophy at the College of Sister Formation of Seattle University at Providence Heights.

Sister Alice was chosen for the Sisters of Providence’s first Formation Team and was honored for her lifelong commitment to formation ministry by the National Religious Formation Conference in 2004. She also served on the Provincial Council. In 1990, she returned to the Yakima Valley to care for her mother who died two years later.

- 60 years -

Born in Ellensburg, Washington, Sister Charlene Hudon grew up in Yakima, Tumwater and finally Wapato, where her father bought an apple orchard. She entered the Sisters of Providence at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle, made first profession and then spent two years in Everett, before moving to the new Providence Heights in Issaquah.

She taught for 13 years at Providence High School in Burbank, California, and then for 11 years was a physical therapist assistant at Mount St. Vincent in Seattle. She also served as a resident team member at Providence Hospitality House. In 1987, after Spanish language studies in Bolivia, she moved to Mount Vernon, Washington, to teach English as a Second Language at Skagit Valley College.

Sister Charlene, now retired, is a member of the Providence Peace Community and is Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation coordinator for Mother Joseph Province.

Sister Pauline Lemaire was born in Moxee. After graduation from Holy Rosary High School, she entered the religious community at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle, in 1957. For 14 years, she taught primary grades in parochial schools in Sun Valley, California, and in Tacoma and Seattle. She also taught in a Montessori school in Portland, Oregon.

After a sabbatical in Jerusalem, she returned to Yakima to teach ESL to farmworkers at Yakima Valley Community College. She also did adult home care.

Sister Pauline was asked in 2003 to go to El Salvador to teach English to Salvadoran postulants. While there, she was moved by the needs of the children and returned to Spokane to take an intensive Spanish language course. She returned to El Salvador in 2007 and began a small children’s library on the front porch of the Sisters’ house. She returned to the United States in 2012 and to St. Joseph Residence in 2015.

Sister Therese Multz was born in Iowa and moved to Yakima at age 5. She was a freshman at Yakima Valley Junior College when she entered the novitiate, professing first vows in 1959. For 20 years, she taught primarily in the middle grades in Tacoma, Vancouver, Yakima and Seattle; Burbank and Sun Valley, California; and Fairbanks, Alaska.

Moved by her students’ personal needs, Sister Therese earned a master’s degree in psychology. After a serious head injury ended her teaching career, she became a mental health therapist with a specialty in using creative arts in healing. She served at a group home for criminally delinquent boys and was activities director at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle. She also served in ministry at a psychiatric hospital in Kirkland and volunteered at the Women’s Drop-In Center in Spokane.

She was a founder of Youth Associates of the Providence Sisters.

(Editor’s Note: She also served as my babysitter!)