



# CENTRAL WASHINGTON CATHOLIC

*El Católico de Washington Central*  
Pāchu Washintin Chmuk Tātpas

JULY 2014  
*Newsletter*

## Seminarians Bring The 'Light of Christ' to Migrant Farmworkers

By Christine Corbett Conklin

The "light of Christ" is shining a little more brightly upon the migrant farmworker camps in Central Washington this summer. And, in turn, the seminarians of the Diocese of Yakima are developing a kinship with this large group of people whom they will one day serve as priests.

A revitalized program offered through the Diocese of Yakima, with assistance from Catholic Extension, is bringing Mass and other outreach services from the Catholic Church directly to the fields and orchards where the farmworkers spend long hours.

Once each week this summer, Mass is being offered at a migrant camp in spots such as Bridgeport, Monitor, Mattawa, Vantage, Prosser and White Salmon, explained seminarian Andy Mendoza, who serves as "captain" of a group of young men who coordinate the program. Others who have assisted include seminarians Jesús Mariscal, Tony Lopez, Chase Shepard, Luis Trujillo, Dan Steele, Kurt Hadley, Joan Sebastián Silva, and Edgar Rene Estrada, plus James Millikan, a teacher who is discerning a priestly vocation.

"People are so hungry for God. They sometimes don't know how to take the first step," observed Mendoza, who begins first year theology studies this fall at Mundelein Seminary in Illinois. "We know that not all of them can make it to Mass on Sunday. They may not have a car or, because they're not from here, they don't know where the church is. We get to share the light of Christ. The Church will come to them because the Church cares about them."

The farmworkers have responded with enthusiasm. Between 150 and 400 people come to each outdoor Mass, Mendoza said. Every Thursday, the seminarian team carts in a portable altar and all of the altar settings and prepares for evening Mass in a field or yard near a camp. Bishop Joseph Tyson and more than 10 priests of the Diocese have come to celebrate the Masses, which end in late August in White Salmon. However, the Mass is not all that this

dedicated team of seminarians offers to farmworkers during their summer break



*A procession began an evening Mass in Monitor.*

between classes. The young men arrive early in the week and spend a couple of days laboring alongside the workers, helping to prune fruit trees or picking crops such as cherries, and getting to know the workers better.

"As Pope Francis said, we need to be able to work side by side with the people," Mendoza said.

In addition, the seminarian team, with the help of local parish members, prepares a meal to be served after each Mass, featuring favorite foods such as pozole, chicken mole or birria. They've even tried their hand at cooking basic dishes.

"We haven't burned anything yet," Mendoza observed with a laugh.

During the weekly gatherings, there are pinatas for the children and each adult comes away with a religious item such as a Bible, Catechism or rosary. These items often are distributed through a free raffle.

"God is giving me this opportunity to get to know the people I will be serving one day," Mendoza said. "I will be able to relate, to understand what they're saying."

And there will also be a lasting effect upon the people served by the seminarians, suggests Father Osmar Aguirre, pastor of

Sacred Heart Parish in Prosser. Aguirre has firsthand knowledge of this fact, since, in the early 1990s when he was a seminarian, he took part in a similar program in the Diocese of Yakima when on break from studies at Mundelein Seminary. Ironically, Prosser was one of the spots he visited.

"The kids who I served during those missions who were in primary school are now probably the most active (parishioners), reaching out across cultural barriers," he said. "I am enjoying the benefits of so many years ago when we came here. They all remember."

Aguirre has vivid memories of being with the migrant families, teaching catechism to the children during the day, and teaching adult catechism classes in the evening as well as assisting in setting up evening Masses in the fields.

"The workers sometimes feel forgotten, abandoned," he explained. "To get seminarians there is very affirming to them, (showing) that the Church is there for them and serving them. I can see the benefits of it. It's really impacted



*Seminarian Andy Mendoza, second from left, gathered with (left to right) seminarians Tony Lopez, Joan Sebastián Silva, Jesús Mariscal and Edgar René Estrada.*

my whole life. I was once one of them (seminarians). Coming back has made me realize that connection to the land has helped me develop a spirituality of dependence upon God."

Mendoza heartily agrees.

"I absolutely love it," he said. "It's amazing that we get to share the gifts we've been given!"

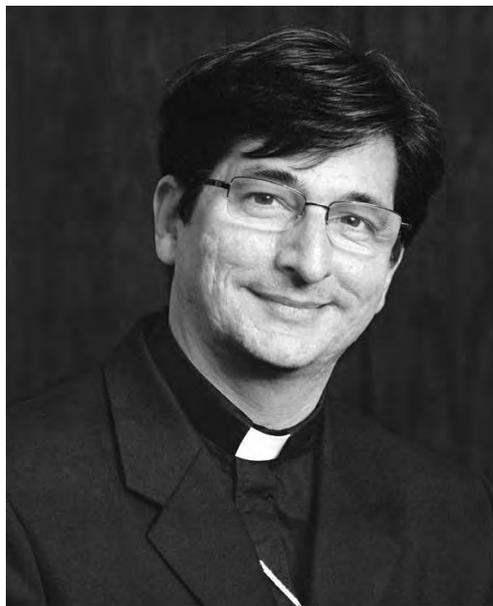
# A Message from Bishop Tyson...

Dear Friends,

How fortunate that during the summer season, we hear Jesus in our Sunday Gospels from St. Matthew using graphic images from everyday agricultural life to describe the Kingdom of God: The Kingdom of God is like a mustard seed. The Kingdom of God is like leaven in dough. The Kingdom of God is like a wheat field. The Kingdom of God is like a field with buried treasure. The Kingdom of God is like the bottom of a sea with sunken treasure.

This issue of the Central Washington Catholic brings together all kinds of everyday evidence that God's Kingdom is indeed growing. The story on our seminarians organizing "Mass in the fields" speaks of how the Word of God is being brought to some of the 109,000 seasonal laborers who will harvest crops in our Diocese this year. We are grateful to the seminarians, priests and parishioners who have helped, along with Catholic Extension for their financial support.

Our story about the jubilarians with Yakima connections from the Sisters of Providence gives witness to the everyday way that God's Kingdom has been unfolding through their lives. Similarly,



**Bishop Joseph Tyson**

our preview of the 125th anniversary of St. Mary Parish in White Swan provides a glimpse of how the Kingdom of God has been unfolding among the Yakama nation in the lives of those parishioners.

The same is true around the world. With 1.2 billion believers worldwide, the Catholic Church is busy about the Kingdom. The upcoming collection for

the Church in Central and Eastern Europe is a strong reminder of this global mission. As we read headlines about the Ukraine – a place where many of us "Germans from Russia" have geographic roots – the Church is on the ground there with a number of projects funded by your donations.

Even our feature on "Safe Environment" reminds us that there is a quality to how we build up the Kingdom of God. I am grateful to so many clergy, religious and lay parishioners who participate in our programs that ensure our ministry efforts take place in a "safe environment" free from sexual harassment and abuse with clear training on the best ways to draw close to those in spiritual and physical need.

Criss-crossing Central Washington for parish confirmations as well as other special church celebrations, I am always gratified to see how the Kingdom of God grows in so many ways in our 41 parishes. Thanks for the myriad ways you are helping build the Kingdom of God for our time and our place.

With my every best wish and blessing,

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson  
Bishop of Yakima

## CCCEE Offers Help to Rebuild

The Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, to be taken up in our Diocese August 16-17, illuminates the way for the people of the region by helping Catholic organizations offer affordable shelter, training for seminarians, pastoral care, and catechesis.

Your donation will help to restore the Church and build the future in the aftermath of Soviet rule. Please be generous to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Visit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) (search "Church in Central and Eastern Europe") to learn more about the important projects funded by the Collection.

## Safe Environment: Are We Snowmen In Summer? *Continued from page 4*

regardless of the season or our schedules? The answer is simple, and one that we often share with the children in our care. We need the Lord in our lives on a daily, consistent basis.

Keeping our faith alive during the summer months may seem like a no-brainer, but how often do we forget about our spiritual lives while on vacation? As schedules change due to new summer routines, it is important to continue to keep up our daily prayer lives.

There are many ways we can continue to grow spiritually during the summer. These include setting a calendar reminder on our phone each day to pray, finding some spiritual reading to take with us on vacation, and making sure to look up Sunday Mass times ahead of time if we are going out of town...

The wonderful truth about summer is that it is a time when we can actually spiritually recharge. Just like a retreat, taking some time off from daily routines allows us to listen more closely to what the Lord is saying to us... The Lord is present in the simplest of moments and He is asking you to share your summer with Him.

If you intentionally offer each summer day to the Lord, you will find that you will return to your regular routine and ministries refreshed and renewed in the fall.

At the end of Frozen, Olaf the Snowman finds himself in a summer climate. Much to the audience's delight, Olaf is provided with a small snow cloud that follows him around so that he can enjoy all of the delights of summertime. And while the comparison of a snow cloud to the Holy Spirit is a bit silly, it is true that the Lord will accompany us throughout these summer months if we ask Him to. As a result, we will not only keep our faith, but will be able to more fully partake in the joys of summer life...

*Note: Many parish schools and religious education programs use the Virtus curriculum to train our children in how to create and maintain safe environments.*

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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**Sisters of Providence Celebrate Special Anniversaries** *Continued from page 4*

Center (Providence) in Yakima in the 1990s. Now, she lives at St. Joseph Residence in Seattle.

**Sister Charlotte Van Dyke** (Sister Paulette), also was honored for 60 years as a Sister of Providence. With service spanning the fields of teaching, nursing, hospital administration and law, she taught at St. Patrick Grade School in Walla Walla and at St. Joseph Grade School in Yakima, and served as administrator at St. Elizabeth Hospital from 1972-83. She lives in Seattle.



Sister Charlotte Van Dyke



Sister Eleanor Goligoski



Sister Clare Lentz



Sister Elizabeth Cole

Those honored for marking their 50th anniversaries included **Sister Eleanor Goligoski** (Sister Mary Eleanor) whose ministries have included education and finance. She taught fourth through sixth grades at Assumption School in Walla Walla during the 1970s. Sister Eleanor lives in Spokane.

**Sister Clare Lentz** (Sister Clare Mary), who was born in Yakima, also celebrated her 50th anniversary of religious service. Sister Clare has had a variety of ministries through the years, including teaching, working in religious education and spiritual direction, and as a vocation director. She lives at St. Joseph Residence in Seattle.

Celebrating a 25th anniversary was **Sister Elizabeth Cole**. Including work in formation ministry and campus ministry, Sister Elizabeth taught English as a Second Language to inmates at the Walla Walla penitentiary from 1991-98. Now, she lives in Spokane.

Other Sisters of Providence who were honored for celebrating special milestones included: Sister Claire Gagnon (Sister Marcelle Odile), 75 years; Sister Anne Deuprey (Sister Rose), 70 years; and Sister Felma Cerezo, 50 years.

Our thanks and congratulations are extended to all of these religious women who have given so much to our communities through the years!

**Soccer Game is This Weekend**

Don't forget to come and cheer for your favorite team at 6 p.m. this Sunday, August 3, as our diocesan priests and seminarians meet to play soccer!

The match will be at Marquette Stadium, 5400 West Chestnut Avenue in Yakima.

Admission is free for this fun family event, with proceeds from food, beverage and tee shirt sales being matched by Catholic Extension and benefiting the Seminarian Education Trust.

It should be an exciting game as the seminarians try to upset the priests for the first time, after having been defeated in the past two annual matches!



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# NEWS

## from Around the Diocese

### Register Soon for Ride D'Vine

There's still time to register for the Ride D'Vine, a scenic bike ride from Yakima to Zillah scheduled for Saturday, August 9 and sponsored by Catholic Charities Housing Services.

Riders will have the choice of 25-, 50- and 75-mile routes that pass by hop fields, orchards and vineyards. Wine tasting will be offered at the end of the route.

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

### St. Mary's Celebrates 125th

St. Mary Catholic Church in White Swan will celebrate its 125th anniversary as a parish with a special Mass on Sunday, August 10 at 10 a.m. Bishop Joseph J. Tyson will be present.

The past 125 years of the church is rich in history and tradition, noted Fr. John Shaw, a former pastor and senior priest in residence with his brother, Fr. William Shaw, who is the pastor.

"From the early mission days to the present time, the Indian culture has prevailed," Fr. John Shaw said. "St. Mary has been very blessed in serving three distinctive cultures, which in the last 25 years includes the Hispanic community."

All are welcome to attend.

### Annual Catechetical Congress Planned

"Stewards of Faith, Service of Love" is the theme of the annual Diocese of Yakima Catechetical Congress, scheduled for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, October 11, at Holy Family Church campus in Yakima.

Francis Cardinal George, OMI, will be a special guest, slated to offer morning prayer along with Bishop Joseph Tyson.

The event is open to all interested individuals, especially teachers, catechists, lectors, ministers of Holy Communion and youth ministers. It's an opportunity to grow in the knowledge of your Catholic Faith.

For more information, contact Rebecca Garza at (509) 965-7117 or email [rebecca.garza@yakimadiocese.org](mailto:rebecca.garza@yakimadiocese.org).

### Celebration of Faith Scheduled

Mark your calendar for the 2014 Celebration of Faith event scheduled for October 11 at the Yakima Convention Center.

The event, presented by the Central Washington Catholic Foundation, will honor "Champions of Catholic Education" and raise funds for Catholic education in Central Washington.

Reservations are \$100 per person and may be made by calling the Foundation at (509) 972-3732 or by clicking on the reservation form link at [catholicfoundation.org](http://catholicfoundation.org).

## Sisters of Providence Celebrate Special Anniversaries

Fourteen Sisters of Providence, including 11 who have a tie to the Diocese of Yakima, celebrated special anniversaries of their years in religious life on July 26. Following Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Seattle, a reception was held in the parish hall.

**Sister Rebecca Berghoff**, who was born in Yakima, celebrated her 70th anniversary as a Sister of Providence. Sister Rebecca served as an elementary teacher at St. Joseph Grade School from 1949-50 and 1955-56; as principal there in the late 1950s and from 1976-99 (during which time the school became St. Joseph/Marquette); and continued as vice principal for several additional years. Sister currently lives at St. Joseph Residence in Seattle.



Sister Rebecca Berghoff



Sister Dorothy Byrne

**Sister Dorothy Byrne** (Sister Dolores), another long-time teacher and principal, also celebrated her 70th anniversary. Sister Dorothy served at De Sales High School in Walla Walla from 1961-63. She lives at Emilie Court in Spokane.

**Sister Katherine Ann Markel** (Sister Mary Theodora), also was a 70-year honoree. Sister Katherine Ann had many assignments in the education field through the years, including teaching at St. Joseph School in Yakima in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Now, she lives at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle.



Sister Katherine Ann Markel



Sister Mary Ann Meyer

**Sister Mary Ann Meyer** (Sister Rosalia), joined in celebrating her 70th anniversary as a Sister of Providence. Sister Mary Ann's ministries included teaching at Holy Rosary School in Moxee and at St. Joseph Academy (and St. Joseph Grade School) in Yakima, in the mid-1940s through 1961. She currently resides at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle.

Those celebrating their 60th anniversaries of religious service included **Sister Lucille Dean** (Sister Assunta Marie) whose career as a teacher and administrator brought her to St. Joseph Grade School in Yakima in the late 1950s and Holy Rosary School in Moxee in the early 1960s. Now retired, she lives in Seattle and remains active in the religious community and as a volunteer.



Sister Lucille Dean



Sister Chloe Keitges

**Sister Chloe Keitges** (Sister Matthew Marie), another 60-year celebrant, helped to start the healing ministry at Still Point House of Prayer in Seattle. From there, she brought "healing teams" to Yakima to pray with jail inmates from 1995 to 2003. Sister lives at Emilie Court in Spokane and continues to volunteer.

**Sister Mary Margaret Kelly** (Sister Patrice Marie), celebrated 60 years of religious service in the health care field. Among her many responsibilities, she served in pastoral care at St. Elizabeth Medical



Sister Mary Margaret Kelly

*Continued on page 3*

## Safe Environment: Are We Snowmen In Summer?

By Caitlin Bootsma, Consultant, VIRTUS® Programs

If the kids in your life are anything like the ones in mine, you have probably at least heard of the movie "Frozen," if not heard the ubiquitous song "Let it Go" a dozen times. In what is probably the most comical scene of the movie, the loveable but simple-minded snowman Olaf indulges in a musical daydream about summertime. He imagines lying on the beach, running through a field of dandelions and having a picnic. It all sounds wonderful, except for one thing that is obvious to everyone but him: a snowman cannot survive in the summer...

By now, many of us are also engaging in summer activities that we have been daydreaming about for months. Perhaps we have some time off from our work and even the ministries with which we volunteer throughout the academic year. It is time to relax, cook outdoor barbecues, and take vacations. The summer season is certainly a gift from God...



Faith helps us to more fully partake of the joys of summer.

Yet, while all of this time for rest and relaxation is good, it is important that we do not act like Olaf the Snowman. Olaf did not realize that in order to live a good long life as a snowman, he needed something to help him remain frozen. What is it that we need,

*Continued on page 2*