Students For Life Plan Meetings — Students between the ages of 13 and college age, and their parents, are invited to attend Students for Life meetings planned across the Diocese of Yakima.

The Gregory Sherman Chapter in Yakima will meet at 7 p.m., Monday, September 9 at North Town Coffee, in a first-floor meeting room. The Edward and Catherine Carroll Chapter in the Tri-Cities will meet at 7 p.m., Tuesday, September 10 at Round Table Pizza on Leslie Boulevard in Richland. The Ellensburg chapter will meet at 7 p.m., Tuesday, September 24, at Pizza Hut on Main Street. The Wenatchee chapter will meet at 7 p.m., Wednesday, September 25 at Godfather's Pizza.

Students for Life programs are designed to foster self-esteem in young people; to teach them the realities of abortion, euthanasia and other harmful elements of the modern culture; and to encourage them to become ambassadors for life. For more information, call (509) 985-6248.

Retrouvaille Weekends Planned — Would you like to improve communication and problem-solving in your marriage? Plan to attend one of two Inland Northwest Retrouvaille weekends coming soon in Eastern Washington!

“Retrouvaille,” which in French means reconciliation or homecoming, is designed to give married couples tools to rediscover the realities of abortion, euthanasia and other harmful elements of the modern culture; and to encourage them to become ambassadors for life. For more information, call (509) 985-6248.

Celebration of Faith Fundraiser Set — Tickets are still available for the Celebration of Faith, scheduled for October 12 at the Yakima Convention Center. Two noted priests, both dedicated to Catholic education, will be highlighted at the annual event.

Monsignor Perron Auve, who served as Pastor of Holy Spirit Parish in Kennewick since 2007, will be the 2019 Champion of Catholic Education – Special Honoree. Father Robert Spitzen, founder and president of the Magis Center in Garden Grove, California, will be the keynote speaker.

The Celebration of Faith will begin with a 5:30 p.m. reception, followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $110 per person and may be requested by calling (509) 972-3732 or visiting www.cwcatholicfoundation.org.

Relics of Saint Pio To Be Displayed In Yakima Diocese

Yakima will once again have the honor of hosting a relics display, as numerous vestiges of Saint (Padre) Pio travel to the Valley on Thursday, November 7.

The relics, which recall the life of St. Pio, an Italian friar and priest who bore the “stigmata” or replicas of the wounds of Christ in his hands and feet, will be made available for the public to venerate. That day, Bishop Joseph Tyson will celebrate a special Mass at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Family Church, followed by a display of the relics until 7:30 p.m.

The display will include St. Pio’s glove, a lock of hair, his mantle, a handkerchief and evidence of the blood from his stigmata. The relics are being displayed throughout the United States, under the sponsorship of the Saint Pio Foundation based in New York.

This remarkable saint was born in 1887, and given the name Francesco Forgione, according to the website catholic.org. He was reportedly a very devout child who decided by the age of five to devote his life to God. It is said that the child could see angels and even spoke with Jesus and Blessed Mother. By the age of 15, he entered the novitiate of the Capuchin friars, taking the name of Pio in honor of Pope Pius I. Later becoming a priest, he continued to suffer ill health which had troubled him for much of his life, and was allowed to remain home. However, periodically, he was called into medical service for Italy during World War I.

While hearing confessions one day in 1916, Padre Pio experienced pain in his hands and feet, the website reports. Perfectly round wounds developed, which smelled of roses and would remain with him throughout his life. A very pious man, Pio was also said by some to perform miracles and to levitate.

Padre Pio died in 1968 and was canonized by Pope John Paul II in 2002. His feast day is September 23. All are invited to come and draw closer to the story of this humble priest who is venerated by the Catholic Church as a saint.

Magnificat Program Teaches The ‘Richness of the Catholic Faith’

(With thanks for quotes and data to Daisy Pérez, Administrative Assistant, Diocesan Stewardship & Development Office)

A new series of Magnificat classes is scheduled to begin at three sites across the Diocese of Yakima. Sessions are planned at 9 a.m. in both English and Spanish, for September 21 at Holy Spirit Parish in Kennewick (7409 West Clearwater Avenue), September 28 at St. Joseph School in Wenatchee (600 St. Joseph Place) and October 5 in the St. Paul Cathedral Building in Yakima (1214 West Chestnut Avenue).

The opening day of classes will feature a morning presentation in English on “Human Identity: Catholic Response to Secular Ideologies.” In the afternoon, there will be a class on “Anchoring Science in Our Faith: ‘True Happiness.’” Spanish-language classes that day will focus on the Bible and Ecclesiology.

Magnificat is a faith-formation program to allow individuals to learn more about our rich Catholic teachings. The free, Saturday classes continue through May and are taught by clergy, religious and lay people. Sessions are organized into levels one, two, and three, building upon teachings as they progress.

Topics cover the range from Sacraments to Bible, Ministries, Liturgy, Mary & the Saints, Truth of Faith, Spirituality, Christology, Ecclesiology, Apologetics and Ecuumenism, Social Doctrine of the Church, Ethics and Christian Morals, Catechesis, Mission of the Church, and Anthropology. At the completion of the sessions, participants may become certified.

It is important for adults to learn and live the Catholic Faith so that today’s youth may be educated, too, observed Father Jaime Chacón, Vicar of Faith Formation for the Diocese of Yakima. It’s interesting to note that most young people attend school from kindergarten through grade 12, however many only attend Catholic Church faith formation programs for
A Message from Bishop Tyson…

Dear Friends:

As a new school year starts up, I am hoping this issue helps you consider how you are a lifelong learner when it comes to matters of faith.

We have a number of interlocking events and speakers coming up this fall. Foremost among them is Father Robert Spitzer, S.J., of the Magis Center for Reason and Faith, who keynotes the English track of our October 12 Church Mission Congress, drawing connections between faith and science.

The previous day, clergy and key lay professionals from the parishes will hear from a speaker tied to the recent study about the exodus of young people from the Church. John Vitek, president of St. Mary’s Press – a Catholic religion text and media publisher – contracted with Georgetown University’s Center for Research in the Apostolate (CARA) on a study titled “Going, going, gone...” The study outlines the exodus of young people from the Faith. The main age of departure: 13. The main reason: they believe faith contradicts the science they learn in school. This “scientism” sparks rejection of the steeper demands of the Gospel, be they issues of sexual morality, social justice or human life.

Even before Fr. Spitzer’s arrival, our newly formatted Magnificat adult formation program will take one key module from Fr. Spitzer’s material and open up the question of how we learn and share the way science grows from a great Catholic intellectual heritage. One English Magnificat topic per month will be tied to the Magis Center module. Two regular Spanish Magnificat classes will lead into the Spanish version. The Diocese of Yakima will be the first parishioners In Ellensburg – who’s been helping us with this launch.

I’m also grateful to Valeria Flores and Doug Rich from our pastoral center team. Doug is taking the traditional Magnificat scope and sequence of systematic theology and working with Valeria to create Magnificat at Your Parish for evening and weekend faith enrichment. Doug is also creating Magnificat at Your School tied to our accreditation requirements that teachers of religion be certified.

As Catholics, we have a smart and rich tradition. Gregor Mendel, who developed the modern science of genetics from his pea pod experiments, was a Benedictine abbot. Genetic markers on bone fossils helped calibrate speciation as an aspect of evolutionary theory. George Lemaître was a priest as well as a scientist. He first proposed the theory of an expanding universe. His theory was later confirmed by the research of the famous Edwin Hubble.

The list could go on. But the point could not be clearer. As Pope Saint John Paul II so eloquently noted in his famous encyclical “Veritatis Splendor,” faith and reason are like two wings that help us ascend to truth. Science and faith – far from conflicting with each other – belong together. Science answers the question “how.” Faith goes behind this and answers the question “who.” I close with a quote from Saint Augustine, who eloquently summarized this link between faith and science. I hope it inspires you to take advantage of the many learning opportunities this year:

“Question the beauty of the earth, question the beauty of the sea, question the beauty of the air, amply spread around everywhere, question the beauty of the sky, question the serried ranks of the stars, question the sun making the day glorious with its bright beams, question the moon tempering the darkness of the following night with its shining rays, question the animals that move in the waters, that amble about on dry land, that fly in the air; their souls hidden, their bodies evident; the visible bodies needing to be controlled, the invisible souls controlling them; question all these things. They all answer you, “Here we are, look; we’re beautiful.”

Their beauty is their confession. Who made these beautiful changeable things, if not the One who is beautiful and unchangeable?

With every best wish and blessing,

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

Magnificat Program
Continued from page 1

about two years, he said.

Catholics are a minority in the United States (about 24 percent according to Pew Research), living in a predominantly Protestant country, added Bishop Joseph Tyson. Thus, faith formation is crucial for all.

Judith Turner from Kennewick was one of five individuals certified through the Magnificat program earlier this year. A parishioner of Holy Spirit Parish in Kennewick for over 22 years, she teaches middle school at St. Patrick’s Catholic School in Pasco. She sought to be part of Magnificat to continue learning more about the Catholic Faith, especially since she teaches children. She states that children sometimes don’t see why Catholic Faith is important and why participating is important.

“I have a 14-year-old granddaughter,” Turner said. “I want her to have a strong knowledge of our Faith … and I have to make sure that I’m prepared and able to educate her and my students.”

Bishop Tyson stated that he wants to ensure that those who are teaching the Faith are learning the richness of the Faith. “Magnificat lives up to its title, just as Mary proclaims the faith of God, Magnificat proclaims the beauty of the Church’s teachings.”

For more details on classes, visit yakimadiocese.org and click on Magnificat for English- or Spanish-speaking individuals.

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

Bishop Joseph Tyson
Jaime Chacon, Vicar for Faith Formation, who is collaborating with the Magis Center on this Spanish-language pilot. I’m also grateful to Becky Cates – one of our parishioners In Ellensburg – who’s been helping us with this launch.

I’m also grateful to Valeria Flores and Doug Rich from our pastoral center team. Doug is taking the traditional Magnificat scope and sequence of systematic theology and working with Valeria to create Magnificat at Your Parish for evening and weekend faith enrichment. Doug is also creating Magnificat at Your School tied to our accreditation requirements that teachers of religion be certified.

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With every best wish and blessing,

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima
Three Sisters of Providence Celebrate Anniversaries

Three Sisters of Providence with ties to the Diocese of Yakima celebrated significant anniversaries at a Jubilee celebration on August 3 at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in West Seattle. Those honored were:

70 years – Sister Helen Brennan (Sister Dympna), Seattle
Sister Helen grew up in Camas and met the Sisters of Providence when they came to her parish to teach catechism. She made her first profession of vows in 1951. She went on to teach elementary school in Seattle, Yakima and Vancouver, Washington, and then in Fairbanks, Alaska. In 1968, Sister Helen became the director of religious education at St. Catherine’s in Seattle. Religious education was her career for the next 23 years. She returned to ministry in Alaska in the 1970s. Since retiring in 1996, she has assisted with St. Patrick Parish, the Intercommunity Peace and Justice Center, Call to Action Western Washington and Habitat for Humanity.

70 years – Sister Susan Fitzmorris (Sister Clare of Assisi), Seattle
Sister Susan was born in Olympia and was taught by the Sisters of Providence at St. Michael’s School. She entered the novitiate at Mount St. Vincent, Seattle, in 1948. Assigned to teach, she continued that ministry for 23 years in a range of grades and subjects in Seattle, Walla Walla, Vancouver and Moxee, Washington, plus Alaska and California. When she left teaching in 1974, Sister Susan began working with elderly sisters at St. Joseph Residence, Seattle. She also served at nearby Mount St. Vincent. After her retirement in 1994, she volunteered at The Mount shop. Now at St. Joseph Residence, she enjoys reading and cheering for the Mariners on television.

70 years – Sister Virginia Miller, Seattle
Sister (Ruth) Virginia, who grew up in Longview, met the sisters from Providence Academy who taught religious education at St. Rose de Viterbo Parish. She entered the convent in 1948. Her teaching ministry took her to Walla Walla, Moxee, Yakima and Vancouver, Washington. When Providence Academy closed in Vancouver, she was asked to remain in the city as a presence for girls who would be moving into the public school system. In 1967, she helped begin the Vancouver Apostolate, an outreach program to train volunteers in five rural parishes. Sister later served as pastoral life director for several parishes.

Please keep these three devoted Sisters, and all of our clergy and religious, in your prayers.

Volunteers Assist PREPARES

Through PREPARES, a Catholic initiative designed to help families who are pregnant or have young children under difficult circumstances, communities put their faith into action, helping “the least of these” (Matthew 25:40).

Our families always need diapers. A big “thank you” to all parishioners who have donated diapers, wipes, clothing and other baby supplies. Volunteers in the Tri-Cities took the initiative and organized a huge drive, collecting more than 6,000 diapers. What a gift to young families!

For more information on PREPARES, call Richland (509) 946-4645 or Yakima (509) 853-2768.

Save the Date and Join us for the Celebration of Faith!

Saturday, October 12
5:30 Reception | 6:30 Dinner
Keynote Speaker – Fr. Robert Spitzer, S.J.
Yakima Convention Center
Tables of 10 - $1,100 | Tickets $110
Generously supporting Catholic Education and Honoring Champions of Catholic Education
To make a reservation, visit www.cwcatholicfoundation.org or call (509) 972-3732.

We take your injury personally.”

Yakima
Ellensburg
Sunnyside

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509.575.1588
**Abortion Healing Help is Available**

Have you experienced emotional/spiritual pain after an abortion? Women and men of all faiths are invited to begin the healing process through Rachel’s Vineyard. Although the September 27-29 retreat has been postponed, help is available now. Contact Lisa at (509) 421-7847 or email: rvcentralwa@gmail.com. For more information, visit www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Rachel’s Vineyard is a confidential/safe place to connect with others and process your experience. The sponsor is the Cornerstone Ministry of the Diocese of Yakima. Trained volunteers can connect you with community resources.

“If the emotional and spiritual wounds of a past abortion have been sapping faith, love and joy from your life, I can promise, that if you enter this process for healing, your life will begin to change. A journey into Rachel’s Vineyard is a gift only you can open your heart to receive. … A new chapter of your life awaits you. … Take courage, God is calling you towards peace, love, hope, and freedom.” (Dr. Theresa Burke, Founder of Rachel’s Vineyard Ministries)

**Cornerstone Event Nears**

**United for Life and Justice!** Is it possible to see other people as Jesus sees them? Might that help us transform the world? Explore these issues at the 2019 Cornerstone Catholic Conference, taking place at the Tacoma Convention Center, October 18-19. The conference features fantastic presentations by Bishop Frank Caggiano, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, and Sr. Norma Pimentel, MJ.

This will be a spiritually invigorating and uplifting gathering, and you are invited! $100 per person; $65 for young adults; scholarships available. Information, WACatholics.org/Cornerstone or (206) 301-0556. Thanks to a generous donation from Holy Apostles Parish in East Wenatchee, a chartered bus from Yakima will be available. Contact Valeria Flores at the Diocese of Yakima, (509) 965-7117, to add your name to the list. Space is limited.

**Pilgrimage Planned to Holy Land**

Have you always wanted to visit the Holy Land, but need some time to plan? All are invited to join Deacon Mikhail Alnajjar of the Diocese of Yakima on a Catholic pilgrimage to the Holy Land, March 2-11, 2020. The journey will include visits to the Road to Emmaus, the birthplace of Jesus and His baptismal site, the Dead Sea and Sea of Galilee, Jericho, the Mount of Transfiguration, Cana, Jerusalem, the Garden of Gethsemane, and the site of the Crucifixion.

To receive an informational brochure, send your mailing address to Deacon Alnajjar at dmikhail925@gmail.com.

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**Test Your Knowledge of The Catholic Faith: The Saints of September**

It’s time again to test your knowledge of the Catholic Faith, taking a look at a few of the many saints whose feast days will be celebrated in the month of September. First read the description of the saint or special feast day and see if you can guess the name. Answers are at the end of the article.

1. **September 5. This diminutive saint, born in 1910, inspired the world through her example of working with the poorest of the poor in the slums of India. She established a new religious community and was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize in 1979.**

2. **September 8. On this date, we celebrate the birth of a great saint, the daughter of aging parents named Anne and Joachim. Believed to have been born in Jerusalem, she was visited in her youth by the Archangel Gabriel who delivered a life-changing announcement.**

3. **September 9. Born in Spain in 1580, this Jesuit saint dedicated himself to the service of Black slaves, striving for their salvation and the abolition of the slave trade. It is estimated that his ministry helped to bring 300,000 individuals to the Church.**

4. **September 21. This saint was a hated tax collector who became a disciple of Jesus. He is credited with one of the four Gospels of the New Testament. It is said that he wished to convince people that Jesus was in fact the Messiah and that His kingdom had become a reality in a spiritual way.**

5. **September 23. This Italian saint, who was born in 1887, was a friar and priest, noted for his piety and for having the “stigmata” or replicas of the crucifixion wounds of Christ in his hands and feet.**

6. **September 26. These two brothers were born in Arabia in the third century. They were noted for their medical skills and donating their services to the sick. Tortured for their faith, they died as martyrs through beheading.**

7. **September 27. This saint, from the farm country of France, was born in 1580. He became a priest and devoted himself in service to tenant farmers and other poor individuals. He now is the patron of charitable societies, one of which is named after him.**

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**Rice Bowl Grants Are Awarded**

By Leanne LaBissoniere, Parish Outreach Coordinator

Thanks to your generosity, 24 ministries that serve the needy are the recipients of grants from the local share of the Rice Bowl collection.

The Rice Bowl collection is taken in parishes nationwide each year during Lent to benefit the work of Catholic Relief Services. Catholic Relief Services is a non-profit relief agency commissioned by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to assist the poor and vulnerable. Seventy-five percent of the collection goes to support CRS’ humanitarian and development programs overseas, providing life-saving assistance and hope in more than 100 countries around the world. The remaining 25 percent is returned to dioceses to support local hunger and poverty prevention programs.

The Diocese of Yakima awarded $750 Rice Bowl Grants to the following ministries: St. Andrew Community Garden, Ellensburg; Noah’s Ark, Wapato; St. Joseph Parish, Yakima; Respite Adult Day Center, Yakima; St. Joseph Parish, Sunnyside; Holy Trinity Parish, Goldendale; St. Francis de Sales Parish, Chelan; Senior Companion Program, Yakima; His Helping Hands, Ephrata; Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Selah; Holy Family St. Vincent Ministry, Yakima; Volunteer Services, Yakima; St. Peter Claver Parish, Wapato; St. Joseph Parish, White Salmon; Union Gospel Mission, Yakima; Toppenish Community Chest, Toppenish; PREPARES in Malaga Migrant Camp, Malaga; Kinship Navigation Program, Yakima; St. John Parish, Naches; PREPARES teen-age mother support group, Wapato; St. Joseph Parish in Malaga Migrant Camp, Malaga; St. Mary Parish, White Swan; FISH (Friends in Service to Humanity), Ellensburg; and St. John the Baptist/Immaculate Conception Parish, Cle Elum and Roslyn.

For guidelines and application procedures for the local Rice Bowl Grant Program, please contact me at (509) 367-5291.

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**ANSWERS**