CENTRAL WASHINGTON CATHOLIC
El Católico de Washington Central
Pāchu Washintin Chmuk Tātpas
JUNE 2019 Newsletter

Events to Celebrate Saint Kateri, Anniversary of Ahtanum Mission Chapel

Jake Finkbonner, whose miraculous cure at age 5 led to the canonization of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha in 2012, will be the guest at a Mass honoring St. Kateri July 13 in White Swan and a Mass and picnic July 14 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the reconstruction of the historic Ahtanum Mission chapel.

Sister Kateri Mitchell, who placed a relic of Kateri Tekakwitha on Jake Finkbonner's bed prior to his miraculous healing in 2006, reunited with the young man after a recent Mass on the Lummi Reservation during the annual Tekakwitha Conference.

Bishop Joseph Tyson will be the celebrant at both Masses. Jake, now 18, who is of Lummi tribal descent, was close to death from a case of flesh-eating bacteria when a relic of then-Blessed Kateri was placed on the pillow of his Seattle hospital bed, and his family prayed for her intercession. He immediately began to recover. Bishop Tyson, then auxiliary bishop in Seattle, led the local process to verify that the recovery could not be explained by medical science.

The July 13 Mass is at St. Mary Parish, 360 Signal Peak Road in White Swan, on the Yakama Reservation, at 11 a.m. Jake will be joined by his parents Donny and Elsa. They also will be guests at 11 a.m. on Sunday, July 14 at the Mission site, 17740 Ahtanum Road, Yakima (located on the south side of the road). Free parking will be available.

The Mission Mass will be followed by a 12:30 p.m. potluck picnic, with hamburgers, hot dogs, beverages and condiments provided. Participants are asked to bring a hot dish, salad or dessert to share. Games will follow, for those interested. The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring the event.

A celebration at the Ahtanum Mission will mark the anniversary of the historic chapel.

The St. Joseph Mission at the Ahtanum is a treasure of Northwest history. In the mid-1800s, French Oblates of Mary Immaculate and Yakama Indians worked side by side to plant fruit trees, vegetables – and the seeds of the Catholic Faith. The Mission

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Cornerstone Conference in Tacoma To Feature Noted Speakers

It's time to start thinking about the 2019 Cornerstone Conference! "Coming Together for Life and Justice" is the theme of this year's Conference, scheduled for October 18-19 at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center. The event will feature speakers, workshops and opportunities to meet with Catholics from across our region.

Among noted speakers, **Archbishop Paul Etienne**, newly appointed as Coadjutor Archbishop of Seattle, will join a Washington State Bishops panel, discussing key issues of today. **Bishop Frank Caggiano** of Bridgeport, Connecticut, a participant in multiple World Youth Day gatherings and the recent Synod on Young People at the Vatican, will focus on topics pertinent to our youth. **Sister Miriam James Heidland**, a former athlete who experienced a "radical conversion," will speak on "Transformation from the Heart: Why Your Encounter With Jesus Changes the World." **Sister Norma Pimentel**, executive director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley, will discuss how "Whoever Welcomes A Child In My Name, Welcomes Me."

Sponsored by the Washington State Catholic Conference, the event is designed "to inspire and inform Catholics and others to continue working together to protect human life: the unborn, individuals who live in poverty or on the margins of society, and people at the end of life".

Registration for the conference is now open. The fee is $100 per person or $65 per young adult (under age 30) before September 30. This includes Saturday lunch, refreshment breaks and access to all sessions. Scholarships are available, according to need. Email WSCC@WACatholics.org to request a scholarship. Information also is available on lodging.

A Message from Bishop Tyson…

Dear Friends:

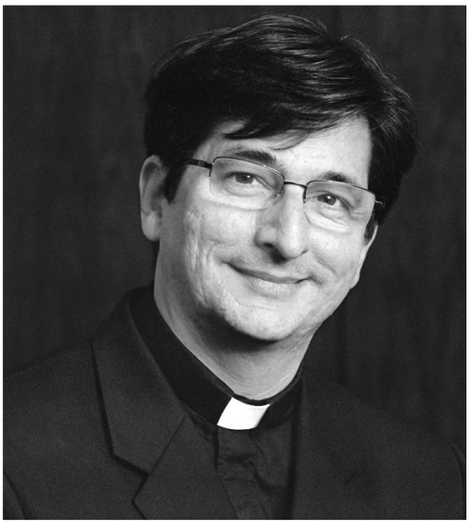
Welcome to another edition of our *Central Washington Catholic*. You will see that we have a couple of Masses coming up tied to St. Kateri Tekakwitha. One Mass is Saturday, July 13 at 11 a.m. at St. Mary Catholic Church in White Swan. The second is the next day at the very same time at the anniversary Mass of the chapel at the Ahtanum Mission in Yakima.

Jake Finkbonner, the recipient of the required second miracle tied to the canonization of St. Kateri, will be present along with his family at both Masses. I had the privilege of collecting evidence as well as testimonies tied to the second miracle over six years on the cause for the canonization, serving as president of the Rogatory Board of Inquiry. You'll all have a chance to meet him and his family.

Having just come off another round of some 25 Confirmations across the 40 parishes and missions of our diocese, I am struck by how many young people chose St. Kateri Tekakwitha as their Confirmation saint. The selection is especially pronounced in our Spanish-speaking communities with bilingual women choosing her. Perhaps this is not surprising.

Certainly, St. Kateri Tekakwitha holds a place of honor among our many Native American tribes. And rightly so! She comes to us through the Mohawk First Nation. Our own Yakama Nation Catholics have upheld her and prayed for her canonization over many years. But the large number of Spanish-language Confirmations also reminds us that she holds a significant place of honor among our Hispanic Catholics as well.

It's easy to forget that the first "Native American" saint here in the Americas is San Juan Diego and that the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him speaking to him in his native Nahuatl language – a language parallel to the Yakama's Sahaptin language and indigenous to what we might call the "Native Americans" near today's Mexico City. Indeed, it is easy to forget that even today in central Mexico, Nahuatl is spoken by some 1.7 million people! Here in the Diocese of Yakima we have many Catholics who have migrated from Mexico and still speak their indigenous languages. Besides Nahuatl, we have speakers of Mixtec, Zapotec and Purapecha – just to name a few.



Bishop Joseph Tyson

Several months ago, I celebrated the funeral of Yakama native Lydia Johnson. She was with me in Rome at the Mass of canonization for St. Kateri Tekakwitha, and she was present for her beatification Mass back in 1980 with Pope Saint John Paul II. Like so many Yakama Catholics, she prayed for her canonization and participated in the wonderful "Kateri" prayer circles. It was actually these prayer circles with their time stamps on e-mails that allowed me to align intercessory prayers back to the unexplainable drop in the reactive C protein that allowed Jake Finkbonner to survive the ravages of the necrotizing fasciitis bacteria. This drop, unexplainable by the medical community, formed the core evidence for the finding of the Holy See in favor of this second miracle allowing the cause of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha to advance to canonization.

St. Kateri holds a special place for our Yakama Nation Catholics. She holds a special place for so many of our immigrant communities who often have roots in the "Native American" languages and cultures of Mexico and Central America. She now holds place of pride for our Church since she is a saint for all of us. What a gift it is to see so many choosing her as their Confirmation saint today. We will have much to celebrate as we remember her at our Masses in July, and through her intercession, pray for our unity and healing as a Church.

With every best wish and blessing,

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of 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

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Events to Celebrate Saint Kateri, Anniversary of Ahtanum Mission Chapel *Continued from page 1*

Photo by Christine Conklin

was established in 1852. Since 1976, the Mission has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The chapel is the larger of the two historic buildings remaining on the 12-acre Mission grounds, constructed in 1869 under the supervision of Father Louis Napoleon St. Onge. It replaced an earlier structure that was destroyed by soldiers who reportedly thought that the missionary priests here were supplying gun powder to the Indians. That allegation was later disproved.

The "new" chapel, formally dedicated in 1871, is in the shape of a cross, built of logs with dovetailed joints. The chapel seats about 100 people and still is used today for Mass on the first Sunday of each month, from Spring until Fall. The unique cross over the altar is said to have been made from a single branch of one of the Mission apple trees. Other special features include a statue of St. Kateri Tekakwitha.

Donations, which are tax-deductible, are welcomed to carry on the important work of preserving and maintaining this historic site. Donations may be brought to the anniversary celebration or sent to: The Diocese of Yakima, 5301 Tieton Drive, Yakima, WA 98908. Please note Ahtanum Mission Fund on the envelope.

Diocese to Host July 9 Immigration Forum in Yakima

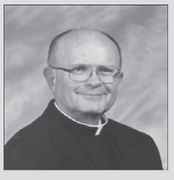
The Diocese of Yakima will host an immigration forum at St. Joseph Parish, 212 N. 4th St. in Yakima, on Tuesday, July 9 from 7 to 10 p.m. This forum is open to the public to bring awareness of immigration rights and family services.

Panelists who will be answering questions include: **David Morales**, Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs; **Michele Besso**, Yakima Immigrant Response Network whose task force has been reviewing ICE flights into Yakima; **Sandra Aguilar**, Catholic Charities Housing Services; **Kathy Coffey**, Mayor of Yakima; **Cliff Moore**, Yakima City Manager; **Matthew Murray**, Yakima Police Chief; **Laura Contreras**, Northwest Immigrant Rights Project NWIRP (Granger); **Fr. Felipe Pulido**, Pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Yakima; and **Bishop Joseph Tyson**, chair of the USCCB Subcommittee on Pastoral Care of Migrants and Refugees and member of the USCCB Bishops Working Group on Immigration.

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

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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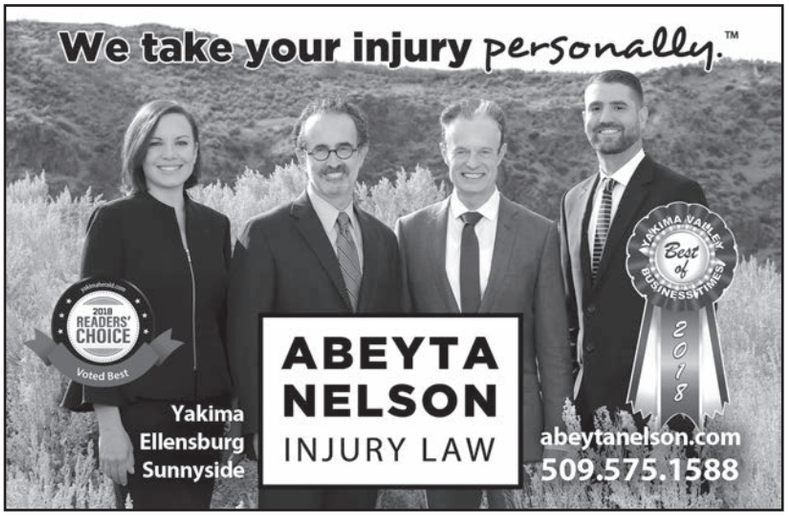

NEWS
from Around the Diocese

Cecilia and Jesus Ramirez were one of 23 couples married in the June 2 ceremony.

Mattawa Hosts Communal Wedding

Twenty-three couples exchanged wedding vows on June 2 at Our Lady of The Desert Church in Mattawa, in a communal or "campesino" wedding ceremony.

Officiated by Father Alejandro Trejo, pastor, the marriage of the Latino couples included special elements such as the wedding lasso (symbolizing infinite union) and coins ceremony (symbolizing the sharing of everything).

Following the wedding, the couples and their families enjoyed a meal and band music, as temperatures, which had soared into the low 90s, began to cool.

We wish abundant blessings on all of the newly married couples.

Quo Vadis Days Scheduled

The annual Quo Vadis Days vocations camp for young men between the ages of 14 and 18 is scheduled for July 29-31 at Camp Koinonia near Cle Elum.

The camp is designed to allow young men to know Jesus more closely and to help them discern their vocations in life. The camp will include time for fun, prayer and reflection.

The cost is $50 per camper, with a family rate of $50 for the first camper, $25 for each of his brothers. For more information, call Father Felipe Pulido at (509) 248-1911 or Seminarian Daniel Sanchez at (509) 367-5297 or email: daniel.sanchez@yakimadiocese.org.

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 4, at Marquette Stadium, 5200 West Chestnut Avenue in Yakima.

Now is the time to begin your novenas for the seminarians' team, which has not been shown a lot of mercy from the priests' team in the past! This event will benefit the seminarian education fund. Food and drinks will be available for purchase, with gates opening at 5 p.m.

There's A New Priest in The Diocese of Yakima!

In a beautiful ceremony on May 24 at St. Paul Cathedral in Yakima, Kurt Hadley was ordained as the newest priest of the Diocese of Yakima.

As of July 1, Father Hadley will serve as Parochial Vicar of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Yakima. Please join in praying for Father Hadley and all of the clergy and religious of the Diocese.

Newly ordained, Father Kurt Hadley posed with his parents and Bishop Tyson in St. Paul Cathedral.

Father Hadley received the blessing of Bishop Tyson, with Seminarian Ethan Pfeifer (left) and Deacon Edgar Quiroga in attendance.

God, Our Father: Test Your Knowledge of the Faith

In honor of June, the month in which we celebrate fathers, we bring back a popular feature to allow you to test your knowledge of the Faith. The following questions, based upon the Catholic Faith Challenge used by St. Joseph School in Kennewick, are all about God the Father.

The questions are in the form used by the Jeopardy TV program, in which the answer is given and you supply the question:

1. This is the reason for which God made us.
2. This is the important message of the Scripture passage, John 3:16.
3. A supernatural gift from God by which we believe what He has revealed.
4. These are the two chief creatures made by God.
5. The term that refers to the real distinction between the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
6. Two sources to learn the truth about God.
7. This is the basis for our human dignity, according to the book of Genesis.
8. The attribute of God whereby He will forgive us our sins if we are repentant.
9. These two images occur together in the book of Exodus to show the presence of God during the wandering in the desert.
10. This is the term for God's loving care for us.

QUESTIONS

1. What is to know, love and serve Him in this life and to be happy with Him in the next?
2. What is "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life"? 3. What is faith? 4. What are humans and angels? 5. What is person? 6. What are Scripture and Tradition? 7. What is being made in the image and likeness of God? 8. What is merciful? 9. What are fire(light) and cloud? 10. What is Divine Providence?