



CENTRAL WASHINGTON CATHOLIC

El Católico de Washington Central
Pāchu Washintin Chmuk Tātpas

SEPTEMBER 2013
Newsletter

All Are Invited To Open Your Hearts To Life

Beginning Saturday, September 28, the Diocese of Yakima has invited parishioners, in the words of Pope Francis, to “Open Your Hearts to Life!” with activities leading up to the annual celebration of Respect Life Sunday on October 6.

A Novena for Life, drawing upon the intercession of American Saints Elizabeth Ann Seton, Bishop John Neumann, and Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini, was to begin on the 28th, led by Bishop Joseph J. Tyson at St. Paul Cathedral in Yakima at noon.

“It is vital that we, as a church, show our reverence for life from conception through natural death,” observed Bishop Tyson. “This is a great opportunity to pray together as Catholics throughout the Diocese.”

New novena prayers will be posted daily on the Diocesan website, (www.yakimadiocese.org), and Bishop Tyson’s Facebook page (www.facebook.com/yakima.diocese). Parishes also are encouraged to look for ways to raise awareness of the sacredness of human life in their own communities. Priests and deacons are asked to reflect on the theme during their homilies, October 5-6.

The celebration of Respect Life Sunday is one of several activities promoted by the Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Another key date for prayer centered around life issues is January 22, the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion throughout the United States.



Open your hearts to life!



Respect Life

Catechetical Congress: Your Chance To Sharpen Skills for Parish Service

Fall is the perfect time to become more involved in your Catholic parish. And, thanks to the upcoming Catechetical Congress 2013 scheduled for Saturday, October 12 in Yakima, the perfect opportunity to sharpen your skills is just around the corner!

“Year of Faith: Called to Communion” is the theme of this one-

day event at Holy Family Church.

The Congress, which is sponsored by the Diocese of Yakima, is open to teachers, catechists, lectors, ministers of Holy Communion, youth ministers and anyone else interested in refining their vision and leadership for the many aspects of evangelization and faith formation in our Catholic parishes.

Both a keynote address and nine individual workshops from which to choose will be offered in separate English and Spanish sessions.

In English, the keynote speaker will

be Father Stephen Rowan, PhD., a recognized leader in Catholic higher education who will discuss the Gospel of Matthew. Father Rowan plans to explore how the catechists of today can learn from the engaging teaching style of Christ in “addressing the heart, the head and the hand” of students. He will show “how (catechists) can go about approaching their task from a new angle.”

Father Rowan has served in various academic and leadership roles at Seattle

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Diocese of Yakima
Catechetical Congress
2013

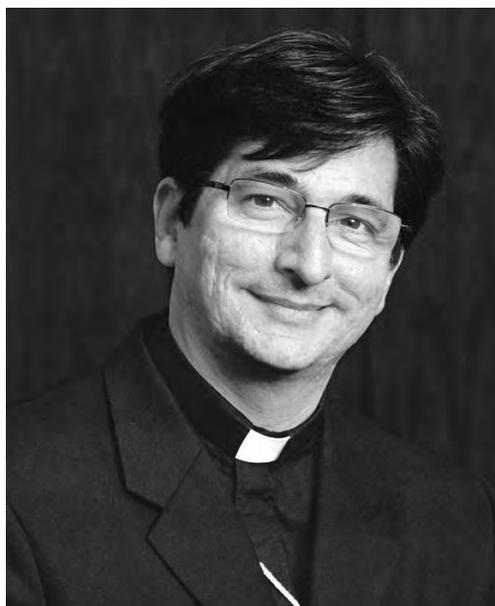
A Message from Bishop Tyson...

Dear Friends,

What does it mean to pass on the gift of faith? Our stories this month suggest a myriad of ways. With what we hope will become an annual tradition, our "Respect Life" novena suggests that the foundation for all faith is reverencing the gift of life from the moment of natural conception to the point of natural death.

Our feature on the annual Catechetical Congress reminds us that the foundational understanding of the reverence for all life comes from our knowledge of a good and gracious God who creates us and then comes to us in the very person of Jesus – God's human face – and sustains us with the gift of the Holy Spirit. Hundreds of catechists all across Central Washington dedicate themselves each year to teaching the message of Jesus at all levels, from early childhood to adults in the Rite of Christian Initiation in our parish communities.

Our new principal, Robert Seidel, at St. Joseph Catholic School in



Bishop Joseph Tyson

Kennewick has a real passion for passing on the faith. After serving in the Archdiocese of Minneapolis, he and his wife have moved out west to be nearer family in Yakima. Mr. Seidel has already been part of a school accreditation process – a process our Diocesan Catholic schools are just beginning. That accreditation process is our main long-term planning tool that will help the

Catholic faith to be better infused across the life of the schools and help anchor their courses of study in the wider body of Catholic intellectual heritage.

Of course, it is the life of the parish that embodies this commitment to uplifting and passing on the gift of faith. What better way to be reminded of this than our parish feature on Holy Apostles in East Wenatchee. It's probably our only parish to have its own YouTube channel! When I visited the parish for their Youth Retreat, they hosted nearly 1,000 youth that day! They host numerous retreats and conferences dedicated to passing on the faith. So it's particularly appropriate to read about their parish life this month.

Taken together, I hope you're inspired to continue your own efforts in passing on the gift of faith as we enter this closing month of our "Year of Faith." Thanks for all you give and all you are!

With every best wish and blessing,

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson
Bishop of Yakima

Catechetical Congress: Your Chance To Sharpen Skills for Parish Service *Continued from page 1*

University, the University of Portland and Carroll College. He currently serves as the Superintendent of Catholic Schools in Seattle. Father Rowan is known for his commitment to Catholic values and work in philanthropy.

In Spanish, Father Tomas Vasquez Tellez, the pastor of St. Andrew's Parish in Ellensburg, will be the keynote speaker. He, too, will discuss an outline of the Gospel of Matthew.

English workshops will be led by individuals including Bishop Joseph Tyson; Father Michael Ibach, our Judicial Vicar; Father Miguel Gonzalez, pastor of St. Rose of Lima Church in Ephrata; and Catholic evangelist Karlo Broussard. Topics will include: The Six Tasks of Catechesis; Passing on the Gift of Faith; A Review of Marriage Nullity Cases Affecting Participants in RCIA; Intro to Building Intercultural Competency for Ministry; Living Our Faith: How To Build A Bicultural Confirmation Program; Pope John Paul II's Theology of the Body; Stewardship: A Way of Life; Apologetics for the New Evangelization; Journey Through the Liturgical Year; and Recognizing God in Your Daily Life: The Examen of St. Ignatius.

Washington State clock hours will be available for professional development for public, Catholic and other private school educators.

For registration and/or more details on Catechetical Congress offerings in English or Spanish, please visit www.yakimadiocese.org or call (509)965-7117 and ask for Rebecca Garza. The registration fee is \$25, with scholarships available. Volunteers also are needed to help with the Congress.

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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New Principal Sees 'Great Things Happening' in Future of St. Joseph's Catholic School, Kennewick

Bob Seidel is excited about his new position as Principal of St. Joseph's Catholic School in Kennewick.

"I see great things happening in the future," he said. "It's an awesome opportunity to help kids grow. We're really committed to excellence in Faith AND excellence in education – it's not a matter of either/or."

Seidel began work at St. Joseph's in July. Previously, he served as Principal of Divine Mercy Catholic School in Faribault, Minnesota, for four years. He holds a B.A. degree in English Literature, a secondary teaching certificate and a Master's degree in educational administration, all from Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. He also has a second Master's degree in educational administration, with a Principal certification, from Illinois State University.

Seidel's wife, Celeste, is originally from Yakima and is a graduate of the former Carroll High School. She still has family here. Seidel was born and raised in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The couple has five children.

The new principal is very impressed by the "terrific community support" he has already seen for St. Joseph's School.

"There's a whole lot of love for this school," he said. "Everybody's willing to help out. That's what most excites me. We have some amazing teachers."

Currently, St. Joseph's School has about 340 students in preschool through eighth grade.

"We want to get to the point where we have two classrooms for every grade level," he said.

As the school prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2014, Seidel is also hoping to "transform our vision from year-to-year to a 5-, 10- and eventually a 50-year (strategic) plan."

He already has a clear vision of the most important task set before his new school:

"We want to get our kids to Heaven," he stressed.

The Diocese of Yakima welcomes Bob Seidel to his new role!



Bob Seidel



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NEWS

From Around the Diocese

Education Awards To Be Presented

The winners have been announced! Those who will be receiving the 2013 Champions of Catholic Education Awards at the Celebration of Faith event, October 12 at the Yakima Convention Center, have been chosen. The gala event, which begins at 5:30 p.m., is sponsored by the Central Washington Catholic Foundation.

Bishop Joseph Tyson will present the awards that evening. Recipients of the St. Thomas Aquinas Award for benefactors are the **De La Salle Christian Brothers** of California and **Mike and Clara Gamache** of Toppenish. The St. John Baptist De La Salle Award for Catholic school educators will be given to **Brother Dan Morgan** of La Salle High School, Yakima; **Judy Davis**, former principal of St. Paul Cathedral School, Yakima; and **Kathleen Cleary**, former principal of St. Joseph School, Kennewick. The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Award for religious education catechists will be presented to **Kay Shepard**, Wenatchee; **Graciela Gutierrez**, Mabton; and **Pat Stevens**, Moses Lake.

To make a reservation to attend the Celebration of Faith event, call the Foundation office at 509-972-3732 or go to www.cwatholicfoundation.org/celebration-of-faith-2013.

October Festival Set for St. Andrew's

St. Andrew's Catholic Church in Ellensburg has scheduled its annual October Festival for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday, October 3. Admission is free.

Come and choose from the many crafts, fruits, vegetables and baked goods available for purchase. Lunch, including homemade soup, bread, beverage and pie, will be offered for \$5 per person.

In addition, a raffle will be held with prizes including a quilt, afghan and American Girl doll – a great jumpstart for your Christmas list, or just for you!

St. Andrew's is located at 401 South Willow Street.

Read About Your Special Event

Are you planning a holiday bazaar? Have a special religious celebration coming up soon? If your parish or other Catholic organization has scheduled an event that's open to the public, let us know so that we can announce your plans in the Central Washington Catholic.

Remember that the deadline for each month is the first day of that month! Just let us know the name of the event, time, date and place, plus a little explanation of what's happening, along with a contact person's name and phone number.

You may email robert.siler@yakimadiocese.org or send your information to Christine Corbett Conklin, Central Washington Catholic, c/o The Diocese of Yakima, 5301-A Tieton Drive, Yakima, WA 98908.

Appropriate items will be run with no charge on a first-come, first-served basis as space is available.

Holy Apostles Church: Living Up To Its Name

By Christine Corbett Conklin

The Catholic parish in East Wenatchee really lives up to its name! In the spirit of their predecessors in the Bible, members of Holy Apostles Church go forth into the community each week to live out the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

One group in particular, called "Encuentro" (Encounter), is leading the way, observed Father Argemiro Orozco, who has served as pastor of Holy Apostles for six years.

"This group invites people from other churches all over to come here. They evangelize the community," he explained. "They reach out to the homeless, to alcoholics and drug addicts. They make dinner for Thanksgiving and invite people to come to the church hall."

One of Encuentro's major projects is organizing retreats, which have been known to draw as many as 170 participants. The church also offers Cursillos in both English and Spanish.

Set in the midst of a rich agricultural area, Father Orozco says that most of the Holy Apostles families are connected in some way to the farms, orchards and warehouses which are so prevalent. He describes this parish of more than 1,500 families as "a very humble people, hospitable, generous, very patient. They are a very holy people because they are doing what Jesus did."

Even the youth at Holy Apostles are showing the spirit!

"They're not afraid to go out and speak the truth," said Lorin Lathrop, who, with his wife, serves as a parish youth minister. Among the 35 or so young people in eighth grade through their senior year in high school who participate in the parish youth program, there is a willingness for everything from serving food at parish dinners to participating in annual summer youth conferences.

In the years he has been involved in the youth program, Lathrop says that he has seen the interest of young parishioners shift from "games and fun" to "more cerebral" discussions about the Catholic Faith and issues.

Of course, involvement of the younger parishioners is nothing new, suggests Ed Clark, a lector and Eucharistic minister who has been a member of Holy Apostles since "the beginning" when the parish was established in 1962 and construction of the church was completed in 1966.

"Even when the church was being built, the kids would have their little jobs," working along with their parents at the church site, he recalled.

Pastors who have led the way since these early days have included Fathers John O'Dea, Joseph Graaff, John Pearson, Seamus Kerr, Maurice Peterson, Francisco Higuera and now, Father Orozco. He is assisted by the parochial vicar, Father Roletto Amoy, and Deacons

Thomas Richtsmeier, Pete Fadich, Carlos Luna and Cary Parnell.

Major milestones in the parish history were the completion of a religious education wing in 1990; a church remodeling in 2005 with addition of large arches, a new altar and baptismal font, and conversion of a classroom into a chapel; and a phase II remodel in 2009 which included addition of a large narthex and kitchen, among other features.

As the church has grown, Hispanic parishioners have come to account for about 70 percent of the Holy Apostles congregation.

"We try to work together (with Anglo parishioners) and try to be one," said Deacon Carlos Luna. "We love one another. That's one of the best things about this parish!"

Irma Oliver, a parishioner for more than 30 years, recalls how, in about 1991, she helped begin CCD classes for Hispanic children.

"There were four kids that year," she said. "The next year, there were 135!"

Oliver noted how both Father Orozco and Father Amoy set a beautiful example for parishioners, "going out of their way" to care for others, including everything from visiting the sick to playing volleyball with students before or after CCD classes.

"Our two priests are wonderful," she said.

By reaching out to others, through visits to the sick and elderly, for example, both priests also help to evangelize the community, showing an example of Christ's love which helps to attract family members to take a closer look at the Catholic church, added Clark.

In turn, Father Orozco says that his parishioners teach HIM valuable lessons.

"I am very happy here," he said. "These people teach me how to be a good apostle."



Holy Apostles Church reaches out to the community.



Father Argemiro Orozco