



# CENTRAL WASHINGTON CATHOLIC

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Pāchu Washintin Chmuk Tātpas

OCTOBER 2014  
*Newsletter*

## Cardinal Francis George Visits Diocese of Yakima on 'Whirlwind Tour'

By Christine Corbett Conklin

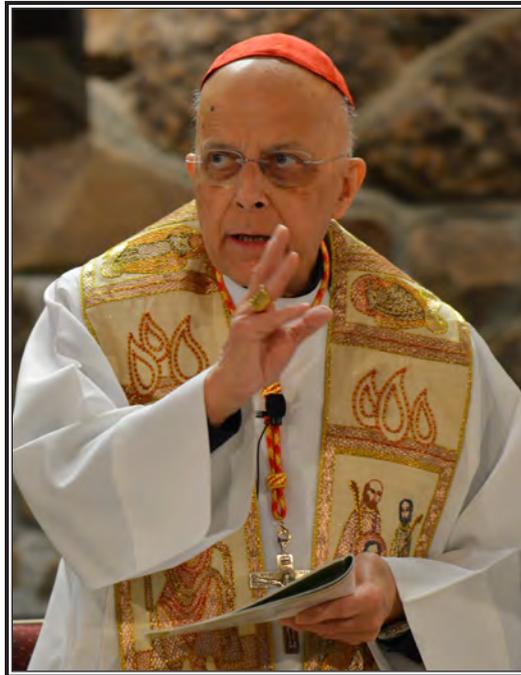
With a clear voice, a touch of humor and his characteristic gracious spirit, Cardinal Francis George returned to the Diocese of Yakima, October 10-12, for a whirlwind tour of events.

Once again under treatment for cancer and walking with crutches due to a foot infection, the Cardinal still managed to keep up with a very full schedule. He attended a press briefing, said Mass for the dedication of the Cardinal Francis George Gymnasium at La Salle High School in Union Gap and spoke during Morning Prayer for the diocesan Catechetical Congress at Holy Family Church in Yakima. He also addressed a crowd of 450 people at the Celebration of Faith event at the Yakima Convention Center and celebrated Mass at St. Paul Cathedral.

In addition, the weekend included many special moments with individual parishioners – from receiving thanks from a 21-year-old man for whom the Cardinal had prayed when, 17 years ago, the young man was suffering from leukemia; to a blessing of rosaries brought to him by a Yakima woman who said she approached the Cardinal “between the salad and main courses” of the Celebration of Faith dinner.

Speaking to a gathering of catechists, priests, deacons and religious at Holy Family Church on October 11, Cardinal George noted that it was “a great joy” to be back in Yakima where he had served as Bishop from 1990 to 1996. He is currently in process of retiring as Archbishop of Chicago, a post he has held since 1997, following service as Archbishop of Portland, Oregon.

He joked about how, for the past 17 years, one particular reporter in Chicago has been asking him, “How do you feel?” The



Cardinal George led Morning Prayer at Holy Family Church in Yakima. -Photo by Gustavo Rubin

Cardinal has kept suggesting that, instead, the reporter should ask him, “What do you think?”, he said.

“Do we lead with our heart or do we lead with our head?”, he asked those gathered for Morning Prayer. What brings it all together is that “you are servants of love and stewards of faith,” he told the gathering. “As catechists, you must put heart and head together.”

“The most important lesson that any of us can learn is that God loves us with a love that is infinite,” he added. “There is no one who needs to be lost because Jesus doesn’t love them,” he noted, recounting a question once asked of him by a fellow passenger on a flight from Italy to Argentina, “Are you saved?”

“Jesus is still active today,” the Cardinal continued. “He is truly present in the sacraments of the Church. Jesus is a real Jesus, not the work of our imagination. Faith assures us that we are talking about Someone who is real.”

Cardinal George charged the audience to embrace this “living Faith.”

“Some think the Church is there just to tell us what to do,” he observed. In fact, it is there to “liberate us.”

“People who are free are filled with joy,” he suggested. “Love then enables us to live God’s plan. Faith enables us to focus. Faith and love are together in Christ Jesus. We are blessed with that Faith,” he emphasized.

Later in the day, at the Celebration of Faith event, the Cardinal spoke about the importance of Catholic education. He expressed appreciation to all those who generously support Catholic education in our Diocese. Funds raised from this event will provide grants for students to attend Catholic schools and support parish religious education programs.

Please keep Cardinal George in your prayers as he continues with his cancer therapy.



Cardinal George greeted Sister Lucia Hinojosa during a break in the Celebration of Faith event. -Photo by Rick Baumgardner, Baumgardner Imaging

## Annual Catholic Appeal Provides Crucial Support

“You are members of the family of God ... with Jesus Christ as the Capstone” is the theme of the upcoming 2014 Annual Catholic Appeal, with the pledge weekend scheduled for the Diocese of Yakima on November 8 and 9.

Taken from St. Paul’s Letter to the

Ephesians (2: 19-21) these powerful words from Scripture are a reminder that parishioners in the Diocese’s 41 parishes share one Faith, and are one family, said Bishop Joseph Tyson.

“Some of us go to Mass in Spanish. Some of us go to Mass in English.

Some of us have roots in the German- or French-speaking world of our parents and grandparents. Others of us have roots in Mexico,” Bishop Tyson said in a recent letter to Catholics throughout the Diocese. “Some of us have been here for centuries

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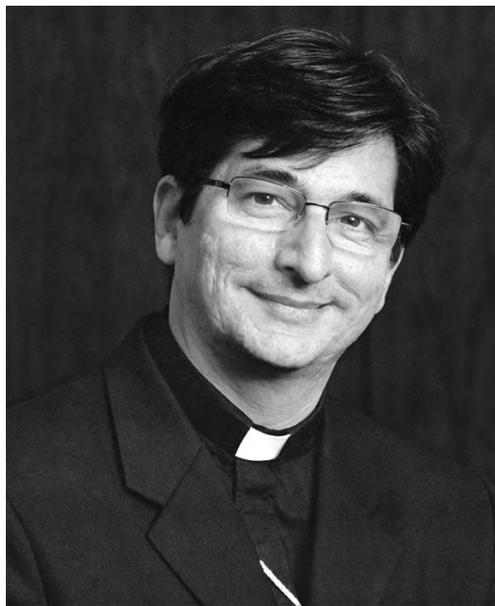
# A Message from Bishop Tyson...

Dear Friends,

October is here and we are now deep into the new school year.

October is also always a very full month with our annual Catechetical Congress. We welcomed more than 400 participants. This year, Cardinal Francis George came for a pastoral visit including Morning Prayer and a homily at Holy Family Parish in Yakima. This was the parish where Cardinal George was ordained as a bishop prior to his serving here from 1990 to 1996. In his own comments he noted that Yakima was also the place where he "... learned to be a bishop..."

Indeed, we are all learners. That might be the thread of connection between the various stories in this month's Central Washington Catholic. Whether we are making a pilgrimage to the Holy Land



*Bishop Joseph Tyson*

learning about the place Jesus lived, or coming to the Diocese of Yakima youth convention, or coming to the Catechetical Congress, or deepening our understanding and practice of the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola

with other parishioners, we are all ultimately learners in the spiritual life. And only a good learner can be a good teacher.

Cardinal George's pilgrimage served as a strong reminder of our long and deep history of learning and formation here in the Diocese of Yakima. I hope these columns inspire you in your own pilgrimage, be that physical or spiritual. I hope you find ways to become better learners through our many learning opportunities here in the Diocese of Yakima. As always, it's a great privilege for me to serve you as the first among learners – the Bishop of Yakima.

With my every best wish and blessing,

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Joseph J. Tyson  
Bishop of Yakima

## Ignatian Day of Prayer Scheduled

"Finding True Freedom with the Holy Spirit" is the title of an Ignatian Day of Prayer planned for Saturday, November 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the St. Joseph School Gymnasium, 202 N. Fourth St., in Yakima.

The Day of Prayer will introduce participants to Ignatian Spirituality (based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola) to help draw them closer to God. Activities include learning to prayer the Examen, a technique of prayerful reflection on the events of the day in order to detect God's presence and to discern His direction. Participants will also be taken through a guided meditation.

A \$25 donation is asked to help pay for lunch and prayer materials. But no one will be turned away because of an inability to pay. The Day of Prayer is sponsored by the Ignatian Spirituality Center of Yakima (ISCY), [www.iscy.webs.com](http://www.iscy.webs.com), and the Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life Tri-Cities (SEEL), <http://etcpress.net/prayerday>.

For reservations or more information, contact Michelle Record, (509) 930-8900, or contact the sponsors on Facebook at Ignatian Spirituality Northwest, [iscyakima@gmail.com](mailto:iscyakima@gmail.com) or [spiritualexercises@msn.com](mailto:spiritualexercises@msn.com).

## Pilgrimage to Holy Land Planned

Make this coming Lenten season truly memorable by joining in a Spanish-language pilgrimage to the Holy Land, led by Father Felipe Pulido, pastor of St. Joseph Church in Yakima.

The pilgrimage, which will include visits to Cana, Nazareth, the River Jordan, Jericho, Jerusalem, Bethlehem and the Sea of Galilee, among other highlights, is scheduled for March 16-25.

For more information, contact Cecelia Butterfield at (509) 961-1823 or email [Celiab@interp.com](mailto:Celiab@interp.com).

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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# Annual Catholic Appeal Provides Crucial Support *Continued from page 1*

being in the Yakama Nation or one of the other tribes. But – and this is key – we are all ‘members of the family of God ... with Jesus Christ as the Capstone.’”

The goal for the 2015 ACA, which funds many of the Diocesan Pastoral Center’s ministries and services, is \$1,551,554, up \$25,759 from the 2014 campaign. The increase reflects a small increase in Sunday giving in the parishes, as each parish’s goal for the ACA is set at 16 percent of the regular Sunday income from the previous fiscal year (July 1 to June 30).

As of September 30, total pledges of \$2.09 million had been made, with \$1.84 million collected. Income to the Diocese was just \$21,891 short of the \$1.52 million goal, one of the best performances ever. Anything received over a parish’s goal is returned in the form of a rebate, so parishes were in line to receive a total of \$347,234, with the potential for an additional \$231,718, should all pledges be fulfilled.

“The amount you give comes from your prayer. It does not matter how little or how much you give! What matters is that you give a sufficient amount so that you are challenged to change your spending habits,” Bishop Tyson said in his letter. “Why? Because ultimately the Annual Catholic Appeal is not about money. You are members of the family of God ... with Jesus Christ as the Capstone.”

The number of donors to the 2014 Appeal increased by 530 from the previous year, to a total of 7,526, with a majority from the Hispanic community. These crucial funds help to support six major areas throughout our Diocese:

- **Catholic Schools.** This covers everything from principal formation to enrollment planning, teacher day(s), Magnificat English catechetical program, and coaching and in-services for financial and human resource management.
- **Vocations.** This area provides for seminarian support services, high school men’s discernment program, Quo Vadis gatherings, marriage initiative, ongoing clergy formation and deacon formation.
- **Parish-based Religious Education.** This provides for the annual Catechetical Congress, Principal search process, consulting on financial and human resource management, Spanish Magnificat catechists’ formation program, English high school youth ministry, Hispanic youth ministry, formation for Spanish prayer group leaders and support for volunteer and staff resource management.
- **New Evangelization.** This includes the Parish Visitation Process and parish leadership development.
- **Parish Support Services.** This includes Pastoral and Finance Council consultation; the work of the Office of Canonical Concerns; Annual Stewardship Training seminars; the Annual Catholic Appeal training day; Safe Environment Policies management; Investment services for the parishes, schools and agencies; employees benefit services, including medical, dental, and cafeteria plans for parishes and schools; and management of insurance coverage and legal services for parishes and schools.
- **Charities and Ministry Outreach.** This provides for Campus Ministry at Central Washington University, support for St. Vincent de Paul and parish-based charities, participation in state-wide initiatives for pro-life services, and coordination of national and regional special collections.

Everyone is asked to be as generous as possible in support of the Annual Catholic Appeal. Remember that these dollars will come back to support vital services in your own parish!



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# NEWS

## from Around the Diocese

### Youth Convention Slated for Yakima —

Calling all youth! The Diocese of Yakima Youth Convention is scheduled for November 7-9 at Holy Family Parish in Yakima.

This year's convention will feature Jackie Francois, a speaker, singer and songwriter, who travels the globe talking about God's love. She will be joined by her husband, Bobby Angel, a campus minister and theology teacher.

The convention also will include workshops by Father Jaime Chacon, activities led by the Reach Youth Ministry Team and more. Contact Melissa Montenegro at [Melissa@ckparish.org](mailto:Melissa@ckparish.org) or (509) 946-1675, ext. 23, for details.

### Mass Remembers Deceased Clergy —

The annual Mass for Deceased Priests, Bishops and Deacons of the Diocese of Yakima, usually celebrated at Saint Paul Cathedral, will take place this year at Christ the King Parish in Richland on Tuesday, November 18, at 5 p.m. Many priests will be gathered in Richland that week for a special financial training workshop.

All are invited to attend the Mass to pray for those who have died after serving in the Diocese both before and after its founding in 1951. As November is the month Catholics traditionally pray for those who have died, let us keep all of our beloved dead in our prayers as well.

### Speaker Scheduled for Wenatchee —

Mark Shea, an author of several religious books known for his humorous, engaging style, will present four talks on Catholicism, November 21 and 22, at St. Joseph Church, Wenatchee.

Shea, a convert from the evangelical movement who has become an outspoken advocate of the Catholic Church, will discuss "101 Reasons Not To be Catholic" (and one even more important reason to be Catholic) at 7 p.m., Friday, November 21.

Sessions planned for Saturday, November 22, include "Making Senses Out of Scripture," an introduction to Scripture as the earliest Christians saw and read it, at 1 p.m. This will be followed by "This Is My Body," a discussion of the essence of the Church, at 3 p.m. The final presentation will be "Mary, Mother of the Son," about the biblical and deeply satisfying teachings about Blessed Mother, at 3 p.m.

St. Joseph Church is located at 625 Elliott Avenue South. Shea's visit is sponsored by the Divine Child Institute, with donations gratefully accepted.

## Immaculate Conception Church, Mabton: A Rich Heritage of the Catholic Faith

In the small farming town of Mabton, Washington, with a population of just over 2,300, Immaculate Conception Church is an important focal point of the community.

Its roots extend to the early 1900s when a Jesuit priest traveled by train from Yakima to Mabton to celebrate Mass in the home of one of the French Canadian Catholic families living in the area. In 1910, St. Mary's Parish was established in Mabton, later to be renamed Immaculate Conception.

In more recent years, pastors here have included Fathers John O'Dea, Robert Himes, Salomon Covarrubias-Pina, Gary Desharnais, Jaime Chacon and Mario P. Salazar. Today, the Jesuit tradition lives on, with Father William Vogel, S.J., serving as pastor, administering the parish from Resurrection Parish in Zillah. Fathers Jose Herrera and Gustavo Gomez provide sacramental services while serving as pastors of their own parishes in Grandview and Granger.

"The people here are very down-to-earth. They're very helpful in their community," observed Father Vogel. "They pitch in when things need to be done. People work together."

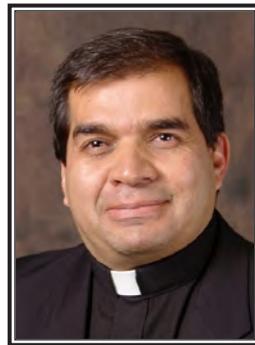
Whether it's sewing or laundering altar linens, or preparing the church windows for winter, you can always count on these parishioners, Father said. This year, the parish began a new tradition to draw even closer together, holding a parish festival in September in the Mabton park, he added.

Immaculate Conception Church is currently home to some 120 parish families. Special features of the traditional building include numerous religious statues, such as the Sacred Heart and namesake Immaculate Conception; a large picture of Our Lady of Guadalupe; ornate windows including a circular stained glass window; and painted Stations of the Cross. In addition to regular weekend Masses, once each month there is a celebration here of the Latin Mass.

"People like to come to Mass here because they like the atmosphere," observed Anna Charvet, whose (deceased) husband's family was instrumental in building the church. "It's a prayerful, serene atmosphere."

The size of the parish is also conducive to the sense of community.

"I really like that the parish is small. You get to know everybody there. Everybody knows you," observed Serapio Herrera, a



Father Gustavo Gomez

parishioner for 60 years and finance council member for the parish. During a recent family health crisis, everyone in the parish prayed, and parishioners took care of the family's garden and house when the Herreras needed to be in Seattle for a month. When they returned home, church members continued to be there for them, calling to check in and bringing food each day.

"I'm real proud of the whole community. They always care," he said.

"I like the small, friendly atmosphere of it. We're closer knit," agreed Teresa St. George, a parishioner for most of her life. "We get people from Prosser, Sunnyside and Granger" she added, noting that, in earlier days, it was mostly just folks from Mabton who attended here.

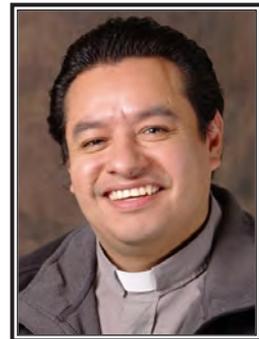
For Angelica Cisneros, a parishioner for 52 years, former religious education teacher and Spanish choir member, Immaculate Conception is "the church I grew up in."

She recalls, "We went when I was very young. Mass was still in Latin. I was married in the church. All (four) of my children were baptized there, received First Communion and prepared for Confirmation there. It's my heart."

"We've gone through a lot of changes with new people, lost a lot of our parishioners to aging, but the church still continues to be full," Cisneros added. "You can feel the spirit. Our priests have been good priests who deliver their messages well. I come out of there with a sense of peace and love."



Immaculate Conception Church is home to about 120 families in the Mabton area.



Father Jose Herrera