

St. Paul Cathedral
15 South 12th Avenue – Yakima, WA 98902-3169
(509) 575-3713
(509) 453-7497 (Fax)
[**parish@stpaulyakima.org**](mailto:parish@stpaulyakima.org)

August 24, 2017

“St. Paul Cathedral Parish is a diverse body of Catholic people whom God calls by name, given a mission by Jesus Christ to be a faithful sign, a realistic foretaste and an instrument of the Kingdom of God. As Cathedral Parishioners, we recognize our responsibility to show leadership by example and to provide service to God’s people.”

My Dear Parishioners:

Well, as this is being sent out to you, I am celebrating Masses of Christian Burial (2) for two of our former parishioners from many years ago. The first is for Pat (Patricia) Langevin. She & her husband and seven children lived here for many years, were parishioners that I met in 1958 when I first came to Yakima-especially through the Masses we used to celebrate at Holy Family Gymnasium long before the Church there was built. They were also founding members of that parish. They became extremely good friends & I have had the privilege of being “part of the family” for almost 60 years.

The other is Jamie Francis Ross, son of Al & Agnes Ross-one of 8 children of that great family, my association with goes back to my first days as St. Paul’s. They were enthusiastic members of the CFM, (Christian Family Movement) always ready to help whenever any need arose for parish and or school.

These two families are but a small example of the wonderful people that made up our Cathedral Parish 60 years ago & a foretaste of the almost 2,000 great people who form our parish presently. For our people are the Church!!; not the beautiful stately buildings or the land on which they are built, but the People of God are the Church. And it is a privilege to have been able to serve you as your pastor for so many wonderful years & with God’s help, I look forward to serving you in that same capacity for years to come. This is a great “Community of Faith”!! Please know this & contribute to its unity, vibrance & Evangelistic outreach as members of this special family of faith!!

What’s coming up for us as parish?

1. Christ the Teacher School, now on the grounds of Holy Family Parish, the successor of our Cathedral School founded 103 years ago with the establishment of St. Paul Parish, begins classes next Monday with a kickoff at Bale Breakers Sunday from noon-3PM. Why not stop out there & offer your encouragement to the faculty & staff? An upcoming Mass will be offered by our Bishop & concelebrants on Monday, August 28th at 10:00AM at Holy Family Church to which all are invited and an OPEN HOUSE will follow on Thursday, September 7th 6-7:30PM with a Barbecue at the school (corner of S. 56th & W. Chestnut Avenues) come & see!!!
2. Bishop Tyson will join with the concelebrating local priests for the opening Mass of LaSalle High School on Tuesday at 10:00AM in the school Commons. We are privileged to have this fine high school in our community & offer a welcome to our local high school students. Know you are welcome for this special Mass!!
3. As you know, Monday, September 4th is Labor Day when we recall, raise up, recognize & pray for all working people of every profession & trade especially those who contribute in any way to our own comfortable standard of living. We also pray for ourselves, as working people also, laboring to build up the Kingdom of God. A SPECIAL MASS WILL BE OFFERED THAT MONDAY AT 9:00AM IN OUR CATHEDRAL. A great way to begin a laid back day of leisure & maybe barbecues etc. (No 7:00AM mass that day.)
4. ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH OUR BISHOP WISHES TO HONOR ALL OUR MARRIED COUPLES AND TO UPHOLD FAMILY LIFE BY INVITING ALL WHO CELEBRATE SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES DURING 2017 TO JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING, RENEWAL OF VOWS & A RECEPTION FOLLOWING IN THE ASSEMBLY PLACE & GROUNDS AT 11:00AM IN OUR CATHEDRAL. BECAUSE HE WISHES TO PRESENT EACH COUPLE WITH A SPECIAL MOMENTO OF THIS OCCASION. WE ASK YOU TO CONTACT THE CATHEDRAL OFFICE 575-3713 or parish@stpaulyakima.org before Friday noon, September 8th at the latest. So, if you were married in 1992 (25 years), 1967 (50 years), 1957 (60), 1947 (70 years) or any other year you deem as significant (maybe even 2016) 1 year-please sign up at the office this week!!

5. As you are well aware, we are preparing to begin our Religious Education Program for adults through primary school. All previous participants in the Winter/Spring study of the Acts of the Apostles using the Little Rock Scripture Study program, are invited to continue the study. The classes begin **Tues., Sept. 19, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. and Wed., Sept. 20 at 7:00 p.m.** Also being offered on Wednesday evenings, starting Wed., **Sept. 20 at 7:00 p.m.**, will be a new class entitled "Prayer and Personality" given by Jeff Thompson. We will meet on the third floor of the school: Dining Room-Acts of the Apostles and Fireside Room-Prayer and Personality Study. The Acts of the Apostles class is closed; there is no registration required. For the Prayer and Personality Study, participants need a Bible, pen and a notebook. Registration forms may be dropped in the collection basket, at the office or mailed to the parish office. Please return your registration as soon as possible!! (Forms are in the vestibule pamphlet rack & at the office.) For registration Adults-Forms in Cathedral Vestibule, High School & SPY Edge-Shawn Exner, Grade School & Make-up Classes-Emma Mendoza (through parish office).
6. Even though its only August it's never too early to start discerning about the Annual Catholic Appeal for the support of our Diocese, so keep in mind now for future planning.
7. Let's not forget 9/11 and what transpired in our own country on that infamous day! We need to increase our prayers for peace & for the ending of violence against the innocent of the world. May we be truly, INSTRUMENTS OF GOD'S PEACE!
8. Your Parish Advisory Council meets next on Monday, September 18th at 7:00PM at the parish office meeting room. Concerns? Contact one of the members (pictures & names in vestibule of Cathedral).
9. "MAGNIFICAT" our Diocesan Education Program & also the preliminary introduction for the Permanent Diaconate Program begins another year on Saturday, September 30th at 9:00AM in the Cathedral Assembly Place with the Cathedral Liturgy Day open to all parishioners and those interested in the official liturgies of the Church. You will find new posters & information in the vestibule of the Cathedral for the Magnificat program & we invite & encourage your participation.
10. Coming up in October
 - a.) Annual Convocation of Priests when all our priests gather with our Bishop for 3 days of discernment, planning & prayer for our diocese-Tuesday-Friday, 3-6 of October at the Shiloh Inn in Richland.
 - b.) Catholic Foundation of Central Washington Gala-Saturday evening, 7th of October- Convention Center.
 - c.) Friday evening, October 6th-St. Martin's College Choir Concert at 7:00PM -Cathedral
 - d.) Bishop Sevilla here to preach at all Masses for "Cross International, a Catholic Outreach to those in need-weekend of 14/15 October.
 - e.) 500th Anniversary of the Reformation & Martin Luther's proclamation-Sunday, October 29th with a joint commemoration with Central Lutheran Church, its pastors & people. Watch the bulletins for details.
11. As you know I am actively involved with the Yakima Association of Churches & Faith Communities. We need to keep up our prayers & efforts for unity among Christ's followers and recommend this prayer intention to you, especially as we commemorate this 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Well, I hope & pray that you have enjoyed this rather hot summer. We are happy to have the West Chestnut Christian Academy as our tenant for our Cathedral School building & I look forward to a continuing relationship with them, (we are open to other nonprofit tenants in the future). God bless all of you & know that we are here for you. May we pray for one another.

Devotedly in Christ,



Rev. Msgr. John A. Ecker - VG
Pastor