

St. Paul Cathedral
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September 28, 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:

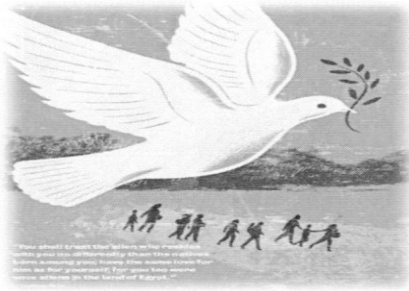
I hope & pray you all survived the intensely hot summer & the smoky Fall. Who knows what’s next? (Except we need but look to Houston or the Caribbean Islands & Florida, or to the area in Mexico with earthquake damage to realize how blessed we really are here. What’s ahead for us?

1. The first event is our Cathedral Liturgy Day this Saturday, beginning at 9:00AM in our Assembly Place & Cathedral. While mainly for those involved in the MAGNIFICAT program, a diocesan training process in the teachings of our Faith, it is open to any interested persons. Please join us!!
2. The next three items are on the posters on the accompanying sheet & all taking place the weekend of October 6-8. We also will welcome the choir of St. Martin’s University at the 9:00AM Mass on that Sunday. Let’s plan to give them a warm welcome both at the concert & the Mass. If you know of anyone who has a relationship with St. Martin’s with having studied there or having family members there, as a student, please alert them to this concert. It is a real blessing for us to be able to welcome this fine choir to our parish. The other posters refer to our Celebration of Faith & Father Boyle’s special forum on violence.
3. Your priests will be out of the parish next week, Tuesday afternoon until Friday afternoon for their annual Convocation, a time of prayer, study & planning for our Diocese at the Shiloh Inn in Richland. Eucharistic Services will be held Wednesday through Friday at the usual Mass times. Please pray for us as we gather together.
4. We wish to congratulate our own Rick Pinnell, Chairperson or our Parish Finance Council on his award to be presented to him on October 12th, the prestigious Ted Robertson Award for outstanding volunteer contributions to community & local needs. No one is more deserving of this award and we rejoice with Rick & Mary Jo on the reception of this honor.
5. The weekend of October 14/15 we welcome back Bishop Sevilla who since his retirement as our bishop, took on himself the task of preaching for “Cross International” dedicated to assisting the poor churches in developing parts of the world. He will speak at all Masses that weekend on behalf of that organization. Let’s give him a warm welcome!!
6. Sunday, October 29 is REFORMATION SUNDAY when we commemorate the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther’s beginning of the Protestant Reformation & led on our church to a long process of reforming itself and is still continuing under the leadership of Pope Francis. To mark this important event in the Christian world, St. Paul Cathedral & Central Lutheran Church, our neighbor are joining in a city & area wide celebration of Reformation Sunday extending an invitation to all our sister parishes in the Yakima vicinity to join us. Beginning at 3:00PM in our Cathedral we will proceed to Central Lutheran for the second half of the service. Both our bishop & the bishop of the Washington Idaho Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America will participate, each speaking in the opposite church. I hope we will have a huge representation from our parish. That same day, I will go & preach at Central Lutheran 9:00AM worship service & Pastor Carolyn Hellerich will speak at the 11:00AM Mass here. May we grow in understanding & respect of our fellow Christians remembering that there is a great deal more that unites us than divides us as we together profess our faith in Jesus Christ.
7. By the way, just to alert you, Wednesday, November 1st is All Saints’ Day, a Holyday of Obligation with All Souls’ Day the following day. November is the Month of the Holy Souls when we especially remember our deceased relatives and friends. Two references are appropriate for our remembrance.
 - a.) A Special Altar for the Dead will be set up in the baptistery area of the Cathedral on which we invite you to place pictures of your deceased beginning the weekend of October 28/29.
 - b.) Special envelopes are in your monthly packets and also in the vestibule where you can list your departed family/friends & those will be placed on the altar for remembrance at all Masses in November. (They can be placed in the collection or dropped off at the office.

8. October is the month of the Holy Rosary & we encourage you & your families to pray the rosary for peace during this month. Rosaries will be available in the vestibule for your convenience.
9. October is also “Respect Life” month and the Masses of the first Sunday of the month will include that special intention. Cardinal Bernardin’s famous “seamless robe” analogy was put forth to embrace all the facets of respect for life, honoring life from Conception to Natural Death. What can we do to illustrate we have a true respect for life or conviction? We can first of all, hold an anti abortion belief, we can speak up for the voiceless in our society, join in our efforts for newborns & their parents through PREPARES; we can use our influence for ‘Dreamers’ and all those in the DACA process; we can welcome & help new migrants among us as well as assist & support those who have lived among us for many years; we can visit the sick; lovingly care for the elderly and those who are physically, emotionally and/or mentally challenged etc. etc. To respect life includes all life regardless of ethnic, racial or geographical backgrounds, sexual orientation or social status. Our Cathedral, as Pope Francis enunciates is not a “haven for only the holy” but a hospital open to all & in respecting life we live as we are challenged to be accepting, supportive and defending all lives & circumstances of life.
10. Just to make sure we are not missing anything for the next month. Our Diocesan Mission Congress (formerly the Religious Education Conference) is being held at Holy Family Church area also in October.

CHURCH MISSION CONGRESS

Register Today!



Diocese of Yakima Presents:
Church Mission Congress 2017
Encounter Christ on the Journey of the Pilgrim Church
Saturday, October 14th 8:00a.m.-4:00p.m.
Holy Family Church Campus
Yakima, WA

The day will include:
 Prayer and Reflection* Key note Speakers * Great Food and Merchandise Vendors* Raffle Prizes* Workshop Tracks in: Catechesis, Youth Curriculum, Adult Curriculum, Adult Formation.

Register at www.yakimadiocese.net
 Deadline for registrations is October 2nd - \$20
 *After the deadline, registrations will only be accepted the day of the event - \$25

As we all share the responsibility of passing on the Faith & building up the Church, here’s an opportunity for us to receive support and make new friends & partners for our work as Disciples of the Lord.

11. I forgot to mention that Bishop Tyson’s “special” birthday (ending in a zero) is also in October-the 16th to be exact. Send him a greeting. Even bishops need to get affirmation! (5301-A Tieton Yakima 98908)
12. Of course our Annual Catholic Appeal providing us with a share in the mission of the “greater Church”, the Diocese of Yakima is also happening in October beginning the weekend of 21/22 and I highly recommend this appeal to your generosity as Good Stewards of God’s blessings. If you are a previous contributor, you will receive an envelope in the mail. But for your convenience, here is another one in this mailing in case you might have misplaced the other one. Pledge Sunday is the weekend of November 4/5, but you don’t have to wait until then. Our goal this year is \$87,056.08 just a few dollars less than last year’s goal of \$87,203.00 We received a rebate of over \$65,000 this year, enabling us to balance our 2016-17 yearly budget & pay our bills. So, THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION & GENEROSITY this past year & please be good stewards for our 2018 ACA (The Diocese needs our support and your parish needs the rebate.)

I realize that this mailing includes a lot to plow through but I know it provides so many opportunities for Faith Enrichment & Education, challenges to your generosity & opportunities for learning & experiencing a deeper Faith Life in the Lord. Thank you for being such a responsive & responsible People of Faith. As I mentioned so often, it is a privilege & pleasure to serve you as your Pastor!!

Devotedly in Christ,

Rev John A Ecker

Rev. Msgr. John A. Ecker - VG
 Pastor