

**St. Paul Cathedral**  
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March 30, 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.*”

Dear Parishioners:

A beautiful time of year as we approach the most sacred week of the year: HOLY WEEK!! In just two weeks we will celebrate our own salvation with remembering the most important events of the life, death & resurrection of Jesus. Until then & following Easter, what is coming up for our parish?

1. This Sunday we have our annual collection for Holy Week/Easter flowers & environment as you leave Mass. Please be generous & thank you, in advance, for your support.

2. Anticipating the great Holy Week Triduum, this week we have in our Cathedral one of the most important & meaningful Masses of the year-our annual Chrism Mass on Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM. Bishop Tyson will consecrate & bless the Sacred Oils used in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders and Anointing of the Sick & the priests of our Diocese will renew their commitment to service of our people. It is a glorious celebration and I extend a personal invitation to come & join us, especially if you plan on receiving on the fore mentioned sacraments this year. Our bishop will be assisted by the priests & deacons of the Diocese.

3. Also next week we have our annual Lenten Celebrations of Reconciliation (Communal Penance Services) and the priests of the Yakima area will assemble in our four local parishes to celebrate with you God’s mercy & forgiveness.

On Wednesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>  
4:00PM-Holy Redeemer Church  
7:00PM-Holy Family Church

On Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>  
4:00PM-St. Joseph’s  
7:00PM-HERE IN OUR CATHEDRAL

Take advantage of this wonderful God given opportunity to be reconciled with yourself, one another & with God Himself.

4. A week from Sunday is of course PALM SUNDAY when we commemorate & re-enact Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem with solemn Blessing of Palms at 10:40AM (English) & 12:30PM (Spanish). Palms will be distributed before all weekend Masses. You probably remember George Alateen who makes hand crafted olive wood statues & gifts available to us each year from the Holy Land. He will be near & in the Assembly Place at Palm Sunday Masses. Your purchases benefit the Christians living in Holy Land

5. Just an updating of the Holy Land Week schedule for your convenience.

**EVENING MASSES & DEVOTIONS HOLY WEEK**

Monday: April 10th  
Sung Lenten Evening Prayer 5:30PM Chapel

Tuesday: April 11th  
Lenten Evening Mass 5:30PM (Chapel)  
Soup, Sandwich & Video-6:00PM School Cafeteria  
Spanish Mass & Via-Crucis 7:00PM

Wednesday: April 12th  
STATIONS OF THE CROSS 5:30PM Chapel  
Usual morning Masses; Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday this week.

HOLY THURSDAY: April 13th  
SOLEMN MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER  
7:30PM-Cathedral (No morning Mass)

GOOD FRIDAY: April 14th  
CELEBRATIONS OF THE LORD’S PASSION  
7:30PM  
VIA CRUCIS & SPANISH CELEBRATION  
5:00PM IN THE SCHOOL  
(No morning Mass or Adoration)

HOLY SATURDAY: April 15th  
SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL-8:30PM  
No morning Mass-No scheduled Confessions  
Remember, there is no evening Mass on Easter Sunday.

6. Also note the traditional service of meditations on the Seven Last Words of Christ held every Good Friday at St. Joseph's Church at noon by the Yakima Association of Churches & Faith Communities, an interdenominational presentation of one hour on Good Friday. Offerings will be presented to the Food Bank to feed the hungry.

7. An alert especially to our Mexican people!! On Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> immigration lawyers & specialists will be available at St. Joseph Church to present information and explain rights of persons facing possible deportations-following the 11:00AM, 1:00 & 7:00PM Masses. This is very important information for your protection and in order to know your rights in the United States. Fr. Felipe, Pastor, has extended an invitation to our parishioners to join them for this presentation. Put on your calendar now!!

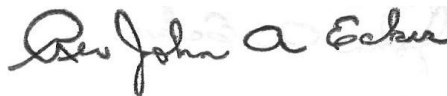
8. "PREPARES" A Catholic Church response to expectant and new mothers (especially unmarried women) which cares for & provides psychological & maternal assistance to anyone seeking help-is beginning in our Diocese. Are you willing and/or interested in being part of this ministry, which assists for the first five years of the child's life? Contact me this coming week.

9. We are in an ongoing partnership with McKinley school-our local K-5<sup>th</sup> grade public school. Check the bulletins for current efforts & needs. We also reach out to Rod's House each month, preparing meals for homeless youth & in sandwich making each week for the homeless, Info? See me.

10. As you are undoubtedly aware, our Cathedral School will be moving to a new site-behind Holy Family Church. About 70% of the school children come from West of 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue, the boundary between ourselves & Holy Family Parish. There's lots of grass for recess & play-an upgraded school building & more room. We'll keep you informed as to time, dates etc. Meanwhile keep this process in your prayers for a smooth & peaceful transition.

Bishop Tyson, Monsignor Siler, Fathers Juan Flores & Darell Mitchell and our parish staff join me in wishing you all the joys and blessings of the upcoming Easter Season. May the Risen Lord be with you & your families & loved ones.

Devotedly in Christ,



Rev. Msgr. John A. Ecker - VG  
Pastor

P.S. Read & study the statement "In Unsettled Times" from the USCCB enclosed in this mailing.  
Thank you.