

St. Paul Cathedral
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March 15, 2018

“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:

As you are so well aware, “Spring is Sprung” and we are right around the corner from Holy Week & the beautiful & inspirational celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord. Even though we have put the following schedules in the bulletins, I wish to repeat them so that the word can get out to as many people as possible.

1. This next week, two extremely important events: The first: our annual Chrism Mass celebrated by our bishop & priests of the Diocese assisted by our Diaconate Community. This Mass marks the blessing & consecration of the Sacred Oils used in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick & Holy Orders. It is also the opportunity for all our priests to renew their promises made at their ordination to faithfully serve the people of our Diocesan Church and beyond. A special invitation to all those being confirmed this year to join us for this celebration next Tuesday at 7:00PM in our Cathedral (No 5:30PM or 7:00PM Spanish Mass).

The second important event is our Lenten celebrations of Reconciliation, Communal Penance Services in which all our local priests from the greater Yakima area will be available for Confession here in our Cathedral next Thursday at 7:00PM. Other opportunities are as follows:

Wednesday, March 21st

4:00PM: Holy Redeemer Church

7:00PM: Holy Family Church

Thursday, March 22nd

4:00PM St. Joseph Church

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE GOD-GIVEN OPPORTUNITIES TO CELEBRATE GOD’S INFINITE MERCY & FORGIVENESS!! (No Stations of the Cross or Thursday 5:30PM Mass next week.)

2. Don’t forget our beautiful Mondays of Lent Sung Lenten Evening Prayer the next few Mondays. This is an inspirational ½ hour of meditation prayer with the Universal Church at 5:30PM in our Chapel.
3. Also our Lenten Soup, Sandwich & Video. Although there is none next week due to the Chrism Mass we have one more on Tuesday, March 27th. Signup sheets will be in the Cathedral for weekend Masses that Sunday.
4. Repetitious as it might be, I will repeat the Holy Week/Easter schedules at our Cathedral:

Palm Sunday, March 25th

Blessing & Procession of Palm 10:40AM-Other Masses (Saturday 5:30PM, Sunday 7, 9 & 11AM 1PM Spanish & 7:00PM Life Teen). Blessing of Palms & Procession in Spanish outside school cafeteria at 12:30PM.

Monday, March 26th

Mass-7:00AM

Sung Lenten Prayer 5:30PM

Tuesday, March 27th

MASS-8:00AM & 5:30PM (7:00PM Spanish)

Soup, Sandwich & Video-6:00PM

Wednesday, March 28th

MASS-7:00AM

Stations of the Cross 5:30PM

HOLY THURSDAY, March 29th

No morning Mass or 5:30PM

MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER-7:30PM

Adoration until 10:00PM

GOOD FRIDAY, March 30th

Commemoration of the Passion of Christ-7:30PM

HOLY SATURDAY, March 31st

Solemn Easter Vigil-8:30PM

No scheduled Confessions or Morning Mass

EASTER SUNDAY, April 1st

MASSES 7, 9 & 11AM (1:00PM Spanish)

NO 7:00PM EVENING MASS

5. Bishop Tyson, Msgr. Siler, Fathers Darell Mitchell, Francisco Higuera & Juan Flores as well as our intern Edgar Quiroga join our parish staff in wishing & praying for you a holy & happy Easter! May God bless you & yours with all the joys of this beautiful season of the Resurrection of the Lord!!
6. Our Parish Advisory Council under the leadership of Sandy Hays, President will meet on Monday, April 9th at 7:00PM. If you have any concerns, contact her, one of your priests or council members.
7. Our next Mass for Anointing of the Sick will be offered on FRIDAY, APRIL 13TH at 12:07PM. If you are chronically ill, facing or recovering from surgery, over 65 or in need of God's healing, please join us for this great Sacrament of healing & invite your friends to join us. Following this Mass, a luncheon for seniors will take place in the school cafeteria at 1:00PM. For reservations call Yvonne Lane 457-8792 or Diana Cortez 307-3165. Monday that week.
8. We face a financial challenge for our parish in that, with the movement of our school to Christ the Teacher at Holy Family Parish and subsequent loss of school income to help pay the bills for the maintenance of the building, we find ourselves in a financial squeeze. (The utilities alone add up to over \$60,000 a year.) The main floor is leased out to the West Chestnut Academy, but we use the ground and 2nd floors for our Religious Education program & the third floor for Life Teen & SPY Edge and for dinners, funeral luncheons, adult education sessions, RCIA etc etc. To make these floors available for our people, we have to replace our aging elevator at the approximate cost of \$350,000. At the same time we would like to minimally redo our 4th floor old rooms which used to be the sleeping quarters for our sister, showers & lavatory facilities to be able to rent them out for retreats, cursillos and similar meetings. I'm presently waiting for an estimate on the cost of these improvements and will, in the near future, reveal this to you. No work has been done to that area for many years and it is time for a refreshing & renewal. Our building is a tremendous (if costly) resource for our parish, so keep in mind that we shall initiate some kind of capital fund drive within a few months. Details will follow.

I offer my own personal prayers for you for this beautiful Spring/Easter season. Please remember me in return.

Devotedly in Christ,



Rev. Msgr. John A. Ecker - VG
Pastor

P.S. Also don't forget our annual reflection on the 7 Last Words of Christ at noon on Good Friday at St. Joseph Church.