



The DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

News of the Diocese of Baker

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Parish News: St. Patrick, Heppner

After CCD classes at St. Patrick were suddenly closed last Spring due to COVID, Religious Education Director, Deborah Wryn, wasn't sure if the teachers were comfortable with returning to the Parish classrooms in the fall. Meeting in August (2020), the dedicated group of volunteers which included school teachers, ranchers, a pharmacist, an insurance adjuster, and a financial advisor, decided they were ready and committed to educating the parish's Kindergarten through 12th grade youth. With a new curriculum, Our Sunday Visitor's Alive in Christ, and COVID restrictions implemented, classes could resume in September—several months before the local school district was able to open up.

The elementary grades - combined with the First Communion class - met separately. Class times were cut back to an hour, snacks eliminated, and sadly, no Christmas program. But retired music teacher, Wryn, is looking forward to another successful musical this December. As in 2020, Father Thankachan is at CCD every Sunday morning between Masses—stopping by each class to say hello.

The older students continue to meet Wednesday evenings: first, sharing a meal prepared by parents, then separating into Confirmation class and High School student class. Father Thankachan is involved with lessons and discussions such as the saints, faith, parables, and holy days of obligation. Then it's time for games, activities and fellowship. Plans are underway for students doing service projects. They all come together at the end of the evening for a short prayer.

Wryn notes, "This past year, students are taking an active role at Sunday Masses. Once a month a different grade shares the Lector responsibility of the Liturgy readings, Mass intentions, Offertory collection, and announcements. This gives our adults a chance to see the younger generation become a part of our church community." She also mentions how fortunate St. Patrick's is to have the involvement of Father

Thankachan, the teacher's support especially with the new curriculum, and parents who send their students every week.



Top: Claire Lindsay and Maya Payne enjoy a Wednesday evening meal before their Confirmation Class.

Middle: Brothers Adan and Owen Guerra at the Wednesday evening meal before CCD class.

Bottom: Charlie Mullins and Johnny Ashbeck in their Sunday morning CCD class.

Thoughts Along The Way: St. Joseph's Vocation

This column is a revision of a recorded homily given at all Masses on 25 April 2021.

The Gospel we just heard gives this 4th Sunday of Easter its name: Good Shepherd Sunday. And Good Shepherd Sunday always does double duty as World Day of Prayer for Vocations. To these two layers of meaning Pope Francis added yet another when he declared 2021 as the Year of St. Joseph. We can bring these three themes together if we consider how God called Jesus' earthly father to be both carpenter and shepherd.

St. Joseph received a vocation to marriage, and he received it from an angel in a dream. "Do not fear to take Mary your wife," the angel told him. "She will bear a Son, and you are to name Him Jesus" — that is, you are to be father to Him and husband to her. It was St. Joseph's vocation to shepherd the Holy Family through the perils that lay ahead of them — Herod's deadly jealousy, sudden escape into Egypt, re-settlement in Nazareth. His wife and his Son were to be this humble carpenter's path to sanctity, for his vocation to marriage was simultaneously a call to faithfulness, selflessness, and holiness. "A good shepherd lays down his life for his sheep," Jesus says. Did He learn this from the example of His earthly father?

On the night he received his vocation, St. Joseph's future was dark with uncertainty. So it is with us. "We are God's children now," St. John tells us in the second reading; "what we *shall be* has not yet been revealed." When it comes time to decide on the course of our life's direction, we are every bit as unsure of our future as St. Joseph was of his. Where will they lead, the possible paths before us — single life, marriage and family, priesthood or religious life?

We need to keep in mind what St. John Paul II called the "Gospel" of Vocation, for it is "good news" indeed. In choosing our life's path, we should not think the weight of decision is entirely on our shoulders. The Gospel of Vocation assures us that the God Who calls us out of darkness has already designed a life path uniquely suited to lead each of His children into His marvelous light. As St. Paul says, we were "created . . . for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them."

God has *prepared* them in advance, but we don't *know* them in advance. St. Joseph would discover that his vocation was the path of his heart's desire, but not until he walked it in obedience did he know that to be the case. Neither do we. Like St. Joseph, we have to give God a chance to be true to His promise to guide us every small step of the way along the path of His holy will for our life.

Pensamientos A Lo Largo Del Camino: La Vocación de San José

Esta columna es una revisión de una homilía grabada que se dió el 25 de abril 2021.



*Bishop Liam Cary
Obispo Liam Cary*

El Evangelio que acabamos de escuchar, le da nombre a este Cuarto Domingo de Pascua: El Domingo del Buen Pastor. Y el Domingo del Buen Pastor cumple doble función como el Día Mundial de Oración por Vocaciones. A estas dos capas de significado, el Papa Francisco agregó otra cuando declaró el 2021 como el año de San José. Así que juntemos estos tres temas y consideremos cómo Dios llamó al padre terrenal de Jesús para ser a la vez carpintero y pastor.

San José recibió una vocación al matrimonio, y la recibió de un ángel en un sueño. "No temas tomar a María como tu esposa", le dijo el ángel. "Ella dará a luz un Hijo, y *tu* le pondrás por nombre Jesús" — es decir, serás padre para Él y esposo para ella.

Fue la vocación de San José de pastorear a la Sagrada Familia a través de los peligros que les aguardaban — los celos furiosos de Herodes, la fuga repentina a Egipto, el reasentamiento en Nazaret. Su esposa y su Hijo iban a ser el camino hacia la santificación de este humilde carpintero, porque su vocación al matrimonio era simultáneamente un llamado a la fidelidad, al desinterés, y a la santidad. "El buen pastor da su vida por sus ovejas", dice Jesús. ¿Aprendió esto del ejemplo de su padre terrenal?

La noche en que recibió su vocación, el futuro de San José estaba oscuro con incertidumbre. Así es con nosotros. "Somos hijos de Dios *ahora*", dice San Juan en la segunda lectura; "pero aún no se ha manifestado cómo *seremos* al fin". Cuando llega el momento de decidir el curso de la dirección de nuestra vida, estamos tan inseguros de nuestro futuro como San José lo estaba del suyo. ¿A dónde nos llevarán, los posibles caminos que tenemos ante nosotros — la vida de soltero, el matrimonio y la familia, el sacerdocio o la vida religiosa?

Debemos tener presente lo que San Juan Pablo II llamó el "Evangelio" de la Vocación, y es en verdad una "buena nueva". Al elegir el camino de nuestra vida, no debemos pensar que el peso de la decisión recae sobre nuestros hombros solos. El Evangelio de la vocación nos asegura que el Dios que nos llama a salir de las tinieblas, ya ha diseñado un camino de vida especialmente adecuado para cada uno de Sus hijos. Como dice San Pablo, fuimos "creados . . . para las buenas obras que Dios ha preparado de antemano, para que vivamos en ellas."

Dios los ha *preparado* de antemano, pero nosotros no los *conocemos* de antemano. San José descubriría que su vocación era el camino del deseo de su corazón. Pero no podía *saber* eso hasta que lo caminó en obediencia. Nosotros tampoco. Como San José, tenemos que darle a Dios la oportunidad de ser fiel a Su promesa.

Bishop Cary's Schedule

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June 6

10:00 a.m. Confirmation Mass, *La Pine*

June 8

10:00 a.m.-Noon Cadio Meeting via Zoom

June 9

10:00 a.m.-Noon Native American Committee via Zoom

June 10

9:00-10:30 a.m. Catholic Home Missions Meeting via Zoom

June 14

Promotion & Defense of Marriage Meeting via Zoom



Parish News: *St. Thomas, Redmond*

The Hispanic Divine Mercy Group celebrated Holy Week with Father Oscar Mendez and Divine Mercy Sunday with Father Fredy Rodriguez. It was a blessing for all who attended this most holy season.

El Grupo Hispano de la Divina Misericordia en la Iglesia de Santo Tomás en Redmond celebró la Semana Santa con el Padre Oscar Mendez y el Domingo de la Divina Misericordia con el Padre Fredy Rodriguez. Fue una bendición para todos los que asistieron a esta temporada santa.

Congratulations to the following clergy who celebrated their ordination anniversaries in June!

Reverend Noel Hickie (Retired)June 11, 1967
 Reverend Cornelius Kiely (Retired).....June 11, 1967
 Reverend Stan Strzyz,
St. Helen St. Anthony HospitalJune 09, 1968
 Very Reverend Richard Fischer, VGJune 15, 1976
 Reverend Joseph Reeves (Retired)June 16, 1976
 Very Reverend Todd Unger, *St. Thomas*..June 29, 1982
 Reverend Robert Greiner, *St. John*.....June 24, 1993
 Reverend Ildefonce Mapara, OSBJune 29, 2000
 Very Reverend Charles Nnabuife,
St. Francis of AssisiJune 03, 2005
 Reverend Luis Flores-Alva,
Our Lady of GuadalupeJune 17, 2006
 Reverend Arsenius AnachoretaJune 17, 2006
 Reverend Víctor Mena, *St. Patrick*June 29, 2017
 Reverend Steve Garza,
St. Francis of AssisiJune 27, 2019

We are most grateful for the years of service of all our Priests and Bishop. Please keep them in your prayers.

Youth Ministry News: *St. Pius X, Klamath Falls*

Once a month the Youth Group with St. Pius X in Klamath Falls volunteer and cover the entire food pantry for 2 hours. They work all of the positions including greeting the clients, completing intake, packing and loading the boxes.

On March 7, the Youth Group prepared and hosted a soup supper for the local priests and religious in the area, including Father Emmerich Vogt, who was presenting the Lenten Mission. The youth and priests spoke about various topics including school, growing up in different countries, and their families. Everyone enjoyed the meal and time spent together.



SACRED RELICS OF THE SAINTS
TREASURES OF THE CHURCH
.....
RELIQUIAS SAGRADAS DE LOS SANTOS
TESOROS DE LA IGLESIA



The Diocese of Baker welcomes you to a teaching and exposition of Sacred Relics

Over 150 relics will be shown, some as old as 2,000 years. Among the treasures will be relics of: the Twelve Apostles, St. John the Baptist, St. Joseph, St. Maria Goretti, St. Thérèse of Lisieux (the “Little Flower”), St. Francis of Assisi, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Faustina Kowalska.

Come see the fragment of the Veil that belonged to Our Lady and some of the largest remaining pieces of the Wood of the True Cross in the world.

La Diócesis de Baker los invita a una enseñanza y exposición de Reliquias Sagradas

Se mostrarán más de 150 reliquias, algunas de hasta 2000 años.

Entre los tesoros habrán reliquias de: San José, Santa María Goretti, Santa Teresa de Lisieux, San Francisco de Asís, San Antonio de Padua, Santo Tomás de Aquino, y Santa Faustina Kowalska.

Vengan a ver el fragmento del Velo que perteneció a Nuestra Señora y algunas de las piezas más grandes que quedan de la Madera de la Verdadera Cruz en el mundo.

NORTHERN DEANERY

June 3, 2021, *Our Lady of Angels, Hermiston* 6:00 PM
June 4, 2021, *Our Lady of the Valley, La Grande* 6:00 PM

EASTERN DEANERY

June 5, 2021, *Blessed Sacrament, Ontario* 6:00 PM
June 6, 2021, *Holy Family, Burns* 1:00 PM

SOUTHERN DEANERY

June 7, 2021, *St. Pius X, Klamath Falls* 6:00 PM

CENTRAL DEANERY

June 8, 2021, *St. Thomas, Redmond* 6:00 PM

WESTERN DEANERY

June 9, 2021, *St. Peter, The Dalles* 6:00 PM

See www.TreasuresOfTheChurch.com for more information