

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)

November 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:

Another month: another chapter in the life of our Cathedral Parish. As this letter is being sent to you, I am in Houston visiting a former priest of our Diocese who is in failing health. Please keep in your prayers all who have served you as ordained clergy in our Diocese.

What’s ahead?

1. First of all we are privileged to host our Bishop, deacons & priests next Tuesday to our Cathedral for our annual Mass during November, the month of the Holy Souls, for our deceased priests, bishops & deacons. The Mass will be celebrated at 5:30PM in our Cathedral. Fr. O’Shea who was associate here for many years will be our homilist. This special annual Mass provides an opportunity to us to honor & affirm all our living priests, bishops & deacons as well as those who have died. PLEASE JOIN US!!
2. Then comes THANKSGIVING!! Three events I wish to elaborate on regarding this Holy/Holiday.
 - A. The first is our annual Interfaith Celebration of Thanksgiving on Wednesday, evening at 7:00PM in our Chapel-Thanksgiving Eve at 7:00PM. Please join us for this Ecumenical event-Reception following.
 - B. Second is THANKSGIVING DAY MASS in our CATHEDRAL at 9:00AM (no 8:00AM Mass) when we gather around God’s altar to thank Him for His continuous blessings.
 - C. The third is our Annual Thanksgiving Dinner for our parishioners & their friends who have no extended family locally or might otherwise be alone for dinner on that great day. Under the direction of our master chef-Will Chichenoff & his great crew of helpers, a full Thanksgiving Dinner with all the fixin’s will be served in our school cafeteria at 3:00PM with hors d’oeuvres & beverages at 2:30PM. While there is no charge reservations are essential!! Please contact the parish office and also if you wish to be part of the preparing & serving of this great meal!
3. The Feast of Christ King is the Sunday after Thanksgiving marking the end of the liturgical (Church) year. As is our tradition, we shall have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following the 1:00PM Spanish Mass which will remain until Benediction in the Chapel at 6:00PM-a time to thank God for all the blessings of the past year & to ask His favor for the new Church year. (Only 1 month from that Saturday to Christmas.)
4. That following Monday, November 26th, your Parish Advisory Council under the direction of Sandi Hays, President, will gather in the office meeting place at 7:00PM. Concerns or suggestions? Contact Sandi or one of the Council Members.
5. On Tuesday, November 27th we host our regional priests (Yakima Deanery) for their monthly meeting & luncheon at the parish rectory at 12:30PM.
6. Sunday, December 1st is the First Sunday of Advent-a new beginning in anticipation of the Coming of the Lord at Christmas. Included in this mailing are Advent Devotional Booklets to assist in your spiritual preparation for His Coming. I hope they will prove useful & helpful.
7. During Advent when you come to Mass each week, please think of our local needy & bring non perishable foods or Christmas gifts for families (adults & children)-mark on outside of wrapped presents what age & gender they will suit best.

8. One of the highlights each Lent & Advent is our Communal Celebration of Reconciliation which we hold in each of the 4 parishes of our city. Our own celebration will be THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6TH AT 7:00PM in our Cathedral. Other opportunities for Reconciliation before Christmas are:

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

4:00PM at Holy Redeemer

7:00PM at Holy Family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6TH

4:00PM at St. Joseph's

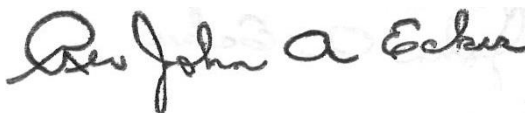
At each Church the priests of the Yakima area will be available for Confessions (English and/or Spanish). Prepare spiritually for the Feast of the Birth of the Lord!!

9. Saturday, December 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception Patronal Feast of our United States of America, and a HOLYDAY. Masses will be offered on Friday evening at 5:30PM or Saturday at 8:00AM and 12:07PM. May we gather to celebrate Mary's sinlessness and to pray for our own nation!!
10. On that same day, we are privileged and pleased to welcome the Concert Choir of our own Yakima Valley College for a concert in our Cathedral to mark the 90th Anniversary of our fine local college. Let's join in encouraging our local college music & those who make it. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8TH AT 7:00PM IN OUR CATHEDRAL.
11. The great Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is, of course, on Wednesday, December 12th! (Those who participate in Mass on that day fulfill the obligation for the Holy Day on the 8th.) We wish to thank in advance all who joined together to build the beautiful shrine to Our Lady, the Patroness of the Americas. Las Mañanitas will be held in the Cathedral 4-6AM on that Wednesday with Bishop Tyson as principal celebrant of the Mass at 7:00PM in the Cathedral. (There will also be a 7:00AM Mass in the Chapel to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe.) This is not only a celebration for those of Mexican heritage, but a Feast for all in which to participate.
12. The YLI (Young Ladies' Institute) will conduct their annual Christmas Cookie Sale after all Masses the weekend of December 15/16. Help them to help others-stop & behold & hopefully buy!!

Well that about does it for now; lots going on & lots to follow. Again if you haven't participated in the Annual Catholic Appeal for 2018, there's still time. Pledge envelopes are in the vestibule. So, until our Christmas mailing & parish calendar delivery keep holy & striving always to be better. I'm reminded of our high school (Boston College High School) motto "always to excel" including academically, morally, spiritually & humanly.

Blessings on you & yours. Our Bishop & fellow priests of our parish & beyond send their thoughts & prayers for you for a Happy & Blessed Thanksgiving & Advent Season.

Devotedly in Christ,



Rev. Msgr. John A. Ecker - VG
Pastor

P.S. Don't forget our beautiful tradition of Sung Advent Evening Prayer on the Mondays of Advent at 5:30PM in our Chapel. Please join us!!