

# PARISH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

MAILING ADDRESS: 7409 W. CLEAR WATER AVE, KENNEWICK, WA 99336

PARISH OFFICE: 7411 W. CLEAR WATER AVE, SUITE A, KENNEWICK

OFFICE: 509-735-8558

email: [office@holyspiritkennewick.org](mailto:office@holyspiritkennewick.org)

website: [www.holyspiritkennewick.org](http://www.holyspiritkennewick.org)

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/HolySpiritParishCommunity>

**FR. MICHAEL BRZEZOWSKI**

509-735-8558

[pastor@holyspiritkennewick.org](mailto:pastor@holyspiritkennewick.org)

**DEACON KEN ELLS**

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**DEACON MIKE GAULKE**

509-551-7626

[micaejere@msn.com](mailto:micaejere@msn.com)



**14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Whatever town you enter and they welcome you, eat what is set before you, cure the sick in it and say to them, "The kingdom of God is at hand for you." - Lk 10:8-9

**JULY 6, 2025**

## Parish Staff:

Secretary	Debbie Forgette	735-8558
Bookkeeper	Bianca Medina	735-8558
Parish Community Center (PCC) Coordinator	Michele Umemoto	735-1743

## Faith Formation:

Pre-school to 5th Grade	Karen Gorham	735-8558
6th to 8th Grades/Edge	Danielle May	528-9780
	& Kim Barany	308-3328
9th to 12th Grades/Life Teen	Jennifer Moore	492-6209
	& Joe Bliss	216-402-3118
	email: <a href="mailto:lifeteenrth@gmail.com">lifeteenrth@gmail.com</a>	
Confirmation	Deacon Mike & Carol Gaulke	551-7626
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults	Joe & Sherry Schroeder	405-2242

## Ministers of Music:

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass	Julianne Bamaby	735-2163
9:30 a.m. Mass	Paula Bachelor	375-9019
5:00 p.m. Mass	Perry Kelly	735-8558
Children's Choir	Presently Unstaffed	735-8558

## Ministries of Worship:

Scheduler for Liturgical Ministers	Trish Feeney	551-0486
Eucharistic Adoration	Liz Friedrich	783-6223
Prayer Line	Adele Ogryzek	627-0201
Altar Server Training	Zack Rinderer	582-2543

## Parish Ministries:

Mary Martha Prayer Group	Camille Henneberry	735-4858
Welcoming Committee	Jan Beardemphl	948-3367
PCC Nursery	Wynona Vaz	222-8982
Ministry to Sick and Shut-Ins	Deacon Eric Shaber	
	& Charlotte Shaber	208-521-7846

Bible Study	Judy Turner	438-7938
Women's Group	Linda Rego	221-1130
Weekend Mass Refreshments	Judy Urrutia	438-5039

## Councils and Committees:

Parish Council	Jim Carey	627-0321
Finance Council	Jared Liebert	947-9386
Stewardship	Lenice & Pat Nagle	582-6893
Evangelization	Rob Privette	438-1222
Voice of the Spirit	Dieter Bohrmann	987-3158
Parish Library	Ann Stevens	396-2723

## Charter Organizations:

Catholic Daughters	Linda Garner	627-2748
Knights of Columbus	Terrance Casey	531-8198
St. Vincent de Paul	Message Line	591-0632
Scout Troop #275	Teddy Herrera	778-0505

## Natural Family Planning:

Carol Gaulke 619-5464

## Weekend Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

## Weekday Masses:

Monday: 9:00 a.m.  
Tuesday: 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday through Friday: 9:00 a.m.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Tuesday: 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.  
or by appointment.

## Please visit our Holy Spirit Facebook page to join livestream events:

<https://www.facebook.com/HolySpiritParishCommunity>

## Office Hours: Monday through Friday

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and  
1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## The Sacrament of Baptism

Babies and young children are usually baptized during Mass on Saturday or Sunday, or on Saturday at 12:00 p.m. Call the parish office for a list of upcoming Baptism dates and to receive registration information for pre-Baptism classes. (735-8558)



## On Being Married at Holy Spirit ...

Engaged couples who wish to be married at Holy Spirit Parish are asked to contact the parish office at least nine months prior to their desired wedding date. The couple and the priest will then meet to begin the Marriage preparation program. (735-8558)

## Deaths

*What should I do when there is a death in my family?*

Please call the parish office and speak with the office staff and the pastor before making arrangements with the funeral home, to ensure that the church is available at the desired date and time. (735-8558)

## Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 6, 2025

Calendar for the Week: (Note: PCC = Parish Community Center)

### Sunday, July 6:

#### Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass in the church at 9:30 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Sacrament of Reconciliation, PCC room 9, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

Mass in the church at 5:00 p.m.



### Thursday, July 10:

#### Weekday

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

### Friday, July 11:

#### Saint Benedict, Abbot

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 9:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., in the vestibule. Concludes with *Prayers for Priestly Vocations* and *Prayers for Peace* at 4:30 p.m. and the *Rite of Benediction* at 4:45 p.m.

### Monday, July 7:

#### Weekday

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

### Tuesday, July 8:

#### Weekday

Holy Spirit Mommy and Me, PCC nursery, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation, CHURCH, 4:15 - 5:00 p.m.

Mass in the church at 5:30 p.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Scout Troop 275, PCC hall and room 5, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Council 10653 business meeting, PCC room 9, 7:00 p.m.

### Saturday, July 12:

#### Weekday

#### Blessed Virgin Mary

Sunday Vigil Mass in the church at 4:00 p.m.

### Sunday, July 13:

#### Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass in the church at 9:30 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Prayer Angels for Peace, PCC hall, 11:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation, PCC room 9, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

Mass in the church at 5:00 p.m.



### Wednesday, July 9:

#### Weekday

Saint Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs

Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Mary Martha Prayer Group, PCC room 5, 1:30 p.m.

Parish Council, PCC room 7, 6:00 p.m.



## From the Pastor's Desk ...

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT CONFIRMATION IN 2026:

The Diocese of Yakima is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2026. Given this special year in the life of the Catholic Church in Central Washington, Bishop Tyson is planning to celebrate a diocese-wide Confirmation Mass on Pentecost Sunday—**May 24, 2026**—at the SunDome in Yakima. The Confirmation Mass will be in the late afternoon on that Sunday, but the exact time has not been determined yet. Bishop Tyson is expecting that ALL the parishes in the Diocese of Yakima will send their candidates for Confirmation to this Mass. The Parish of the Holy Spirit will be complying with Bishop Tyson's request. Therefore, this means that there will NOT be a Confirmation Mass for youth at our parish in 2026.

**Please be mindful of the above information when we begin the registration period for Confirmation preparation later in the summer.** Youth wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2026 will need to make a commitment to participate in the Pentecost Confirmation Mass at the Yakima SunDome. There will not be any other options.

**The youth of our parish are now being Confirmed in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade**—after receiving *remote preparation* for Confirmation in our Edge (middle school) program in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, and then completing their *immediate preparation* for Confirmation the following year with Deacon Mike Gaulke, Carol Gaulke, and the other members of our Confirmation preparation team.

The transition from Confirming high school youth to Confirming middle school youth has been happening for three years, in every parish of the Diocese of Yakima. In compliance with the *Sacramental Preparation Policies* of the Diocese of Yakima, **two years of preparation are required for Confirmation of our parish's youth.** This requirement also applies to children preparing for First Eucharist at the Parish of the Holy Spirit.

God's Blessings,

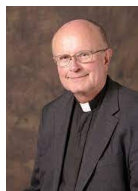
*E. Michael*

### DIOCESAN COLLECTION FOR PRIEST RETIREMENT AND SEMINARIAN EDUCATION

Thank you for your support of the annual **Diocesan Priest Retirement and Seminarian Education Special Collection.** This important collection supports our 17 retired priests who have faithfully served the Diocese of Yakima for many years; including **Fr. O'Shea** and **Msgr. Auve**. The collection also supports the 12 men studying for the priesthood for the Diocese of Yakima.



This is a cause worth supporting, in thanksgiving for our senior priests and as an investment in our future parish priests. Please also continue to keep our senior priests and seminarians in your daily prayers.



If you missed the collection, it is not too late to give. Your gift will certainly make a difference. Donation envelopes are available in the vestibule, or you may scan the QR code to give to this collection. For more information visit [www.yakimadiocese.org](http://www.yakimadiocese.org).



### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ICE CREAM BOOTH EVENTS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Water Follies is July 25th-27th, and the Benton-Franklin County Fair is August 19th-23rd. Anyone 14 or older can volunteer in the ice cream booth (under 16 must be with a parent or guardian). This is a great opportunity for family time and service to our parish and community. **We need help from all parishioners and member Knights.** Earnings from these events give us the funds necessary to continue our charitable endeavors, which focus on the Corporal Works of Mercy.

This year we have added the ability to sign up to volunteer via the internet. Please visit <https://kofc.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=100331> to sign up for your desired shifts. Additionally, you can email us at [kofcicecream@gmail.com](mailto:kofcicecream@gmail.com) or call David Konzek at 509-947-0517 or Deacon Ken Ellis at 509-948-4355 with questions or to volunteer.



**STEWARDSHIP:** “The harvest is rich,” Jesus tells the seventy-two in today’s Gospel, “but the workers are few.” The situation is the same today. How can I help with God’s harvest? Am I called into the field? Am I the one who could provide food or shelter or wages to those who toil in the fields of the Lord?

**May 31: \$21,082.28      Recorded givers: 76**

For online giving, visit:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/holy7409270>

Thank you for maintaining your financial support of our parish as you are able. If you’d prefer to mail an offering, please send it to **Parish of the Holy Spirit, 7409 W. Clearwater Ave., Kennewick, WA 99336**. If you are currently using offering envelopes and would like to switch to online giving (or bill-payer from your bank), please call the parish office so we can discontinue your envelope mailings with our printing service. Thank you.

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### When God Speaks Like a Polish Grandmother

A friend of mine had a Polish grandmother who was famous for giving her children some blunt advice every time they left the house: “Eyes straight ahead. Mind your own business.”

Every mother knows her children best, and this mother knew that hers liked to argue and sometimes liked to show off. She knew that could lead to trouble. She could not anticipate every scenario they would encounter each time they departed from her. All she could do was distill what she knew about life, safety, and manners into a few simple words, and hand them over to her children like a set of car keys. In this way, a woman who rarely said “I love you” expressed her devotion. And long after she was dead and buried, her aging sons, daughters, and grandchildren repeated these words to themselves, like a child wrapping himself in a warm blanket.

Jesus does much the same for us, in many portions of the Gospels. “Ask the master to send out laborers for his harvest...Carry no money...Eat what is set before you...Know that the Kingdom of God is at hand... Rejoice because your names are written in Heaven.”

Jesus knows us best — knows our strengths, but even more importantly, he knows our weaknesses. He doesn’t always have the space to address each of these explicitly in the pages of Scripture, but what he can do is distill the truth into a few simple words or phrases, and hand them over to us as food for our journey of discipleship. In this way God, who addresses the entire world and every soul who ever lived, also speaks intimately to each one of us.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

**All dates are tentative.**

Monday	July 7	David De Pauw RIP
Tuesday	July 8, 5:30 p.m.	Gabby Rehder RIP
Wednesday	July 9	Jim Johnston RIP
Thursday	July 10	Joseph (RIP) & Marilyn Panattoni
Friday	July 11	Sherry Clark
Saturday	July 12, 4:00 p.m.	Cecilia Miller
Sunday	July 13, 5:00 p.m.	Tatum Nicole Jackson RIP

The Sunday morning Mass is normally offered for the people of the parish.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of  
Deborah Bohlander, Angelo Tavernaro, and Tony Lopez.  
May they rest in peace with the risen Lord.

To have your need added to our parish prayer phone chain,  
please call Adele Ogryzek at 627-0201.

To have your need added to the list which is published in the bulletin  
once each month, please call the parish office.



## JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE

During this *Jubilee Year of Hope*, the members of Holy Spirit's Parish Council are praying for all members of our parish—daily. We are grateful for all the individuals, families, ministries, and groups that work to build up the community of our parish.

### A NOTE FROM ST. SERRA CLUB OF TRI CITIES

In the Gospel, Jesus tells His disciples, as He sends them out, "The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few, so ask the Master of the harvest to send out laborers for His harvest." (from Luke 10:1-12)  
The Master is still calling. Will you be a laborer for Him, as a priest, permanent deacon, brother, monk or nun?



### The Seniors Helping All Kids' Education (S.H.A.K.E.)

collection of school supplies in the designated box in the vestibule runs from **July 8th to August 11th** this year. S.H.A.K.E., a program of Catholic Family and Child Services, will distribute the school supplies to children throughout Benton and Franklin counties. Students need all kinds of supplies including pens, pencils, paper, binders, crayons, markers, glue, backpacks, scissors and more!



## SAVE THE DATES FOR EDGE/ LIFE TEEN SUMMER FUN!



**Sunday, July 6th**—Our Life Teen/Edge fun night will be a bbq/water games night after the 5:00 p.m. Mass in the grass area by the PCC. There will also be ice cream!

**Friday, August 8th**—Indoor mini golf for Life Teen/Edge at Tee Time in Kennewick from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Life Teen and Edge will take care of all costs. There will be food and fun games including mini golf, shuffleboard, pool, and cornhole.



## New on FORMED



### Radiating Joy: The Michelle Duppong Story

In 2014, Michelle was diagnosed with cancer while serving as the Director of Adult Faith Formation for the Diocese of Bismarck, ND. Before that, Duppong had served as a FOCUS missionary for six years. She battled the disease with perseverance and a docile spirit until December 25, 2015, when she passed away at the age of 31. On November 1st, 2022, Bishop David Kagan celebrated the Opening Mass for her Cause of Canonization.



### Owlegories!

There is so much to discover about God through the amazing things found in nature and revealed in God's Word! In this delightful series, a wise old owl mentors five young students as they travel on adventures learning about nature, faith, God, and the Bible.

If you haven't already signed up for **FORMED** all you need to do is the following:

- Go to [formed.org/sig](https://formed.org/sig)
- Type in your parish name or zip code.
- Enter your name and email, and that's it!

You are registered. You should now download the FORMED app to your phone, tablet, and TV.

**The Central Washington Catholic Foundation** is seeking Angel Donors to sponsor Catholic school students enrolled in our local schools for the 2025-2026 school year. We need your help now to continue to support our schools, families, and students enrolled in our Catholic schools.

We are seeking 15 donors at the \$1,200 level (that is only \$100 a month!) to support the students who have the highest need in our schools. 100% of your donation will go directly to the tuition cost of the student you are sponsoring.

As an Angel Donor you may designate your gift to one of these schools or "to the greatest need."

St. Rose of Lima School, Ephrata  
St. Joseph Marquette School, Yakima  
Christ the Teacher School, Yakima  
St. Joseph School, Wenatchee

St. Joseph School, Kennewick  
Christ the King School, Richland  
Tri-Cities Prep High School, Pasco  
La Salle High School, Yakima

Visit the website at <https://cwccatholicfoundation.org/> to make a life-changing gift to immediately impact a student's life today. Monthly payment plans are also available. Checks can be mailed to: CWCF, 5301 Tieton Dr., Ste F., Yakima, WA 98908.



Please join us on **Saturday, July 19 at 10:00 a.m. at the Ahtanum Mission**, 17740 Ahtanum Road in Yakima, to honor Saint Kateri Tekakwitha with a celebration and picnic. The Mission was founded in 1852 and the restored Chapel was dedicated in 1871.



Jake Finkbonner's miraculous cure at age five was the second miracle leading to the canonization of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha.

Save the date for the next **Pack-a-Picnic hosted by the Elizabeth Ministry on Sunday, July 27th**. Following the 9:30 a.m. Mass we'll gather in the shade between the church and First Avenue.



Pack a picnic lunch, a blanket and/or seating for your family. Popsicles and water will be provided.



**Camp Breakaway** is a five-day Catholic camp for incoming 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th graders. Camp dates are **July 28 through August 1, 2025**. Registration forms with more information can be found on our parish website at

[www.holyspiritkennewick.org](http://www.holyspiritkennewick.org) or the youth bulletin board in the hallway of the church, near the kitchen. Contact Camp Director Jared Houchin at [jaredlhouchin@gmail.com](mailto:jaredlhouchin@gmail.com) with any questions.



## JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT CHRIST THE KING CHURCH

**The Contributions Bookkeeper** is responsible for recording all income and contributions and related duties. Requirements include two years of experience with responsibility for accounts receivable and experience with automated accounting software systems, strict confidentiality, professional and friendly demeanor, and an AA degree with emphasis in accounting/ or related field. Donations/non-profit experience preferred. The pay range is \$24.00-\$28.00. Benefits include medical, dental, vision and paid vacation and sick time. For a full job description and application contact Crystal Cuevas at [ctkdre@ckparish.org](mailto:ctkdre@ckparish.org) or 946-1675, or visit <http://www.applitrack.com/yakimadiocese/onlineapp>.

**The High School Youth Minister and Confirmation Coordinator** encourages high school teens to develop a closer relationship with Christ and their parish through Life Teen Mass, Life Nights, related activities and service. The coordinator also organizes, plans, and prepares teens for the Sacrament of Confirmation. This is a full-time position. Pay range \$25.00-\$29.00. Benefits include medical, dental, vision and paid vacation and sick time. For a full job description and application contact Crystal Cuevas at [ctkdre@ckparish.org](mailto:ctkdre@ckparish.org) or 946-1675, or visit <http://www.applitrack.com/yakimadiocese/onlineapp>.



Save the date:

**Saturday, October 11—8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**



### 2025 Church Mission Congress

*Building the Young Church in Christ: Growing Parish Youth Ministry*

A day of prayer and reflection, merchandise vendors, raffle prizes and more.

La Salle High School, 3000 Lightning Way, Union Gap

To register, or for more information, call 509-965-7117 or send an email to [info@yakimadiocese.org](mailto:info@yakimadiocese.org).



## Bloom Where You Are Planted

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**I**f you could change one aspect of your life, what would that be? Financial instability? Arthritis? Addiction? A disruptive family member? Work's daily grind? Finding love? No doubt the answers are as varied as the people who answer the question.

Though the old poster advises us to “bloom where you are planted,” sometimes we can feel as if we’ve been planted among weeds—the people we’ve been given, the problems that continually pop up, the conflicts that all too often shut out the peace we seek. Just as Jesus sends disciples into every place he intends to visit, the reality for us may very well be that he sends us into the very lives we live even though we wish we could change them. Where we are is where we’ve been sent. It is in the lives we have that we

work out our salvation, for Jesus said, “The kingdom of God is at hand for you” (Luke 10:9).

St. Paul emphasized how important it is for disciples of Jesus to live out their identity as a new creation. British artist and sculptor Henry Moore made the observation that, in life, it is most important that we give ourselves over to a goal or dream, something so all-consuming that we live it morning, noon, and night. And the most important aspect of it, he said, is that it must be something we cannot possibly accomplish. For the followers of Jesus, it is the lifelong task to bloom where we’ve been planted. ●

### Reflect

***What is the hardest part of my life right now?  
What is the most blessed?***

The Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit.

LUKE 10:1





WOW! We had 90 kids from all over the Tri-Cities participate in our Vacation Bible School this year! The only way to make it all happen was due to the efforts of our crew of FANTASTIC volunteers! Special thanks to:



Samuel Epperson

Rachel Denini

Luke Liebert

Felix Herrera

Genessys Mariscal

Denise Wimett

Judy Turner

Cherie Owen

Isaac Hickman

Pat Moore

Inigu Antonio

Teddy Herrera

Beckett Bohrmann

Iker Cajachagua

Peter Souza

Anna Demarest

Megan Demarest

Deacon Mike Gaulke

Julie Jewell

Michelle Hall

Tiffany Demarest

Galilee Mariscal

Emily Shaber

Gabe Bohrmann

RJ Denini

Erin Leistritz

Violetta Guzman

Adrie Jewell

Zachary Ramos

Chrissy Jewell

Lidia Torres

Nora Clapper

Belen Mariscal

Autumn Rentz

Maggie Barrington

Brendan Bohrmann

William Traver

Lilly MacRoberts

Camila Guzman

Donna Kunk

SaBina Mello

Carol Gaulke

Julia Schamber

Denny Schamber

Mateo Guzman

Elizabeth Moon

Elizabeth Shaber

Aydeliz Rodriguez

Elsa Torres

Natalie Denini

Patrick Clapper

Trinity Halstad

Ruthie Seuss

Kimberlee Barany

Philline Go



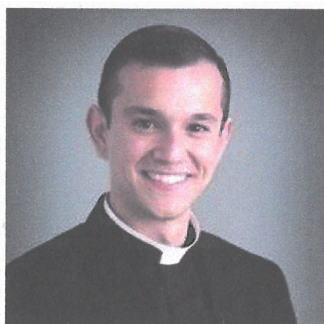


## **MIGRATION AND PRIESTLY VOCATIONS: PERSONAL STORIES FROM OUR YAKIMA PRIESTS AND SEMINARIANS**

Only fourteen of our priests come from within the geographic boundaries of the Yakima Diocese. Migration is often a part of our priests' lives. Join us to hear how some of our Yakima priests and seminarians have navigated migrating here to share Christ with you!



Nicolas Felipe



Fr. Edgar Quiroga



Fr. Jesus Mariscal

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### SCHEDULE

#### **ST. ANDREW PARISH, ELLENSBURG**

Tuesday, July 15 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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#### **CHRIST THE KING PARISH, RICHLAND**

Tuesday, July 29 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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#### **BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, GRANDVIEW**

Wednesday, July 30 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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#### **HOLY FAMILY PARISH, YAKIMA**

Wednesday, August 6 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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#### **ST. PAUL CATHEDRAL, YAKIMA**

Friday, August 8 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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#### **OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH, MOSES LAKE**

Wednesday, August 13 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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#### **ST. ROSE OF LIMA PARISH, EPHRATA**

Wednesday, August 20 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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#### **ST. JOSEPH PARISH, WENATCHEE**

Friday, August 22 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

CONTACT INFORMATION:  
(509) 965-7117  
INFO@YAKIMADIOCESE.ORG



Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

July 2025

Parish of the Holy Spirit

## One Minute Meditations

### St. Elizabeth of Portugal

St. Elizabeth followed the footsteps of her great-aunt and namesake, St. Elizabeth of Hungary: she was born to royal parents, practiced fervent spirituality, great generosity and penances. She married King Denis of Portugal. Despite a difficult marriage and family conflicts, she remained patient and charitable. She is known for her care for the poor and sick, and for resolving political conflicts peacefully. After her husband's death, St. Elizabeth entered the Third Order of St. Francis.

### Prayer is a response to Love

God wants a relationship with us. This is a central truth of our faith. "The living and true God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer. In prayer, the faithful God's initiative of love always comes first; our own first step is always a response" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #2567). So, next time you feel called to pray, say, like Samuel, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening" (1 Samuel 3:10).

"By mercy you have washed us in the Blood, and by mercy you desire to converse with your creatures... Loving Madman! ...Your mercy constrains you to give even more to mortals, namely, to leave yourself to them in food."

St. Catherine of Siena

## Step out and let Christ meet you where you are

"Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water" (Matthew 14:28). St. Peter showed remarkable courage when he stepped out of the boat in the middle of a storm. While God may sometimes call us to follow Him in dramatic or difficult moments, more often He invites us in the quiet, ordinary circumstances of daily life — to step out of what's comfortable and meet Him in our prayer, our relationships, and our service.

**Prayer:** The greatest challenge in deepening your prayer life is often just beginning. Start with a Gospel passage, read slowly, reflect, respond, and rest in God's presence. Light a candle. Sit in front of an icon. Play sacred music. Let beauty draw your heart to God. Ask the Holy Spirit to renew your desire, focus, and love for God. Step out of the boat — and you'll find Christ waiting.

**Relationships:** The virtues — patience, self-control, fidelity, honesty — aren't just about personal growth; they're about

loving others well. Show kindness to someone who frustrates you. Have a real conversation with someone with whom you disagree. Forgive, even if it's undeserved. These small choices shape us into Christ's likeness.

**Service:** "...the Son of Man came ... to

**"Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid" (Matthew 14:27).**

serve" (Matthew 20:28). Loving service doesn't require grand gestures. True holiness is forged in everyday acts: give away a piece of clothing you love but don't need. Help with the dishes, even when it's not your turn. Offer a break to a tired parent by watching their children. When service flows from love, it transforms both the giver and the receiver — and conforms our hearts to Christ's.

## Why Do Catholics Do That?

The Church teaches that many souls, though destined for Heaven, undergo purification after death, a process called Purgatory. Purgatory prepares us to see God clearly.

Scripture supports this: Judas Maccabee offered prayers for the dead (2 Maccabees 12:43-46), and Jesus mentioned sins forgiven in the next life (Matthew 12:32). St. Paul described a

## Why Do Catholics Believe in Purgatory?

judgment in which a person is saved, but their works are tested by fire. This fire isn't Hell (since they are saved), but a purifying fire, which aligns with the idea of Purgatory (1 Corinthians 3:13-15).

Purgatory is mercy. The souls there benefit from our prayers — and they pray for us in return. It's part of God's loving plan to make us truly ready for His presence.

## Outsmart temptation with grace in action

When temptation strikes, the first line of defense is often simple: say “no” or avoid the situation entirely. But when that’s not enough, there are deeper, proven strategies that can help us respond with grace and strength.

**First, think of temptation as an opportunity for holiness.** God always gives us a choice, and when we say “yes” to Him and “no” to sin, He responds with even more grace. If another person is involved, pray for him or her. That small act of charity not only pleases God but disarms the enemy. As Scripture says, *“Resist the devil, and he will flee from you”* (James 4:7).

**Second, don’t just resist temptation—replace it.** Trying

not to think about sin often leads us right back to it. Instead, follow the advice of Philippians 4:8: focus on what is true, honorable, and good. For example, swap out gossip for words that build others up, or replace a bad habit with a holy one.

**Finally, don’t overlook small victories.** Faithfulness in little things strengthens us for bigger battles. Telling the truth in a pressure situation, showing patience in traffic, or keeping a promise all train the soul for harder moments. *“Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities”* (Matthew 25:23). Grace builds on effort. Use every moment well.

### from Scripture

#### Luke 11:1-13, The Our Father is a school of prayer

If you’ve ever found yourself thinking, “I want to pray better,” this Scripture reading is for you. In it, Jesus teaches His disciples the Our Father — a masterclass in prayer, compact and profound. It’s not just one prayer, but four in one.

First, it’s a prayer of praise and thanksgiving, placing God above all. Second, it’s a petition, where we ask for our daily needs — spiritual and material. Third, it’s a plea for mercy, as we ask for forgiveness and the grace to forgive others. And finally, it’s a declaration of trust in God’s providence, a surrender of our will to His.

Praying the Our Father well means acknowledging that God knows what’s best for us — even when His will challenges ours. It’s an invitation to deeper faith.

God always answers prayer — but not always how or when we expect. Sometimes the answer is “Yes.” Other times, it’s “No” or “Wait — I have something better.” Jesus also makes it clear that persistence matters. Like the neighbor in the parable who keeps knocking at the door, we’re called to ask, seek, and knock with confidence. Prayer isn’t just about getting what we want — it’s about drawing closer to the One who loves us most.

### Q & A

#### Can we console Jesus?

If you saw a close friend in deep pain, you wouldn’t walk by thinking, “She will get over it — I’m busy.” You’d drop everything, run to her, and ask, “What can I do?” This is the logic — and the love — behind consoling the Heart of Jesus. It’s not just a pious tradition; it reaches into the very core of our faith.

Jesus is fully human. He felt real emotions — joy, grief, betrayal, and sorrow. He understands our pain, and we can share in His, since He is also fully God, He stands outside of time. In the Garden of Gethsemane, He saw not only every sin but also every act of love, repentance, and faith. That means your love today can truly console His Heart in His Passion.

Words like “consolation” or “reparation” might sound outdated, but they mean something simple and powerful: to love Jesus where He has been wounded, to bring gratitude where there was ingratitude, and to respond with compassion where He was abandoned. Even small acts of love — a kind word, a prayer, a moment of sincere repentance — touch Him deeply.

### Feasts & Celebrations

**July 9 – St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions (1648-1930).** This feast honors St. Augustine Zhao Rong, a soldier-turned-Catholic priest, and his martyred companions, forming a group of 120 Chinese Christians and Catholic missionaries. They were canonized by Pope St. John Paul II in 2000.

**July 16 – Our Lady of Mt. Carmel (1251).** The Blessed Mother appeared to St. Simon Stock in England, carrying the brown scapular, a sign of her favor of the Carmelite Order, and promised whoever wore the scapular until death would avoid the fires of Hell.

**July 18 – St. Camillus de Lellis (1614).** Born in Italy, St. Camillus aimed for holiness despite battling a gambling addiction and a hot temper. After gambling away his possessions, including his shirt, Franciscan brothers gave him a job. He was ordained a priest, and later founded the Order of the Camellians, caring for the grievously sick, prisoners, and the plague victims.

**July 31 – St. Ignatius of Loyola (1556).** Ignatius spent several years defending Spain and suffered serious injuries. While recovering, he began a religious conversion and a lifelong dedication to education. He wrote spiritual exercises and started a community of priests now known as the Society of Jesus (Jesuits).

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# Dear Padre,

***At Mass during the Our Father, should we hold hands, lift our hands up, or keep our hands to ourselves?***

Among many ancient religions, it was common to extend one's hands toward heaven while praying. This practice has continued in the Mass, where the rubrics indicate that the priest should extend his hands at certain points, including during the Our Father. The celebrant represents all the people with this gesture. The deacon is expressly forbidden to hold his hands up in prayer. There is no particular gesture assigned to the rest of the congregation. Some may be holding hands, some lifting their hands, some standing with arms crossed.

The variety of postures is not a problem in itself. The problem is when people become distracted or judgmental of others. As a rule of thumb, I suggest doing what the rest of the congregation does. As stated in the "Order of the Mass," written by the Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy in 2003, "The people are called as members of an organic whole, not as disparate individuals. A Christian assembly that worships 'with one heart and mind' (Acts 4:32) naturally moves toward and consciously chooses a common posture as a sign of its unity. Such common posture 'both expresses and fosters the intention and spiritual attitude of the participants'" (28). The gestures at Mass are not as important as the essence of the Mass, and part of that essence is our unity in the body of Christ. ●

**Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR / DearPadre.org**



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## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***The disciples were sent two by two, not individually....***

***Let us ask ourselves whether we have the capacity to collaborate; whether we know how to make decisions together, sincerely respecting those who are alongside us and taking into account their point of view; whether we do so in community, not by ourselves.***

**ANGELUS, ROME, JULY 3, 2022**

### Monday

July 7  
Weekday  
Gn 28:10-22a  
Mt 9:18-26

### Tuesday

July 8  
Weekday  
Gn 32:23-33  
Mt 9:32-38

### Wednesday

July 9  
Weekday  
Gn 41:55-57;  
42:5-7a, 17-24a  
Mt 10:1-7

### Thursday

July 10  
Weekday  
Gn 44:18-21,  
23b-29; 45:1-5  
Mt 10:7-15

### Friday

July 11  
St. Benedict, Abbot  
Gn 46:1-7, 28-30  
Mt 10:16-23

### Saturday

July 12  
Weekday  
Gn 49:29-32;  
50:15-26a  
Mt 10:24-33

### Sunday

July 13  
Fifteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
Dt 30:10-14  
Col 1:15-20  
Lk 10:25-37





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