

PARISH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

MAILING ADDRESS: 7409 W. CLEARWATER AVE., KENNEWICK, WA 99336

PARISH OFFICE: 7411 W. CLEARWATER AVE., SUITE A, KENNEWICK

OFFICE: 509-735-8558

email: office@holyspiritkennewick.org

website: www.holyspiritkennewick.org

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

FR. MICHAEL BRZEZOWSKI

509-735-8558

pastor@holyspiritkennewick.org

DEACON KEN ELLIS

509-948-4355

deaconkenneth@charter.net

DEACON ERIC SHABER

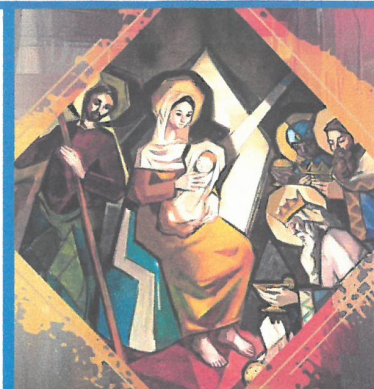
208-521-7846

ecshaber@gmail.com

DEACON MIKE GAULKE

509-551-7626

micaire@msn.com



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." - Mt 2:2

Parish Staff:

Secretary	Debbie Forgette	735-8558
Bookkeeper	Bianca Medina	735-8558

Parish Community Center (PCC) Coordinator
Presently Unstaffed

Faith Formation:

Pre-school to 5th Grade	Karen Gorham	735-8558
6th to 8th Grades/Edge	Danielle May	528-9780
9th to 12th Grades/Life Teen	Jennifer Moore	492-6209
	& Joe Bliss	216-402-3118

email: lifeteenhs@gmail.com

Confirmation	Deacon Mike & Carol Gaulke	551-7626
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Order of Christian Initiation of Adults	Joe & Sherry Schroeder	405-2242
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Ministers of Music:

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass	Julianne Barnaby	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 Ogyzek	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
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Women's Group	Linda Rego	221-1130
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Weekend Mass Refreshments	Judy Urrutia	438-5039
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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	Peter Dreisbach	205-2377
St. Vincent de Paul	Message Line	591-0632
American Heritage Girls	Erin Leistriz	406-579-1891

Natural Family Planning:	Carol Gaulke	619-5464
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JANUARY 4, 2026

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.

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)

The Epiphany of the Lord, January 4, 2026

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

Sunday, January 4:

The Epiphany of the Lord

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

Mass for Life—Epiphany Celebration, 11:00 a.m., St. Paul Cathedral in Yakima

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

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

Edge (Middle School),
PCC rooms 5 and 6/8,
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Life Teen (High School),
PCC hall, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.



Monday, January 5:

Saint John Neumann, Bishop

Tri Cities Prep Student Leaders, PCC room 5, 8:30 a.m.

Mass is also livestreamed on [Holy Spirit Facebook page](#).

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA), PCC rooms 7, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 6:

Christmas Weekday

Saint André Bessette, Religious

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

Religious Education, pre-school to fifth grade, 4:00 - 5:15 p.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.

Knights of Columbus Council 10653 officers, PCC room 9, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 7:

Christmas Weekday

Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

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.

Amazing Grace Choir, church, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 8:

Christmas Weekday

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

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA), PCC rooms 7, 7:00 p.m.

Celebration Choir, church, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, January 9:

Christmas Weekday

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

Stewardship Committee, PCC 5, 10:00 a.m.

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.

Saturday, January 10:

Christmas Weekday

Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life (SEEL), PCC room 6/8, 9:00 a.m.

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

Sunday, January 11:

The Baptism of the Lord

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.

Confirmation Super Sunday, PCC hall and rooms 3 and 5, 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.

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

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

Edge (Middle School), PCC rooms 5 and 6/8, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Life Teen (High School),
PCC hall, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.



THE EPIPHANY

In the Catholic Church, the Epiphany, typically celebrated on the Sunday closest to January 6th, holds profound theological significance. It marks the revelation of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Savior to all nations, symbolized by the visit of the Magi, or Wise Men, from the East. This feast is also known as *Theophany*, meaning the manifestation of God.

KEY MEANINGS OF THE EPIPHANY

Revelation to the Gentiles: The primary meaning of the Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus to the Gentiles, represented by the Magi. This signifies that Christ's salvation is intended for all people, not just the Jewish nation. The Magi's visit, guided by the Star of Bethlehem, illustrates the universal scope of Jesus' mission.

Recognition of Jesus as King and God: The gifts brought by the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—carry deep symbolic meanings:

- **Gold** signifies Jesus' kingship.
- **Frankincense** represents Jesus' divinity and role as a high priest.
- **Myrrh** foreshadows Jesus' suffering and death, highlighting his role as Savior.

Divine Guidance and Obedience: The Magi's journey following the star emphasizes the theme of divine guidance. Their obedience to God's leading, even from distant lands, encourages believers to seek and follow God's will in their own lives.

Manifestation of God's Glory: The Epiphany also celebrates the broader theme of God's glory being revealed to the world. This encompasses not just the visit of the Magi but also, in some traditions, Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River, where God the Father proclaims him as his beloved Son, and the miracle at the wedding feast in Cana, where Jesus first reveals his divine power.



The Epiphany is a reminder of the divine revelation of Jesus as the Messiah and the Light of the World. It invites Christians to reflect on the inclusivity of Christ's message and the call to bring the light of Christ to all corners of the earth. It also underscores the importance of seeking and recognizing God's presence in the world, just as the Magi did when they followed the star to Bethlehem.



HISTORY OF THE EPIPHANY

The Epiphany originated in the Eastern Christian tradition in the 3rd century. Initially, it was a broader celebration encompassing not only the visit of the Magi but also Jesus' baptism and the miracle at the wedding feast of Cana.

By the 4th century, the Western Church began to adopt the feast, focusing primarily on the visit of the Magi, while Jesus' baptism was celebrated separately on January 13th.

In the Eastern Orthodox Church, the Epiphany is also known as *Theophany*, highlighting Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River. The Great Blessing of the Waters, a tradition where bodies of water are blessed, became an integral part of the celebration, symbolizing the sanctification of creation through Christ.

In Western Christianity, the emphasis on the Magi, or Three Kings, led to various cultural traditions. By the Middle Ages, the feast had evolved to include pageants and plays depicting the journey of the Wise Men and their adoration of the Christ Child.

During the medieval period, Epiphany became associated with royal feasts and the giving of gifts, reflecting the Magi's offerings to Jesus. This tradition persisted into the Renaissance, with elaborate celebrations and the baking of special cakes, such as the Galette des Rois in France and the Rosca de Reyes in Spain. The tradition of the Epiphany Proclamation, announcing the dates of the movable feasts for the year, also emerged during this period, reinforcing the liturgical importance of the feast.

Today, Epiphany is celebrated worldwide with diverse customs. In many Spanish-speaking countries, it is known as Three Kings' Day and features parades, gift-giving, and special foods. In Eastern Orthodox communities, the Great Blessing of the Waters remains a central ritual, often accompanied by outdoor processions and cross-diving ceremonies.

Epiphany Morning Prayer

Father, you revealed your Son
to the nations by the guidance of a star.
Lead us to your glory in heaven
by the light of faith.
We ask this through
our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. Amen
—*The Liturgy of the Hours*

THE JOURNEY OF THE MAGI

The Magi, also known as the Wise Men or the Three Kings, were learned men from the East. They were likely scholars or priests well-versed in astronomy and astrology, coming from regions such as Persia (modern-day Iran), Babylon (modern-day Iraq), or Arabia.

The Star of Bethlehem

The journey began when the Magi observed a unique and bright star in the sky. They interpreted this celestial event as the sign of the birth of a significant king, specifically the "king of the Jews." This star, often called the Star of Bethlehem, guided them westward towards Jerusalem.

The Journey to Jerusalem

Following the star, the Magi embarked on a long and arduous journey. The exact distance and time taken are not specified in the Gospel of Matthew, but such a journey would have been lengthy and challenging, likely taking several months.

Encounter with King Herod

Upon reaching Jerusalem, the Magi visited King Herod, inquiring about the newborn king's whereabouts. This news troubled Herod, who saw the potential threat to his throne. Herod consulted his own priests and scribes, who cited the prophecy from Micah that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. Herod then directed the Magi to Bethlehem, deceitfully asking them to report back so he too could "worship" the child.

Finding Jesus

Guided once again by the star, the Magi continued to Bethlehem. The star stopped over the place where Jesus was. Unlike the traditional nativity scenes, the Gospel suggests that the Magi found Jesus in a house, as by this time Mary and Joseph might have found more stable accommodation.

Gifts, Worship and Departure.

The Magi presented Jesus with the gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh and then worshipped him recognizing Jesus' significance and divine nature.

After their visit, the Magi were warned in a dream not to return to Herod. Obeying the divine warning, they returned to their country by a different route, avoiding further contact with Herod and thus protecting the Holy Family.



JOIN OUR YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY

Calling all young adults, college age and older!

Join us for an uplifting Bible Study exploring "Ecclesiastes: Wisdom, Purpose, and Meaning."



Details:

Start Date: Tuesday, January 6th

Duration: 6 weeks

Day: Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m. (following the 5:30 p.m. Mass)

Location: Holy Spirit PCC Room 6

For more information or to sign up, call/text Kenny (509-460-8577) or Joseph (509-440-2761).

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to grow in faith and fellowship with other young adults.

We look forward to seeing you.



The annual Baby Bottle Campaign for Hope Medical of Washington starts today! The campaign makes it easy for you to participate in the ministry of Hope Medical in our community. Just pick up a bottle or envelope as you leave today and fill it with coins, cash or checks payable to Hope Medical, then drop it off in the church vestibule during the last weekend of January. Contributions can always be made online at www.hopemedicalwa.com. Your support is very much appreciated!



Merry Christmas and a very Happy 2026 to you all. The January Ultreya of the Cursillo movement will be held **Monday, January 5th** at Christ the King in Richland. We'll begin by praying the Rosary at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel, with the meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. in the multi-purpose room. Please come, and invite your friends to join in the fellowship.

A Note from the St. Serra Club of Tri Cities

"Opening their treasure chests, they gave Him gifts." (from Matthew 2:1-12) Do you see your life as a gift to be given to the Lord as a priest, permanent deacon, brother, monk or nun?

Parishioner and college student Dylan Howard is active in the St. Thomas More Catholic Student Center at Washington State University. Dylan is asking for our support to serve on a mission at La Finca in Trujillo, Honduras in March of 2026. La Finca is an orphanage for children from abusive, neglectful, and traumatic households. The school and its associated health clinic also serve people in the surrounding towns. If you are able to help Dylan fund this mission, please scan the QR code. Or you may contact Dylan at (509) 870-0943 or Dylan8Howard@gmail.com for more information or for other ways to give. Thank you.



WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

All dates are tentative

Monday	January 5	Sherry Clark
Tuesday	January 6, 5:30 p.m.	Gene Cote RIP
Wednesday	January 7	John Hooper RIP
Thursday	January 8	Linda Briceno Ziegler
Friday	January 9	Michael J. Tuohy RIP
Saturday	January 10, 4:00 p.m.	Jody Rinderer RIP
Sunday	January 11, 5:00 p.m.	Bob Martin RIP

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

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.

STEWARDSHIP: The three kings in today's Gospel traveled a great distance at considerable cost to offer their richest gifts to the Infant Jesus. How far will I go and what will I offer in homage to our newborn King and Savior?

Thanks for your giving of time, talent, and treasure.

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.



The Epiphany of the Lord on January 4th offers us the chance to observe a time-honored Christian tradition of "chalking the doors," where we mark the entryway of our homes with blessed chalk. Deacon Ken and Cindy Ellis bring this tradition to us from a parish in Idaho. We'll provide packets including chalk, information, and prayers after all Masses this weekend. The chalk will be blessed at our 4:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, January 3rd and distributed in the vestibule after all Masses. This is a practice whereby we dedicate our New Year to God from its very outset, asking His blessing on our homes and on all who live, work, or visit there.



Do you know someone who is (or feels) alienated from the Catholic Church, or someone who may wish to reestablish ties with God and the local church community? If you know someone in this situation, or are yourself interested in finding a place to begin again, consider the **COMING HOME Program**. This program is designed for inactive Catholics and offers the opportunity for questions to be explored in a respectful environment. Join us for our **Information Night on Monday, January 26th at 7:00 p.m. at Christ the King Catholic Church in Richland**. For questions or further information, call Meggin Sanner at 541-571-8402 or email ckadultre@gmail.com.

Work on the repair of our church roof is continuing, though it has been slowed due to holidays and continued wet weather. At this time, we are not sure exactly how long it will take to completely repair the water damage recently sustained in our church's interior. Dehumidifying efforts are ongoing and are being monitored closely by our restoration company.



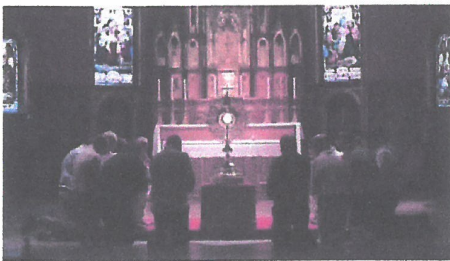
Holy Spirit Parish Men's Retreat

"ADORE"

January 23rd 6:30pm-9:00pm

and

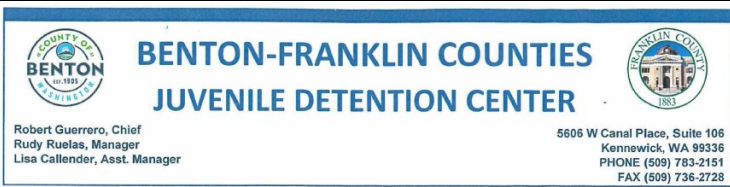
January 24th 8:30am-4:00pm



RSVP or for more information contact: Dcn. Mike Gaulke
(micajere@msn.com)

HOLY SPIRIT'S MINISTRY TO THE INCARCERATED

Below are notes received by Mary Hoffman, Robin Rego, and Deacon Mike Gaulke in appreciation of our parish Jail Ministry's efforts in distributing Christmas gifts at Benton County Jail, Franklin County Jail, and the Benton-Franklin Counties Juvenile Justice Center. Parishioners donated postage stamps, and stuffed gift bags with socks, notebooks, and food items donated by our parish. This ministry also organized and added calendars, holy cards, shampoo, and soap donated from outside of our parish to the gift bags. In addition, Mary Hoffman and Robin Rego spent time and led Christmas carols at the Benton-Franklin Juvenile Justice Center.



December 15, 2025

Dear: Robin, Mary & Volunteers

It has been a pleasure working with you and the kindness of the Holy Spirit church.

We want to thank the Jail ministry and all the Volunteers for taking time to put together the Christmas sacks for the Adults and Youth that are incarcerated in the Tri-City area at Christmas.

Robin and Mary donated their time to visit the Juvenile Center, singing Christmas carols with the youth. They also spent time talking with youth and personally handing out the gift bags donated from the Holy Spirit congregation.

Juvenile Detention staff and youth can't thank you enough for the wonderful Christmas gift sacks the youth receive. They get so excited to receive their gift. We also want to thank Mary for providing the cookies the youth enjoyed eating while they sang the Christmas carols.

God bless and thank you for your service

Rudy Ruelas, Detention Manager

Linda Brown, Detention Records Clerk



From: Captain Jeremy Jansky

1016 N 4th street

Pasco WA, 99301

12/23/2025

I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude to all of you for your unwavering support and dedication to the Christmas Gift Sack program. Your kindness and hard work have made this initiative successful, bringing joy and warmth to so many during this special season.

To everyone involved in stuffing the packages at the church hall—thank you for your tireless efforts in organizing and preparing 250 for Franklin County Jail. Your teamwork and commitment to this cause were genuinely inspiring.

I would also like to sincerely thank Robin Rego, Tammie Gilley, and Deacon Mike Gaulke for their continued support and dedication. Your role in distributing the gift has undoubtedly impact the lives of many individuals at the Franklin County Jail.

This program would not have been possible without the collective efforts of each of you. Through the generosity and teamwork of volunteers like you, we can continue spreading the love and spirit of Christmas to those who need it most. May God bless each of you for your kindness and generosity. Again, Thank you for your time, energy, and heart for your ministry.

Wishing you all a blessed and joyful Christmas season.

Warmest regards

Sincerely,

Franklin County Jail Captain

Robin, thank you and your team for providing Christmas bags for the inmates at Benton County Jail. You'll continue to make a positive impact for this population. I'm still gathering thank you notes from the inmates. Again, thank you for your continued support. Chaplain Wayne/ Benton County Jail

Thank you to the
Jail ministry for
coming by and spreading
Love ♥

Thank you Holy spirit
church for coming
and showing love
it means a lot more
than we can put in words



Thank's to the holy spirit church
For thinking about us! ♥

Wanna wish you
guys a Merry christmas
? A Happy new
year I Hope yall
have a blessed day
~Liana



**“We saw his star at its rising and
have come to do him homage.”**

MATTHEW 2:2

Following Jesus Without a Star to Guide Us

FR. THOMAS M. SANTA, CSSR

“We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage” (Matthew 2:2) describes the spark that sent the Magi on their journey. Something unusual in the sky, interpreted as a sign of something wonderful—in response, they changed direction in their lives and devoted themselves to a completely different path. As wonderful as it might well be, a special star in the heavens is not the ordinary experience of how we learn to follow the Lord or discern his will. If only there could be a sign in God’s universe for each of us, beckoning us forward, clarifying what we need to do, setting down the path that needs to be followed. Perhaps life would be much simpler. Or perhaps not?

Would it truly be less complicated if everything were made clear and certain? Is the manifestation of God’s grace and blessings confined to the straight and narrow, or can we also experience God in the chaos—“in the weeds,” so to speak. Human experience seems to suggest that life is more “gray” than “black and white.” There is real grace in the journey, in making mistakes, even in choosing something that is incomplete. Thankfully, God’s grace does not need perfection to be powerful. We can know and follow God’s will for us in the ordinary moments of day-to-day living. We do not need the extraordinary or the dramatic. ●

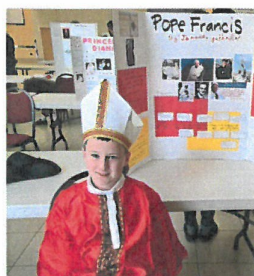


**LEARN ABOUT
THE AUTHORS
OF OUR PARISH
COMMUNITY**

Reflect

How can I resolve to look for God in the unplanned, the unexpected, the interruptions?

ROOTED IN FAITH, GROWING IN EXCELLENCE



4th Grade students as their "influential person".



Fun Run success enjoyed by some student runners.



Students volunteering at IRONMAN community event.



Veteran's Day Service.



3rd Grade students helping to host All Saints Day Mass, dressed as their favorite Saint.



Annual Blessing of the Pets on the Feast of St. Francis.



Families enjoyed our spaghetti feast Grandparent's Luncheon!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Friends of St. Joseph Catholic School,

As we journey through this school year, one of our heartfelt goals has been to deepen our connection with our parish and greater community. St. Joseph Catholic School is blessed by your support, and we want to share more about who we are and the joy that fills our halls.

You may have seen our students serving at school-hosted Masses or participating in parish activities. These Masses are a meaningful way for students to worship alongside you, taking part as lectors, altar servers, greeters, and members of our student choir. Under Fr. Tian's guidance, they've also embraced Eucharistic Adoration, spending quiet time in prayer after each school Mass. We warmly invite you to join us for these moments of reflection whenever you're able.

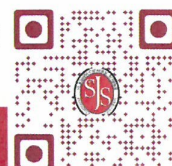
I'd also like to introduce myself to those I haven't yet met. My name is Catherine Valiant, and I've had the joy of serving the St. Joseph Catholic School community for 15 years. My journey in Catholic education began at Queen of Angels Catholic School in Port Angeles, WA, where I taught fourth grade after graduating from Washington State University. That experience sparked a lifelong passion for faith-based education.

Before moving to Kennewick, I spent 12 years with the Pacific Science Center's Science on Wheels program, including seven years as Program Manager, overseeing a team of 20 educators and multiple state and grant-funded initiatives. Fun fact: I first visited St. Joseph Catholic School in the mid-90s as part of that program—setting up science exhibits in the church basement and chatting with Monsignor Dillon! After relocating to Kennewick in 2010, I began substitute teaching at SJS and was thrilled to join the staff full-time as the Science teacher the following year.

It's been a true blessing to grow alongside this community, and I am honored to now serve as Principal. I'm grateful for the opportunity to share my love for science, my experience in leading educational programs, and my dedication to our school's mission. Thank you for your continued prayers and support. We are proud to be part of the St. Joseph Parish family and look forward to growing together in faith and fellowship.

With gratitude,

Catherine Valiant
Principal, St. Joseph Catholic School



Scan the QR code to join our Alumni & Friends of SJS Newsletter!
www.sjske.org/alumniandfriends



LOOKING AHEAD



ART & WINE

Saturday, February 7, 2026

Sponsorships Available!

Ticket Sales Live!

We hope to see you there.

<https://auctria.events/2026ArtWine>



Annual Legacy Golf Tournament

Saturday, May 16, 2026

2:00 p.m. Tee Time

Zintel Canyon Golf Course

Kennewick, WA



Upcoming

School hosted mass schedule

January 23rd

SJS School Mass with Adoration

January 25th

SJS Student Hosted School Mass at 11am

St. Joseph Parish

February 20th

SJS School Mass with Adoration

February 22nd

SJS Student Hosted School Mass at 11am

St. Joseph Parish

Catholic Schools Week

January 26th – 30th

St. Joseph School Open House

Sunday, February 1, 2026, 10am – 1pm

Know a family who'd thrive at

St. Joseph Catholic School?

Invite them to our Open House!



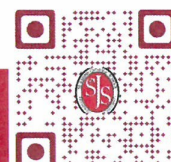
HELP US SPREAD THE WORD



Please share this newsletter with any St. Joseph alumni, former families, teachers or longtime supporters you know and encourage them to sign up for our newsletter by using the QR code, or link below. Whether they were here last year or 30 years ago, we want them to be part of our school's continuing story.

Sharing this newsletter isn't just about keeping people informed, it is also a powerful way to increase awareness of our school, grow community support, and open the door for new opportunities. The more we expand our network, the more we can lighten the load on current families over time – whether it is through broader participation, new giving opportunities, or partnership that help sustain and grow our mission.

Scan the QR code to join our Alumni & Friends of SJS Newsletter!
www.sjske.org/alumniandfriends



Dear Padre,

I recently lost my husband of sixty years. I prayed for him through his four-year illness. Since he has died, I cannot pray. Any advice for me?

My heartfelt condolences on your profound loss. When someone we love dies, a part of us dies too. Sometimes, the trauma is so severe that it can even affect our relationship with God.

Psychiatrist Elisabeth Kübler-Ross identified five stages of grief. In the denial stage, some people can't accept the reality of the death. It becomes too much to handle. In the anger stage, some may question their belief in God—especially if their prayer requests (such as, “Please God, if you heal my loved one, I will...”) weren't successful in the bargaining stage. People in the depression stage feel overwhelmed by the reality of the loss and may not always feel like connecting with others—even with God in prayer. However, in the acceptance stage, emotions stabilize, and a person comes to terms with their new reality. Nothing makes up for the absence of a loved one, but people manage to cope and live on.

It's because you loved so deeply that the loss feels so deep. God accepts you completely; God understands how you feel. He wants you to be at peace and live life fully. Our compassionate God yearns to help console you and offer assistance in your healing process until you can embrace him again in prayer. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



YANDRY FERNÁNDEZ PERDOMO / CATHOPIC

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

Let us resolve to bring [God's] love everywhere, never forgetting that each of our sisters and brothers is a dwelling place of God and that his presence is manifested above all in the little ones, in the poor and the suffering, who ask us to be thoughtful and compassionate Christians.

REGINA CAELI, ROME, MAY 25, 2025



YANDRY FERNÁNDEZ PERDOMO / CATHOPIC

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](https://dearpadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday

January 5
St. John Neumann,
Bishop
1 Jn 3:22–4:6
Mt 4:12–17, 23–25

Tuesday

January 6
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:7–10
Mk 6:34–44

Wednesday

January 7
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:11–18
Mk 6:45–52

Thursday

January 8
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 4:19–5:4
Lk 4:14–22a

Friday

January 9
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:5–13
Lk 5:12–16


Saturday


January 10
Christmas Weekday
1 Jn 5:14–21
Jn 3:22–30

Sunday

January 11
The Baptism
of the Lord
Is 42:1–4, 6–7
Acts 10:34–38
Mt 3:13–17

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