



# THE DIOCESAN CHRONICLE

THE OFFICIAL NEWS OF THE DIOCESE OF BAKER

Published every two weeks for the sake of the unity of the Diocese and the "greater good of souls"

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## THE CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS: Bend

Court #2041 Our Lady of the Cascades of Bend, came together as a community with St. Francis Parish to have a Bake Sale. The proceeds went to Grandma's House, the very worthwhile charity that house and support teenage girls who are pregnant and will carry their baby to term. Some of the girls will keep their baby while others feel the adoption option is the best plan for them.

We had a very successful event with the total sale amounting to \$1,203. Many thanks to all who supported the sale by baking, buying, donating money, and baking supplies.



Pictured left to right: Jean Tauriello, Nicki Hasenoerhl, Woody Mediros (Manager), and Irene Richardson

## PARISH NEWS: Sacred Heart, Klamath Falls

Sacred Heart Church in Klamath Falls has a tradition of celebrating Las Posadas each year in Advent. This year, over 150 people participated in this reenactment of the journey of Mary and Joseph as they sought shelter on Christmas Eve. They ended in the Gym, with piñatas for the children, Mexican sweet bread and hot chocolate! A wonderful time was had by all!



## PARISH NEWS: St. John Church, Condon



St. John parish youth with their Pastor, Father Peter Umekwe, at their Christmas Party on December 11, 2011.

## PARISH NEWS: St. Francis Church, Arlington



St. Francis parish youth take a break from bowling to have their picture taken with their parents and Father Peter Umekwe, pastor, at Desert Lane in Hermiston, on December 30, 2011.

## PARISH NEWS: St. Patrick, Heppner

Walter and Wanda Joyce of St. Patrick parish, recently celebrated the Golden Jubilee of their wedding by renewing their vows in November with Father Gerald Condon presiding. A reception followed in the parish hall.

Walter was born in Ireland but moved to Oregon where he ranched. He first met Wanda at a branding in Juntura and it was love at first sight! They married soon in Burns and began ranching in Juntura, moving to Vale 15 years later where Walter began working for Simplot and Wanda at the Vale Nursing Home. Eventually they moved to Heppner to be closer to their daughter and son-in-law.



## REFLECTIONS FROM BISHOP WILLIAM S. SKYLSTAD

### "I am the Good Shepherd..."

These familiar words of Jesus constantly remind us of how the Good Shepherd is concerned about us and how He is present to us on this earthly journey. The images of searching for the one lost sheep, the sheep gate where the shepherd knows each of his sheep, and "they were like sheep without a shepherd" express a tremendous sense of compassion and care from Jesus for all of us.

January 9-14 was National Vocation Awareness Week in the Church. This week reminds us of the responsibility of priests and bishops to be good, loving and caring shepherds in the Church. And just as importantly, all of us are reminded of our mutual responsibility with and in the name of the Lord to go about shepherding the community of faith. For me as bishop, this is a very serious mission. The role of priests in parishes is also a shepherding mission. But that mission extends also to the broader community of faith in so many ways. Parishioners' participation in and support of parishes, parents taking care of children, our visioning for the future all express in one way or another a shepherding role.

In recent decades, there has been considerable concern about the need for more vocations to the religious life and priesthood in the Church. Especially that has been true in North America and Europe. In some areas, the need is far more critical than others. In general, there seems to be an upswing in the number of vocations. Along with that, the qualifications of those seeking out their vocation to priesthood and religious life in the Church are more demanding. The Church wants holy, capable, loving, generous, sacrificial, joyful, hopeful ministers in the Church. There is not a lack of vocations in the Church. The real question is how we respond to the Lord's call.

All of us share in the responsibility of supporting one another in our mutual vocations. In our diocese for the last ten years or so, we have had very few native vocations ordained. At the present moment, we have only two seminarians, one at the college level and the other on the theology level (the last four years of preparation before ordination). I would like to suggest briefly three actions all of us can take.

First, we don't program God as to what to do, but we can pray that the Holy Spirit will motivate young men and women to come forth and offer themselves for service in the Catholic Church of Eastern Oregon. Secondly, we should offer a climate and culture in our Diocese that supports those who are thinking about following the call God gives them. And finally, I would like to suggest a goal of having five seminarians for our beloved Diocese of Baker by next September.

Can we do it? Let's all work hard at it.

Blessings and peace.

## REFLEXIONES DEL OBISPO GUILLERMO S. SKYLSTAD

### "Yo soy el buen pastor ...."

Estas conocidas palabras de Jesús nos recuerdan constantemente de cómo el Buen Pastor está preocupado por nosotros y cómo Él está presente con nosotros en este viaje terrenal. Las imágenes de la búsqueda de la oveja perdida, la puerta de las Ovejas, donde el pastor conoce a cada uno de sus ovejas, y "estaban como ovejas sin pastor", expresa un tremendo sentido de la compasión y el cuidado de Jesús por todos nosotros.

9-14 de enero fue la semana de las Vocaciones en la Iglesia. Esta semana nos recuerda la responsabilidad de los sacerdotes y obispos a ser buenos, cariñosos y atentos pastores en la Iglesia. Y no menos importante, a todos nosotros, se nos recuerda nuestra responsabilidad mutua, con y en el nombre del Señor de pastorear la comunidad de fe. Para mí, como obispo, esta es una misión muy seria. El papel de los sacerdotes en las parroquias es también una misión pastoral. Sin embargo, esa misión se extiende también a toda la comunidad de fe de muchas maneras. La participación de los feligreses en y en el apoyo a las parroquias, los padres cuidando a sus niños, nuestra visión hacia el futuro, todos expresamos de una manera u otra el papel de pastoreo.

En las últimas décadas, ha habido una gran preocupación por la necesidad de más vocaciones a la vida religiosa y al sacerdocio en la Iglesia. Especialmente es cierto en América del Norte y Europa. En algunas áreas, la necesidad es mucho más crítica que otras. En general, parece que hay un incremento en el número de vocaciones. Pero las cualidades de aquellos que buscan su vocación al sacerdocio y a la vida religiosa en la Iglesia son exigentes. La Iglesia quiere que sus ministros sean: santos, capaces, cariñosos, generosos, sacrificados y alegres. No hay falta de vocaciones en la Iglesia. Lo importante es la forma en que respondemos a la llamada del Señor.

Todos nosotros compartimos la responsabilidad de apoyarnos unos a otros en nuestra mutua vocación. En nuestra diócesis en los últimos diez años, hemos tenido muy pocos nativos ordenados. En la actualidad, sólo tenemos dos seminaristas, uno en el nivel universitario y el otro en el nivel de teología (los últimos cuatro años de preparación antes de la ordenación). Me gustaría sugerir brevemente tres acciones que todos podemos tomar.

En primer lugar, no programamos a Dios para que haga algo, pero podemos rezar para que el Espíritu Santo motive a los jóvenes que ellos mismos se ofrezcan al servicio en la Iglesia Católica del este de Oregón. En segundo lugar, debemos ofrecer un ambiente y cultura en nuestra diócesis que apoye a los que están pensando en seguir el llamado de Dios. Y, por último, me gustaría sugerir una meta, el contar con cinco seminaristas de aquí al mes de septiembre para nuestra querida diócesis de Baker.

¿Podemos hacerlo? Vamos todos a trabajar duro en ello.

Bendiciones y paz.

**SAINTS AND FEASTS: Baptism of Christ, January 9**



Francesco Albani's 17th century *Baptism of Christ*. The **baptism of Jesus** marks the beginning of Jesus Christ's public ministry. This event is recorded in the Canonical Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. In John 1:29-33 rather than a direct narrative, the Baptist bears witness to the episode.

The Baptism is one of the five major milestones in the gospel narrative of the life of Jesus, the others being Transfiguration, Crucifixion, Resurrection and Ascension. John the Baptist preached a 'baptism with water', not of forgiveness but of penance or repentance for the remission of sins (Luke 3:3), and declared himself a forerunner to One who would baptise with the Holy Ghost and with fire (Luke 3:16). In so doing he was preparing the way for the Lord.

Jesus came to the Jordan River where he was baptized by John at a site traditionally known as Qasr al-Yahud (the Jews' Castle). This event concluded with the heavens opening, a dove-like descent of the Holy Spirit, and a voice from Heaven saying, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased." The voice combines key phrases from the Old Testament: "My Son" (the Davidic king as God's adopted son in Psalms 2 and Psalms 10), "beloved" (Isaac in Genesis 22), and "with whom I am well pleased" (the servant of God in Isaiah 42:1).

Most Christian groups view the baptism of Jesus as an important event and a basis for the Christian rite of baptism (see also Acts 19:1-7). In the Roman Catholic Church, the Anglican Communion, and some other Western denominations, it is recalled on a day within the following week, the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In Roman Catholicism, the baptism of Jesus is one of the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary.

**PARISH NEWS: St. William, Lone**

Perry and Kathy Morter of St. Williams Parish, Lone, celebrated 50 years of marriage with a small family gathering on November 26, 2011.

Kathy Reisenauer of Odessa, Washington, was working in Spokane when she met Perry Morter. At the time, Perry was farming in Bonners Ferry, ID. After a two year courtship, they married on November 25, 1961, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Lourdes in Spokane.

The Morters moved to Lone in January, 1962, and have been farming in that area for the past 50 years. They raised six children and are now enjoying 17 grandchildren in fairly close proximity.

Kathy has been active in St. William's Altar Society for many years, serving as President of the group for at least the past ten years.

**DIOCESAN CHRONICLE NEWS:** If you have news to share about what IS, HAS, or WILL BE happening in your parish, please email it to us at Terri@dioceseofbaker.org.

*APPEAL—2011* UPDATE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2011

Parish	2011 Goal	Received	% of Goal
Baker City	\$16,553	\$7,780	47%
Halfway	\$1,182	\$140	12%
Bend	\$78,826	\$18,612	24%
Boardman	\$5,715	\$2,410	42%
Burns	\$8,868	\$2,805	32%
Crane	\$1,064	\$200	19%
Drewsey	\$729	\$100	14%
Juntura	\$828	\$1,050	127%
Chiloquin	\$4,020	\$975	24%
Bly	\$851	\$300	35%
Condon	\$3,547	\$370	10%
Fossil	\$788	\$1,100	140%
Arlington	\$1,143	\$575	50%
Dufur	\$7,504	\$340	5%
Maupin	\$1,577	\$1,575	100%
Enterprise	\$5,794	\$4,130	71%
Wallowa	\$887	\$350	39%
Heppner	\$5,439	\$3,370	62%
lone	\$1,892	\$1,820	96%
Hermiston	\$28,567	\$9,643	34%
Hood River	\$19,864	\$4,251	21%
John Day	\$5,715	\$1,750	31%
Monument	\$158	\$0	0%
Longcreek (Dale)	\$236	\$55	23%
Jordan Valley	\$2,010	\$1,725	86%
Arock	\$394	\$270	69%
Kfalls-Sacred Heart	\$35,078	\$5,750	16%
Kfalls-St. Pius X	\$32,279	\$14,075	44%
La Grande	\$17,184	\$4,535	26%
Elgin	\$2,601	\$500	19%
North Powder	\$1,064	\$100	9%
Union	\$2,010	\$685	34%
Lakeview	\$6,385	\$4,545	71%
Adel	\$335	\$420	125%
Paisley	\$1,182	\$1,500	127%
Plush	\$335	\$400	119%
La Pine	\$7,094	\$1,295	18%
Christmas Valley	\$765	\$0	0%
Gilchrist	\$1,143	\$50	4%
Sunriver	\$11,430	\$2,270	20%
Madras	\$13,795	\$1,950	14%
Warm Springs	\$2,089	\$75	4%
Merrill	\$4,808	\$1,520	32%
Bonanza	\$1,297	\$1,005	77%
Milton-Freewater	\$6,897	\$985	14%
Nyssa	\$5,360	\$575	11%
Ontario	\$20,101	\$4,255	21%
Pendleton	\$21,992	\$5,700	26%
Pilot Rock	\$3,547	\$2,680	76%
Prineville	\$11,036	\$2,419	22%
Redmond	\$30,742	\$7,035	23%
Saint Andrew's	\$4,335	\$1,200	28%
Athena	\$1,577	\$540	34%
Sisters	\$13,164	\$4,320	33%
The Dalles	\$27,983	\$3,990	14%
Vale	\$4,690	\$4,438	95%
Unity	\$552	\$650	118%
Wasco	\$2,365	\$1,200	51%
Grass Valley	\$634	\$700	110%
<b>Diocese Total</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>\$147,058</b>	<b>29%</b>

