



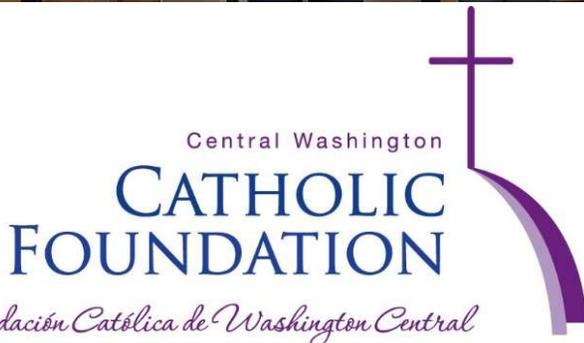
## 40 Ways in 40 Days to Celebrate Our Faith: Campaign Success!

Covid-19 forced the cancellation of the annual Celebration of Faith event in October. For 2020, the event went virtual and was renamed the *40 Ways in 40 Days to Celebrate our Faith Campaign*.

Because of the generous support of Partners, donors, friends, parishes and schools, the 40 Ways in 40 Days to Celebrate our Faith Campaign raised \$302,466.00. This is \$27,000 over our budgeted goal!

The money raised from this campaign goes to support the Foundation's many programs including Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), Parish Religious Education Program (PREP), Formed.org, Celebration of Faith College Scholarships, and operations.

The event video is still available on our website.



## Celebrating Our Schools: Perseverance and Community During a Pandemic

By Doug Rich

On March 13, 2020, Governor Inslee ordered all Washington schools to close for instruction inside school buildings due to Covid-19. Immediately, Catholic teachers and administrators looked for ways to deliver a faith-filled education to the children in the Diocese. One week later, 1,700 students were learning, albeit remotely. Other education systems needed weeks/months to accomplish this.

What followed was careful planning for a safe reopening of our buildings while other school systems remained in a remote learning platform. Through consultation with health authorities and the Yakima Diocese, plans were created and implemented that allowed our children to learn in person when school started again in August. While allowing those who needed to learn remotely, to do so. To date, there has been no transmissions of the Coronavirus inside our school buildings. The principals, teachers, and parents have remained diligent in their attention to protecting the safety of those who enter our schools.

This experience has been shared with our partners in public education; who are listening and learning from our example. The Diocese's schools are open for vibrant in-person learning infused with our Faith. Many of our families are suffering financially, so keeping their children engaged in Catholic Education is important now more than ever. Thanks to the support from the Catholic Foundation Community, many of our children are able to remain in our Catholic Schools, as well as the opportunities CWCF provides for Faith Formation within all our parishes.



***The mission of the Central Washington Catholic Foundation is to support Catholic education.***

***The CWCF strives to facilitate Catholic philanthropy and to pass our faith heritage to future generations. To learn more about our Foundation, visit <https://cwatholicfoundation.org>***



## Letter from the Board of Trustees

Dear friends of the Central Washington Catholic Foundation,

Has there ever been a more challenging time for us as Catholics, as human beings? I can't remember when during my 73+ years given the current health and political climate we are living in. I thought my time in Vietnam was a challenge and it was. However, this has been a very different type of challenge; yet perhaps we can see it also as an opportunity?

There is no doubt that my Catholic education and relationship with my "Higher Power" has provided all the support that my wife, Kathy, and I have needed. Admittedly, I have prayed more and listened better than ever before. Likewise, the relationship that Kathy and I have had with the Foundation's support of one of our favorite Catholic Education endeavors, Tri-Cities Prep High School, has been so encouraging. Additionally, St Martin's University, where Kathy is a Trustee, has been a consistent supporter of our Central Washington Catholic Foundation over the years. We appreciate that very much! Our Catholic community and support system reaches far beyond the Diocese of Yakima. During this most challenging time, we know that we are not alone in our Catholic journey.

The unprecedented changes that we are facing as a community of people and people of faith, should be looked at as an opportunity to demonstrate how we, as a group of people, can come together to lead by example in support those most in need. Despite the challenges facing us, I have been privileged to witness absolutely extraordinary efforts by volunteers throughout the Diocese; especially those who have worked day by day over the course of many weeks in support of our Foundation. I speak not only of financial support; I am speaking as well of the hundreds of hours of given by our Board of Trustees in their capacity as volunteers. Some of our trustees not only maintain full or part time jobs, but who are as well very active in their home parishes. Despite this, they found time to either serve as Foundation Committee leads, or members of our various Committees. We couldn't have done it without them!

Although we were sad to say "farewell" to Kathleen Wilmes, our former Executive Director, we were able to say "welcome" to our new Executive Director, Nicole St Mary-Franson. Talk about a challenge; she not only assumed the office of the Director's office, but did so in the middle of a pandemic. Likewise, many thanks to Melissa Richter, our administrative assistant and Jo Spencer, our bookkeeper. We owe a debt of gratitude to both Melissa and Jo who together played such key roles in supporting Nicole during her transition.

Finally, many thanks to Bishop Tyson, Msgr. Siler and Sue Schoolcraft for their support of our programs in the midst all of the changes that occurred in 2020. On behalf of the everyone at the Central Washington Catholic Foundation, and most especially the children who will benefit from your hard work and generosity, my thanks to all of you who in so many ways continue to support Catholic education in the Diocese of Yakima.

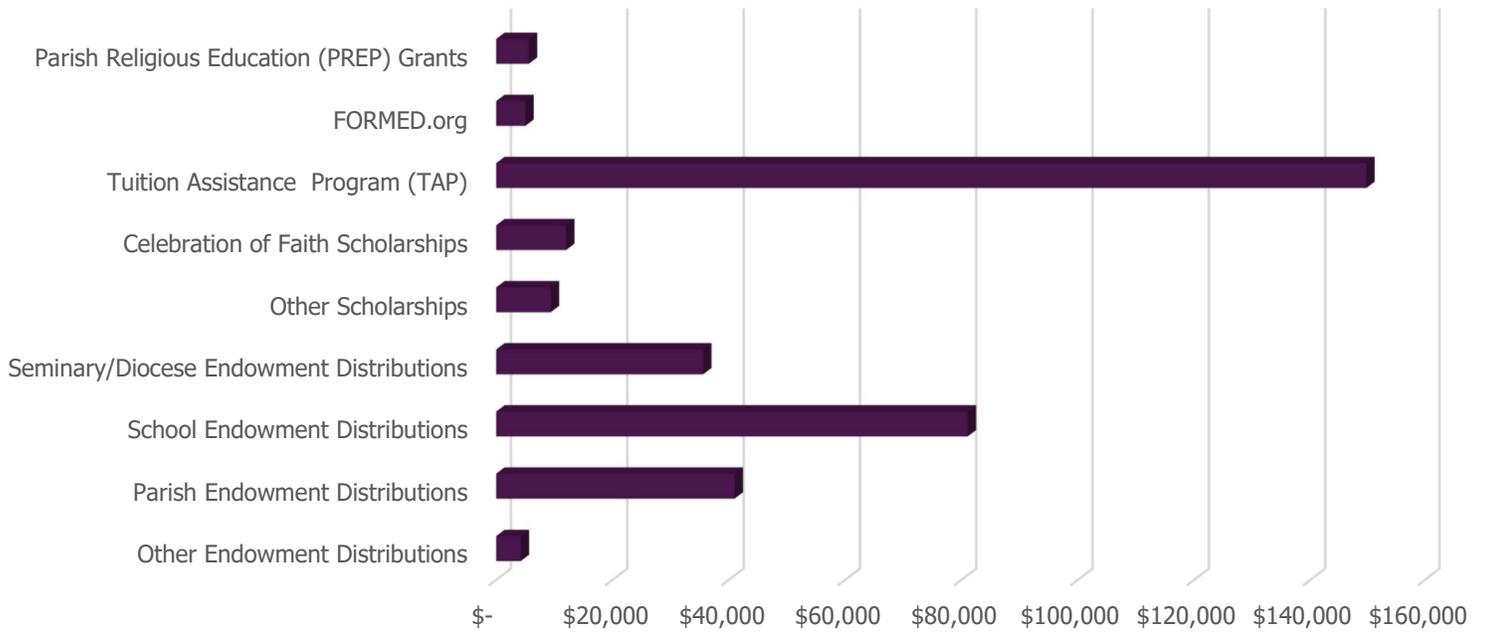
Have a blessed new year,

Gordon Beecher  
Board President  
Central Washington Catholic Foundation



# 2020 Program Distributions

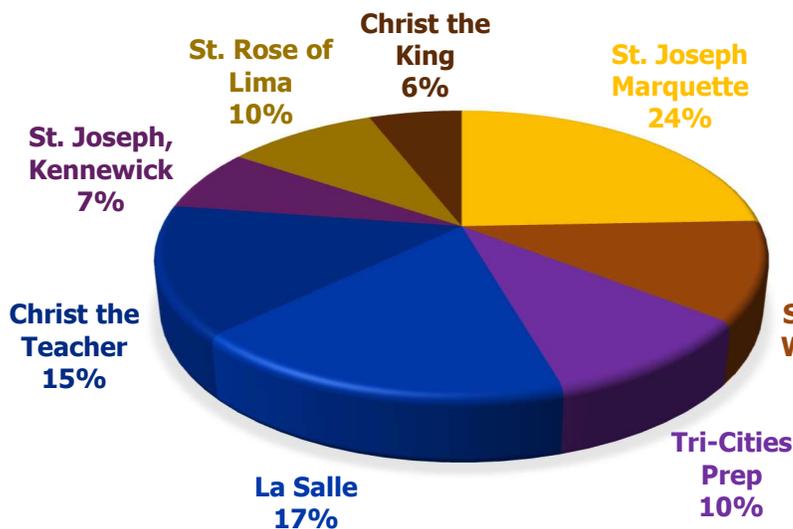
**Total Distributions: \$343,614**



## Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)

**Total \$ Amount Awarded: \$149,750**

**Total # of Awards: 187**



The Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) provides grants of up to \$1,200 per student at any of the elementary Catholic schools in the Yakima Diocese, as well as Tri-Cities Prep High School and La Salle High School.

Families complete an online, comprehensive, application between January and April through our management program, FACTS. The funds are then distributed to families, based on highest need, across the schools in May.



*Are you ready to support one of our many programs? Making a donation is easy by visiting our website at: <https://CWCatholicFoundation.org>*

## Donors from April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 – December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

### 40 Ways in 40 Days to Celebrate Our Faith Campaign

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**Do you have a passion for Catholic education? Do you have a calling to support Catholic schools or religious education in our Diocese?**

Contact Nicole Franson to learn more about joining our Board of Trustees at  
[NFranson@CWCatholicFoundation.org](mailto:NFranson@CWCatholicFoundation.org)

### **Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) Application Window is Now Open**

Tuition assistance grants help open the door to an excellent Catholic education in partnership with the family and their Catholic school. The Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) is designed for students currently enrolled or preparing to enroll in one of the Central Washington Catholic schools.

*Please contact your local Catholic school to learn more and apply!*

## *Congratulations to the Celebration of Faith 2019 College Scholarship Recipients!*

**Paula Heine** - John Paul the Great Catholic University  
**Catherine Maier** - Seattle University  
**Daniel O'Connor** – University of Notre Dame  
**Clare Wilmes** – Gonzaga University  
**Andru Zepeda** - St. Martin's University  
**Cristyan Zepeda** – St. Martin's University

### **Coming in April... Leave a Legacy of Faith, Hope, and Love Learning Seminar**

This online seminar is a collaborative effort between the Central Washington Catholic Foundation, Catholic Charities, and Diocese of Yakima to share information about remembering our local Catholic organizations in estate plans.

*If you are interested in learning more, please contact our office at (509) 972 – 3732 or by email at [nfranson@cwatholicfoundation.org](mailto:nfranson@cwatholicfoundation.org).*



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