

Celebration of Faith 2021 is coming!

Spring Newsletter 2021

For 2020, Covid-19 forced the cancelation of the traditional annual Celebration of Faith event. However, the CWCF is excited to announce that we will be holding our Celebration of Faith 2021 event on **Saturday, October 9**th with a location yet to be determined.

The Celebration of Faith Committee is diligently working to plan a safe, inspirational, informative, and entertaining event for all of our supporters that highlights the great work happening in our schools and parishes.

Nominations for Champions of Catholic Education are currently being accepted on the Central Washington Catholic Foundation website.

Keep an eye the CWCF website and your mail box for more information coming soon!



Fundación Católica de Washington Central

Celebrating Our Parish Religious Education Programs: St. Joseph - Wenatchee



Rylan Buchanan is the high school Youth Minister at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Wenatchee. The religious education program there serves nearly one hundred high school youth in the parish through weekly youth group meetings and confirmation classes. At the end of winter 2020, when the coronavirus hit the valley, the program was uncertain how they would be able to provide for the volunteers and youth for the 2020-2021 program.

As parish leaders prepared to meet with the teens under the new Center for Disease Control guidelines in regards to COVID-19, it was clear the Parish needed to provide the volunteer team, of twelve people, with updated training in the new program structure plus personal protective equipment. Rylan applied for a Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) grant through the Central Washington Catholic Foundation. Because of the grant, the Parish was able to host multiple small training sessions for the volunteer team with updated materials and buy masks and sanitizer. These important training sessions allowed volunteers to continue learning how to walk with our youth through the confirmation process during the coronavirus pandemic. Rylan shares, "We are so grateful for the support from the CWCF, and the people who support them for helping our ministry grow and evolve during these ever changing times. We prayed that God would help us continue to serve these amazing teens and are grateful He led us to the Central Washington Catholic Foundation."





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://cwcatholicfoundation.org





Letter from the Bishop

Dear Friends:

Welcome to another edition of our Central Washington Catholic Foundation newsletter with features and stories about our partnerships with so many of you to elevate the Catholic faith. As you know I have two unbending intentions as bishop. First, every child gets a Catholic education regardless of ability to pay. Second, every child gets to learn about Jesus regardless of what kind of parish they attend.

Catholic Education for Every Child. I am painfully aware that we are very far from this desire. We have six Catholic grade schools here in the Diocese of Yakima: two in Yakima, and one in Wenatchee, Ephrata, Richland and Kennewick. We are blessed to have two high schools as well. LaSalle is in Yakima. Tri-Cities Prep is in Pasco and thus in the Spokane diocese but you donors generously treat it as one of our own. You provide tuition scholarship support that totals some \$171,132 and you made sure that some 200 student families receive support for their dream of Catholic education. Needless to say, we also have many parishes too far away to be served by a Catholic school with in person instruction. But with the great work our schools have done with remote learning platforms I do dream of a day where every Catholic grade school and high school in the Diocese of Yakima has a parallel on-line academy that provides Catholic education and occasional inperson learning events for those traveling long distances. Yes, we have a long way to go, but thanks to so many of you who assist the Central Washington Catholic Foundation, we are closer today than we were ten years ago.

Every Child Learns About Jesus: One of the real challenges here in the Diocese of Yakima is that when I arrived we had many parishes without any parish religious education for their children. That number has narrowed thanks in part to the generosity of our donors at the Central Washington Catholic Foundation. The grants for books, supplies, remote learning tools and technology equipment has assisted parishes in Roslyn, Waterville as well as our large and growing predominantly Spanish-speaking parishes across the Lower Valley to grow their outreach efforts in parish religious education. The intent here is that every child should have the opportunity to discover Jesus as both friend and savior regardless of whether they are in Spanish speaking or English speaking parish setting. Every child needs to know Jesus in prayer, worship and teaching whether they live in a more urban setting or a remote rural setting. Thanks to you, the donors and supports of our Central Washington Catholic Foundation we are closing the gap in providing support for parishes in their religious education efforts.

CELEBRATION OF FAITH DINNER. I know it may be too soon to know how and whether we will be able to pull off this event. I have marked my calendar for the evening of October 9th, 2021. With COVID-19 so many of us have not seen each other. Hopefully after a long absence we will be able to see each other and greet each other in person. But whether or not this even takes place permit me to note how unique this event is when compared to similar events across the country. Lots of dioceses have dinners for Catholic schools. But I know of no other diocese with the insight of the Central Washington Catholic Foundation to celebrate in a festive dinner both Catholic parish schools and Catholic parish religious education. I know of no other foundation that supports both Catholic schools and parish religious education. It is all about Jesus Christ being at the center of our efforts, regardless of how we teach this beauty in our local setting.

Certainly it can be challenging to uplift the power of this Godhead: Father Son and Holy Spirit with the acid erosion of secular ideologies eroding at our interior lives. But because of you, we have a pathway to spark human flourishing by our belief in Jesus Christ and this his Church. Yes, we have a long journey ahead, but the Central Washington Catholic Foundation provides a tool for us to anchor academics in rich Catholic intellectual heritage through the gifts of our Catholic schools. The Central Washington Catholic Foundation provides a tool for parish to help their families root their daily lives in the life of Christ thanks to your financial support of our parish religious efforts.

So, thank you. Thank you for all you are and all you do to proclaim the joyous Easter message the women proclaim at the empty tomb. (See Mark 16: 1-7) Jesus is risen. You are his witness. You live that witness through your support of all of our efforts here at the Central Washington Catholic Foundation. May you experience the joy of the gospel you proclaim through your support of our efforts!

Peace be with you!

Joseph J. Tyson Bishop of Yakima





Letter from the Board of Trustees

Dear Friends and Supporters of the Central Washington Catholic Foundation,

In these trying times, the generosity of folks in our Yakima Diocese has never ceased to amaze me; this is somewhat indicative of the "great spirit of giving" that I have experienced during my twenty-four years living in the Pacific Northwest and specifically in Eastern Washington.

We have such a great group of citizens here, especially those centered in our Catholic faith and spirituality. One of our CWCF Board Members, and my "spiritual advisor" of sorts, Fr. Brooks Beaulaurier, reminds me of the fundamental premise of our volunteer work here. We are a "mission based" diocese. We have a significant majority of our parishes with members who depend upon our support for their ability to send their children to one of our eight elementary, middle and high schools, or to attend one the parish religious education programs, at the very least. As Bishop Tyson reminds us," They must have the opportunity to know Jesus."

And, in case you haven't noticed or been privy to the success these schools have had despite the pandemic, it has been simply fantastic! We have seen record numbers in enrollment, even waiting lists popping up in communities where they have never been before. Thank you to our amazing cadre of Catholic educators and administrators for they are the true heroes! Our Catholic schools have provided "in-class" education to our students in 2020, that has not gone unnoticed by many, many traditionally public school oriented families.

However, rather than rest on our laurels from our hugely successful "40 Ways in 40 Days" campaign, our team of CWCF Board of Trustees and Advisors are already starting to plan for our 2021 Celebration of Faith in whatever format we can utilize under the pandemic limitations. But, reserve the evening of Saturday, October 9th, 2021 for an inspirational and motivational evening to Celebrate our Faith. It has been an honor to be your CWCF President during the past two years and I look forward to continuing to serve in a leadership capacity in the future. Please continue your tremendous generosity in supporting our CWCF funding for Catholic education in the very best diocese in the Northwest, not just the biggest, geographically.

Bless you all,

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Gordon Beecher Board President

Central Washington Catholic Foundation



Donors from January 1st, 2021 - March, 31st, 2021

40 Ways in 40 Days to Celebrate Our Faith Campaign

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Leave a Legacy of Faith, Hope, and Love Learning Seminar

APRIL 28th, 2021 at 6PM

This FREE 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 attending or learning more about planned giving, please contact our office at (509) 972 -3732 or by email to NFranson@CWCatholicFoundation.org





Leaving a Legacy: the John Rodriquez-Kranz Scholarship



The Kranz Family established the John Rodriquez-Kranz scholarship in 1997 in memory of their son and brother John Rodriguez Kranz. The Kranz family founded it as a means to memorialize their son and brother and, most importantly, to emphasize the values and ideals that John exemplified in his life, especially his compassion for the poor and marginalized, by awarding an annual scholarship to a student from A.C. Davis High School.

Before his death, John lived a life of service. Not only was he an Emergency Medical Technician, but he was very involved in the lives of students of A.C. Davis High School, both as an employee and volunteer. John was an institutional fixture to many students. Every day, you could find him on campus working as a security officer, coaching freshman basketball, or announcing varsity baseball and basketball games; all with a contagious smile. Where John did his most influential and Christian work was less in the public eye. It was in counseling and mentoring troubled students. He offered an opportunity, and if necessary a home, to students from troubled families and circumstances, e.g., abandoned by parents, drug-addicted parents, parents in prison, gang-influenced families. John saw the needs of others and helped them or found help for them.

John was always concerned about the lives of those students who bore the overwhelming restrictive weight of poverty and personal tragedies. John had a particular empathy for those students that everyone else had written off as failures. John's parents, Jack and Janie Kranz, recount multiple stories and letters from people that John had "saved" in his short time. The stories and memories live on and continue to multiply with the John Rodriquez-Kranz Scholarship.

For these reasons, the Kranz Family in partnership with the Central Washington Catholic Foundation, has granted this annual scholarship to students in need who have overcome significant personal hardships, in other words students that John would have helped.

This scholarship was never intended to necessarily serve the "best and brightest" of the students but rather those who may have been marginal academic performers whose personal achievements over adversity are not usually recognized by academic institutions or scholarship committees.

For the past 24 years, the John Rodriquez-Kranz Scholarship has provided much needed funding for students to attend college such as Haidyn Hall, University of Washington class of 2024, who was the scholarship recipient in 2020. Haidyn expresses her gratitude, "Because of [this] scholarship, I can achieve my dream of participating in next summer's Maternal and Child Health study abroad program in Ethiopia. This program aims to provide women in that country education to better their health and the health of their children. This experience will not only help empower women in a developing country but also allow me to build first-hand knowledge and exposure that will help me in my future career in the health field."

If you are interested in contributing to this scholarship fund in honor of John, please visit the CWCF website at:

<u>https://cwcatholicfoundation.org/donate</u> or call the office at (509) 972-3732.

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

Applications and nominations are still being accepted for Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) Grants and for Champion of Catholic Education Awards.

For more information or to apply/nominate, please visit our website at: https://cwcatholicfoundation.org/









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