



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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DIOCESAN NEWS:

IEC 2012 Pope Benedict XVI has
invited YOU to IRELAND!
Join the Official
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DIOCESAN YOUTH AND FAMILY CAMP NEWS:

This Christmas, instead of giving just a gift, give an opportunity. This is an opportunity to help a youth you love grow in his friendship with others and especially grow in his faith. The Diocese of Baker now has Gift Certificates available for our 2012 Youth & Family Camps. These camps have been shown to help the youth grow in faith and help them be better equipped to not just survive but thrive in the world. Please prayerfully consider giving this opportunity to someone you love. To have Diocese of Baker Gift Certificates sent to you please call (541) 388-4004 for more information.

2012 Camp Connolly Gift Certificate
Summer of the Savior's Safari
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Powell Butte, Oregon

For More Information Call (541) 388-4004 Or go to www.dioceseofbaker.org

PARISH NEWS: Our Lady of Angels, Hermiston

Our Lady of Angels Parish celebrated its love for the Saints at an All Saints Party held on Monday, October 31. The annual event is a positive alternative to other activities that usually take place on that night. Children could choose from games such as Saint Halo Toss, the Saint Rose Lollipop Rose, Walking with the Saints cake walk, Bible BINGO, Walking in Jesus' Footsteps, Peter's Fish Pond, locating all the Patron Saints posters, and many more games. Generous, fun-loving youth and adults help set up, run the games, sell the tickets, make and sell concessions and clean up afterwards. Many parishioners donated cupcakes, cakes and candy.



Immediately following the All Saint's Party was the annual Trunk or Treat event. Parishioners participated by parking their cars in a designated church parking lot, decorating their car trunks, wearing costumes and handing out their donated candy to the children as they "Trunk or Treat" in the safe environment of the church.

Our Lady of Angels staff is so grateful for all the wonderful parishioners who give so much of themselves to make the event so successful. May God greatly bless all who generously volunteer in the Church.

REFLECTIONS FROM BISHOP SKYLSTAD... THE LORD IS COMING

We are in the last few weeks of our liturgical year. We begin anew with the Season of Advent. We prepare once again for the coming of the Lord Jesus into our lives. This repetitive cycle takes us on a journey annually through the great mysteries of our faith as we celebrate the coming of the Word made Flesh to the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday.

There is something about the Advent season that I find refreshing, hopeful and joyful. The readings from the liturgy, especially from Isaiah, share powerfully a message of hope. The images, like the beating of spears into plowshares and the winding ways being straightened out, speak forcefully of the vision for the Kingdom of God. In times past, these references gave hope to a struggling people who needed a word of comfort and support during some very difficult and painful times. Devastation, disenfranchisement, oppression, sinfulness were all realities with which people had to deal. Yet, the word of God gave analysis, judgment and hope during some tough times.

We fast forward to our own times. We watch the news every night, and the world unfolds in our living rooms. Economic chaos, loss, need for jobs, collapsed economies, contentiousness, holding on to power, oppression are still very much realities today that continue to touch our world community. Even in those areas where a certain kind of freedom has been gained, as in Egypt or Libya, the new day of peace and justice for all is still a great need to be fulfilled. Wars have dragged on at terrible human and financial cost.

One could be pessimistic about this whole business. Yet, Jesus comes into our lives. He came for the salvation of human kind, not only then but also now. Suddenly as a world community we have been tossed together by technology and interdependence. The economic woes of a Greece or Italy or even Europe all of a sudden have ramifications for us in our own country. This connectedness in the human family is a rapid and new development that perhaps sets the stage for people in their vulnerability and fragility to recognize the need for God. The Savior came into the world, but also He continues to come. Jesus came as a fragile babe, so helpless and vulnerable that anyone and everyone could identify with Him. But this is no ordinary person. This is our God who leads the way, gives a way of life to live, and loves us all to the point of death.

The Savior gives us a way of living that gives life to the full. It is the only way we will find life in abundance. Until we recognize that fact, the world community will always come up short in the search. The quest for wholeness, peace, justice will be found only in the Lord Jesus who comes constantly into our lives if we but recognize him.

May this Advent season be a special time of discovery, appreciation and preparation as our loving God touches us through word and sacrament.

APPEAL—2011 UPDATE AS OF NOVEMBER 15, 2011

Parish	Goal	Received	% of Goal
Baker City	\$16,553	\$4,645	28%
Halfway	\$1,182	\$40	3%
Bend	\$78,826	\$6,005	8%
Boardman	\$5,715	\$1,240	22%
Burns	\$8,868	\$1,330	15%
Crane	\$1,064	\$0	0%
Drewsey	\$729	\$0	0%
Juntura	\$828	\$0	0%
Chiloquin	\$4,020	\$250	6%
Bly	\$851	\$300	35%
Condon	\$3,547	\$150	4%
Fossil	\$788	\$1,100	140%
Arlington	\$1,143	\$200	17%
Dufur	\$7,504	\$290	4%
Maupin	\$1,577	\$725	46%
Enterprise	\$5,794	\$2,355	41%
Wallowa	\$887	\$250	28%
Heppner	\$5,439	\$2,650	49%
Ione	\$1,892	\$740	39%
Hermiston	\$28,567	\$5,765	20%
Hood River	\$19,864	\$3,583	18%
John Day	\$5,715	\$1,435	25%
Monument	\$158	\$0	0%
Longcreek (Dale)	\$236	\$35	15%
Jordan Valley	\$2,010	\$1,700	85%
Arock	\$394	\$150	38%
Kfalls-Sacred Heart	\$35,078	\$2,120	6%
Kfalls-St. Pius X	\$32,279	\$11,580	36%
La Grande	\$17,184	\$1,860	11%
Elgin	\$2,601	\$200	8%
North Powder	\$1,064	\$0	0%
Union	\$2,010	\$250	12%
Lakeview	\$6,385	\$3,695	58%
Adel	\$335	\$320	96%
Paisley	\$1,182	\$1,050	89%
Plush	\$335	\$300	90%
La Pine	\$7,094	\$820	12%
Christmas Valley	\$765	\$0	0%
Gilchrist	\$1,143	\$50	4%
Sunriver	\$11,430	\$1,870	16%
Madras	\$13,795	\$1,050	8%
Warm Springs	\$2,089	\$25	1%
Merrill	\$4,808	\$990	21%
Bonanza	\$1,297	\$830	64%
Milton-Freewater	\$6,897	\$285	4%
Nyssa	\$5,360	\$375	7%
Ontario	\$20,101	\$1,835	9%
Pendleton	\$21,992	\$5,225	24%
Pilot Rock	\$3,547	\$930	26%
Prineville	\$11,036	\$1,750	16%
Redmond	\$30,742	\$5,910	19%
Saint Andrew's	\$4,335	\$0	0%
Athena	\$1,577	\$410	26%
Sisters	\$13,164	\$1,600	12%
The Dalles	\$27,983	\$1,340	5%
Vale	\$4,690	\$2,957	63%
Unity	\$552	\$350	63%
Wasco	\$2,365	\$1,200	51%
Grass Valley	\$634	\$700	110%
Diocese Total	\$500,000	\$86,815	17%

IN MEMORIAM: DEACON JOE PICKENS



Joseph William Pickens, a permanent deacon for the Diocese of Baker, died Monday, November 7, 2011, while hunting in the Hells Canyon Wilderness. He was 54. He was born on July 15, 1957, and was graduated from Gilchrist High School in 1975. Pickens attended the Capuchin seminary in California for more than five years, where he earned a Master's degree in Theology from the Graduate Theological Union.

Deacon Joe Pickens was ordained to the diaconate on January 16, 2000, by Bishop Thomas J. Connolly. The program, which entailed three years of study, was headed by Sister Marie Vianney and the late Father Joseph Kelbel.

As a deacon, Joe was assigned to St. Thomas Parish in Redmond where he assisted in the liturgy, preached, distributed Communion, prepared families for the sacrament of Baptism and worked with couples in Marriage preparation. He was deeply involved with the parish community, in their faith development. Joe drove many miles throughout the diocese to conduct Zacchaeus retreats and was always very involved with the Hispanic community.

Joe assisted Bishop Vasa in the diocesan program to Protect Children. As a 23-year employee of the Oregon Department of Human Services Child Welfare, he had a special interest in combating child abuse.

Deacon Joe had returned to Redmond a few months ago after some time in Corvallis for a work assignment. He had given the sermon at the 10 a.m. Mass at St. Thomas only the day before his death.

His wife of 26 years, Manuela Judith Pickens, and three children, Jessica, 25, Kevin, 23, and Lynn, 15, survive him, as well as three brothers, Gilbert Pickens, Jr., Michael Pickens and Christopher Pickens. He was preceded in death by his parents, Gilbert Sr. and Alice Pickens, and two sisters, Rosaleen Ashburn and Kathleen Pickens.

The Rosary was held at St. Thomas at 6 p.m. on Friday, November 11, and the funeral took place at 9 a.m. on Saturday, November 12.

Please pray for his family and friends in this time of loss.

EN MEMORIA AL: DIÁCONO JOE PICKENS

Joseph William Pickens, Diácono permanente de nuestra Diócesis de Baker, murió el lunes, 7 de noviembre de 2011, mientras andaba de casería en el noroeste de Oregon. Tenía la edad de 54 años. Joe nació el 15 de julio de 1957, se graduó de la Escuela Superior de Gilchrist en 1975. Pickens estuvo en el seminario de los Franciscanos Capuchinos en California por más de cinco años, donde obtuvo una Maestría de Teología en el colegio, Graduate Theological Union.

Diácono Joe Pickens fue ordenado diácono por el Obispo Thomas J. Connolly el 16 de enero de 2000, en Redmod en la Iglesia Santo Tomas siendo párroco el presbítero Leo Weckerle. El programa del diaconado, fue de tres años de estudio y se impartió en la parroquia de San Pedro en The Dalles los directores del programa fueron la Hermana María Vianney y el fallecido Padre José Kelbel.

Como diácono, Joe fue asignado a la Parroquia de Santo Tomás en Redmond, donde desarrollo varios ministerios entre otros asistió en la Santa Misa, predicaba, distribuía la Sagrada Comunión, impartía las clases pre Bautismales a los padres y padrinos que iban a bautizar a sus hijos; preparaba las parejas para el matrimonio.

Estuvo muy comprometido con la comunidad parroquial, en el desarrollo de la fe. Joe viajó muchos kilómetros por toda la diócesis para llevar los Retiros Zaqueo, Retiros de Evangelización a diferentes parroquias. Siempre estuvo muy involucrado con la comunidad hispana.

Joe sirvió en el comité de revisión de casos para la protección de los niños comité que revisa todos los casos relacionados con la protección de los niños y que trabaja en unión con el obispo es un comité Diocesano. Estuvo empleado por 23 años en el Departamento de recursos humanos para el bienestar de los niños de Oregon, tuvo un interés especial en la lucha contra el maltrato infantil.

Diácono Joe había vuelto a Redmond hace unos meses, después de pasar algún tiempo en la oficina de Corvallis, regresaba para hacerse cargo de la oficina en Bend. Un día antes de su muerte predicó en todas las Misas del fin de semana en la parroquia de Santo Tomas.

Le sobreviven su esposa que fue por 26 años, Manuela Judith Pickens, y sus tres hijos, Jessica, de 25 años, Kevin, 23, y Lynn, 15, así como tres hermanos, Gilbert Pickens, Jr., Michael Pickens y Christopher Pickens. Le precedieron en la muerte sus padres, Gilbert Pickens Sr. y Alice, y dos hermanas, Ashburn Rosaleen y Kathleen Pickens.

El Rosario se rezo en la iglesia Santo Tomas en Redmod el viernes 11 de noviembre a las 6 de la tarde, y el funeral el sábado 12 de noviembre a las 9 de la mañana de donde partió el cortejo fúnebre hacia el panteón donde fueron depositados sus restos mortales. Oremos por el eterno descanso del alma de nuestro hermano Joseph y por su familia y amigos en estos momentos de luto y dolor.

Descanse en paz y que luzca para él la eterna Luz. Amen

ST. PATRICK PARISH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION 1911-2011 Vale, Oregon, October 30, 2011

In 1911, Mass began to be offered on a regular basis in Vale twice monthly at a church that was 24 feet long and 18 feet wide. The cross on the steeple reached 52 feet off the ground. Prior to this time, Mass was occasionally offered in the Commercial Club in Vale. Not until 1939, was there Mass every Sunday.

In June 1946, a group of local Catholics met with Bishop Joseph McGrath to discuss making Vale a parish. The next month, a contract was awarded to construct the present church, which today serves 160 families. Three months later, Fr. O'Brien became pastor of St. Patrick Parish, dedicated in 1949. Brogan, Harper, Westfall and Juntura were designated as Missions. A new Rectory was built in 1950, and in 1969, a new Parish Hall was added. The bell tower to house the original church bell was finished in 1978.

St. Patrick celebrated its Centennial October 30, 2011 with Confirmation, a blessing of the newly installed Centennial Doors, and a Celebration Brunch. Almost 300 parishioners and visitors attended.



Sketch of the original St. Patrick



Dick Vickery, Fr. Cami Fernando and Bishop Skylstad bless the newly Installed Centennial Doors.



Bishop William Skylstad and a few of the 18 newly confirmed members of the parish.



Bishop Skylstad visits with parishioners at brunch.



Bishop Skylstad gets ready to release his balloon along with 100 others in Celebration



Members of St. Patrick's Parish watch the centennial history presentation after brunch.