

Offertory 2017

	Needed	Weekly Offering
Dec 3 rd	\$3,500.00	\$4,385.00
Dec 8 th	Holy Day	\$ 822.00
Dec 9 th	OLG	\$ 227.75
Dec 10 th	\$3,500.00	\$3,594.00
Dec 17 th	\$3,500.00	
Dec 24 th	\$3,500.00	
Dec. 25 th		
Dec. 31 st	\$3,500.00	
TOTAL		

“Remember: sparse sowing sparse reaping; sow bountifully, and you will reap bountifully.”

“Ademas fijense: quien siembra con mezquindad, con mezquindad cosechara, y quien hace siembras generosas, generosas cosechas tendra. (2Corintios 9, 6)

Please Remember the Following:

Linda Arian; Dan Browning, Patricia Carroll; Savanna King; Rita Witchman; David & Carol Leonard; Billie Lanier; Born Family; Dan Christ; Linda Christ; Sammi Pedersen; Bob & Lola Godat; Fred Vandehey; Gal Kessel; Debbie Enneberg, Carmen Orsi; Katie Jordon; Mindy Hopfer; Joanne Besio; Mike Mulvihill; Jennifer Christy; Chuck & Dee Wettstein; Paul Paquin; Carlos Coit; Jeff Born; Glen Johnston; Jessie & Gilbert Sharp; Hazel Engstrom; Ann Pedersen; Jan Sletager; Richard Moore; Jim Lanning; Cal and Bernice Dubisar; Heather Messick; Family of Ralph and Mary Lee; Deborah Horrell; Hernán Enrique Cáceres; Verónica Natalia Chávez; María, Sol Montel; Verónica Rodríguez; Luz Alejandra Bringas, Carolina Silvia Brizuela Pérez; Rodolfo Martin Arruabarrena; Susan Markie, Nettie Irene Downing, Harley Mayfield, Sam Lane, Ron Edgerly, Naomi Blankenship, Bill Nicholson, Bud Gilvinski, Joanne Gleason, Danilo Salgado, Betty Salgado, Courtney Lynn Viescas, for the special intentions of our parishioners and others.

Daily Readings Dec 18th – Dec 24th

Mon. – Jer.23:5-8; Mat.1:18-25
Tues. – Jud.12:2-7, 24-25a; Luk.1:5-25
Wed. – Isa.7:10-14; Luk.1:26-38
Thurs. – Son.2:8-14; Luk.1:39-45
Fri. – Sam.1:24-28; Luk.1:46-56
Sat. – Mal.3:1-4, 23-24; Luk.1:57-66
Sun. – 2Sam.7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Rom.16:25-27; Luk.1:26-38

St. Joseph Catholic Church

(120 S. Main St. Prineville, Oregon)

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2017



Vigil Mass Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday Mass 9:00 am English

12:00 Noon Spanish

Holy Days 8:00am and 6:00pm

Monday- Tuesday –Thursday 8:00am

Wednesday and Friday 12:15pm

Rev. Fr. Joseph Kunnelaya T, Administrator

150 E First St., P.O. Box 1315, Prineville Or. 97754

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 5:00pm

Office 541-447-6475 Fax 541-416-9141

Fr. Joseph: 9am – 9pm 541-420-4458

Parish Website: stjosephsprineville.org

Facebook: [St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Prineville, Oregon](https://www.facebook.com/St.JosephsCatholicChurchPrineville)

Email: stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com

Pastor: joe55kunnel@hotmail.com

Sacraments

Sacrament of Penance: Wednesday: 11:45am – 12:15pm, and Saturday: 3:30-4:30pm * Other times by appointment* Contact Fr. Joseph for preparation of the Sacrament of Baptism or Marriage and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Rosary Schedule

Sun. Rosary: half hour before Mass
Every Sunday after the Rosary the Prayer for Vocations (by Bishop Cary) will be said together.

Date Dec. 17th – Knights of Columbus

Date Dec. 24th – Euch. Min.

Date Dec. 24th Vigil – Lectors

Date Dec. 25th - Christmas Day – Choir

Date Dec. 31st - Ushers

Every committee is responsible for the rosary being said each Sat. & Sunday

Prayer for Priestly Vocations

Lord Jesus Christ, Living Bread come down from heaven, in Your Name we ask the Father to bless the Diocese of Baker with vocations to the priesthood. By the prompting of the Holy Spirit call forth from among us men who are able to sympathize with our weakness and deal gently with the wayward, men who will give us confidence to draw near to the font of Mercy and find grace in the time of need. Send us priests to bring comfort to

the afflicted, pardon to the sinner, and peace to the dying; priests to hand You over to us in the Breaking of the Bread. High Priest, of the New and Eternal Covenant, we place our trust in You. To You be glory and praise forever. Amen

~Composed by Bishop Liam Cary~

2017 December Min. Assignments

Saturday Dec. 23rd 5pm:

Acolyte – Tom MacDonald
Lectors – Brett Edgerly
Elle' Edgerly
Euch. Min. – Barb Dalton
Mary Norton
Altar Serv. – Blaine Viescas
Trevor Hockett

Sunday Dec. 24th 9am:

Acolyte – Rick Nolte & Steve Schilling
Lectors – Ron Wortman
Barb Johnson
Euch. Min. – Ralph Lee
Cathy Baxter
Altar Servers – Elizabeth Koivisto
Johanna Koivisto

Sunday Dec. 24th 12pm:

Lectors – Melissa Lopez
Marilu Lopez
Euch. Min – Celia Nunez
Alfredo Villagomez
Altar Serv. – Uber Gonzalez
Diocelina Sotelo

Sunday Dec. 24th Christmas Vigil Mass 6pm

Acolytes – Rick Nolte & Tom MacDonald
Lectors – Kathie Leonard
Holly LeFerve
Euch. Min. – Amy Koivisto
Bob Koivisto
Altar Servers – Elizabeth Koivisto
Johanna Koivisto
Blaine Viescas

Monday Dec 25th Christmas Day 10am (bilingual)

Acolyte – Rick Nolte
Steve Schilling
Lectors – Doug Bristow
Francisco Quero
Euch. Min. – Ralph Lee
Martha Villagomez
Altar Servers – Blaine Viescas
Roman Stenbeck
Julissa Hernandez

***If you cannot be available please find a substitute. *Altar Servers* call Rick Nolte* @ 541-954-2331**

FR. Joseph's Corner...

Forgiveness

One day a while back, a man, his heart heavy with grief, was walking in the woods. As he thought about his life this day, he knew many things were not right. He thought about those who had lied about him back when he had a job. His thoughts turned to those who had stolen his things and cheated him. He remembered family that had passed on. His mind turned to the illness he had that no one could cure. His very soul was filled with anger, resentment and frustration. Standing there this day, searching for answers he could not find, knowing all else had failed him, he knelt at the base of an old oak tree to seek the one he knew would always be there. And with tears in his eyes, he prayed: "Lord, You have done wonderful things for me in this life. You have told me to do many things for you, and I happily obeyed. Today, you have told me to forgive. I am sad, Lord, because I cannot. I don't know how. It is not fair Lord. I didn't deserve these wrongs that were done against me and I shouldn't have to forgive. As perfect as your way is Lord, this one thing I cannot do, for I don't know how to forgive. My anger is so deep Lord, I fear I may not hear you, but I pray that you teach me to do this one thing I cannot do - Teach me To Forgive." As he knelt there in the quiet shade of that old oak tree, he felt something fall onto his shoulder. He opened his eyes. Out of the corner of one eye, he saw something red on his shirt. He could not turn to see what it was because where the oak tree had been was a large square piece of wood in the ground. He raised his head and saw two feet held to the wood with a large spike through them. He raised his head more, and tears came to his eyes as he saw Jesus hanging on a cross. He saw spikes in His hands, a gash in His side, a torn and battered body, deep thorns sunk into His head. Finally he saw the suffering and pain on His precious face. As their eyes met, the man's tears

turned to sobbing, and Jesus began to speak. "Have you ever told a lie, he asked?" man answered - yes Lord. "Have you ever been given too much change and kept it?" The man answered yes Lord. And the man sobbed more and more. "Have you ever taken something from work that wasn't yours," Jesus asked? And the man answered yes Lord. "Have you ever sworn, using my Father's name in vain?" The man, crying now, answered yes Lord. As Jesus asked many more times, "Have you ever"? The man's crying became uncontrollable, for he could only answer yes Lord. Then Jesus turned His head from one side to the other, and the man felt something fall on his other shoulder. He looked and saw that it was the blood of Jesus. When he looked back up, his eyes met those of Jesus, and there was a look of love the man had never seen or known before. Jesus said, "I didn't deserve this either, but I forgive you." It may be hard to see how you're going to get through something, but when you look back in life, you realize how true this statement is. Read the first line slowly and let it sink in. This is simple, and important. Read on.... This first line is deep.

IF GOD BRINGS YOU TO IT - HE WILL BRING YOU THROUGH IT.

Lord I love You and I need you, come into my heart, today. For without you I can do nothing.

Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph





The Knights of Columbus Offer breakfast every first Sunday of the month after the 9am Mass. **January 7, 2017**

Social Time

Please join us for coffee **every Sunday** after the 9:00 am Mass Sunday Coffee Hour
Volunteers Needed for Coffee Hour, to help call the Office at 541-447-6475.

Mass Intentions Dec.16th- Dec. 22nd

One must never forget the infinite graces that flow from the Sacrifice of the Mass which benefit ones soul.

(L) =Living (D) = Death

Sat. 8am – Maurice & Joan Gerke (D) / George & Sue Gerke

Sat. 5pm- George & Gerry Arndt (D) / George & Sue Gerke

Sun. 9am – Neil Rosenbaum (D) / Becker Family

Sun. 12pm – Justina Lopez (D) / Apolonio Villagomez

Mon. 8am – Butrico Family Intentions (D) Wm. & Frances Butrico

Tues. 8am – Lott Family Intentions (D) / Wm. & Frances Butrico

Wed. 12:15pm – Joan Mura Ayres (D) / Kate Erickson

Thurs. 8am – Willie Pedersen (D) / Irene Pedersen

Fri. 12:15pm – Betty Viescas (L) / Irene Pedersen

The Mango Tree

There was a king who wanted to discourage his four sons from making rash judgments. At his command, the eldest son made a winter journey to see a mango tree across the valley. When spring came, the next oldest was sent on the same journey. Summer followed, and the king sent his third son. After the youngest made his visit to the mango tree in the autumn, the king called them together and asked each son to describe the tree.

The first son said it looked like an ugly, old stump. The second disagreed, describing it as lovely - large and green. The third son declared its blossoms were as beautiful as roses. The fourth son said that they were all wrong. To him it was a tree filled with fruit - luscious, juicy fruit. "Well, each of you is right," the old king said.

Seeing the puzzled look in their eyes, the king went on to explain. "You see, each of you saw the mango tree in a different season; thus you all correctly described what you saw. The lesson," said the king, "is to withhold your judgment until you have seen the tree in all its seasons."

Like the mango tree, our lives go through seasons. Some seasons seem barren and unfruitful. During these times of unproductiveness and obscurity we may be tempted to judge our lives as failures. Family and job responsibilities may frustrate us from reaching career and education goals.

But we must withhold judgment until we have passed through all of life's seasons. All four seasons of a tree are necessary. The lonely months of winter prepare it for the fruitfulness of summer. So do not lose heart. The season of fruitfulness will come to us just as it comes to the tree. The Scripture says, *"To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to reap; ... a time to gain and a time to lose."* (Ecclesiastes 3:1-6)

Parish News

An Offertory Food Basket, will begin for every weekend Mass, to be brought up during the offertory with the Bread & Wine. There will be a sign-up sheet for volunteers to bring any food for the food basket and we will give the food to St. Vincent de Paul.

Christmas Pageant

Please come to the St Joseph Christmas Pageant TODAY from 2-4 PM, put on by the children of our parish. The children will perform a live Nativity with music and refreshments to follow. Please feel free to bring cookies, donations accepted and appreciated. Enjoy and support our youth. If you have any questions call Barb Dalton 541-416-1026.

The RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT COLLECTION

December 9th and 10th, you will find envelopes in the bulletin and the pews. The need to generously support this fund is self-evident. The Priests, generally speaking, have never been a well-paid category so that it is not rare to find the retired individuals among them, after having spent themselves in the service of the people, lacking funds to enjoy the well-deserved rest and comforts of old age.

As for the Religious, formerly the retired individuals among them used to be supported with what was saved from the earnings of the active members. But now, since the ratio of the active members to the retired ones has reduced drastically, the Religious Congregations find it extremely difficult to find enough funds to meet the needs of the latter. The purpose of the RETIREMENT FUND is precisely to make good this deficiency.

It is up to the faithful in whose service the Priests and the Religious spend themselves, to make sure that the latter do not lack the funds that are needed to make it possible for them to spend their last days on this earth in relative ease and comfort. So do contribute generously to the Fund in token of your love and concern for them.

God bless and reward you abundantly!

There will be no Religious Education classes Wednesday, December 20th and 27th. We will resume classes January 3, 2018

Bible Study Classes: We will have bible study Wednesday, Dec. 20th at 6:30pm but there will be no bible study Dec. 27th. We will resume class Wednesday January 3rd at 6:30pm at the Parish School Room 1.

The offertory envelopes for 2018 are ready in the vestibule for pick up. Please take yours.

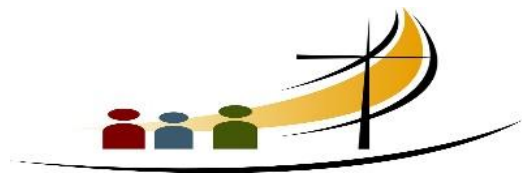
Knights of Columbus Christmas Cards for sale after the 9am Mass. November through December 24th in the Parish Hall.

Knights of Columbus Meeting Tuesday, December 19th at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Sunday December 24th at 6pm is the Christmas Vigil Mass, it is a Family Mass.

Monday, December 25th at 10am is our Christmas Day Mass and this is a bilingual mass.

The Parish Office will be closed Tuesday, December 26th.



Third Sunday of Advent



1st R. – Isa.61:1-2a, 10-11

Res. Ps – Luk.1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54

2nd R – 1The5:16-24

Gospel Accl – Isa.61:1

Gospel – Joh.1:6-8, 19-28

The third Sunday of Advent is called “*Gaudete Sunday*” because the Mass for today (in its original Latin text), begins with the opening antiphon: “*Gaudete in Domino semper*” --“*Rejoice in the Lord always.*” To remind ourselves that we are preparing for the very joyful occasion of the birth of Jesus, we light the rose candle, and the priest may wear rose vestments. The common theme of the day’s Scripture readings is one of joy and encouragement. The readings urge us to make the preparations required of us as we await the rebirth of Jesus in our hearts and lives. Holy Scripture reminds us that the coming of Jesus, past, present and future, is the reason for our rejoicing.

The Prophet Isaiah, in the first reading, encourages the Jewish exiles returning

from Babylon to rejoice because their God, Yahweh, is their strong Guide, Provider and Protector.

In today’s Responsorial Psalm (Luke 1:46 ff.) Mary rejoices in the great blessing given to her by exclaiming: “*My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit finds joy in God my Savior.*” St. Paul, in the second reading, advises the Thessalonian Christians to “*rejoice always*” by leading blameless, holy and thankful lives guided by the Holy Spirit, because Christ’s second coming is near, and he is faithful in his promise to reward them.

Today’s Gospel tells us that John the Baptist came to bear witness to Jesus as the Light of the world. The Baptizer wants all the Jews to rejoice because the long-expected Messiah, as the light of the world, will remove the darkness of sin from the world. We rejoice at the humility of John the Baptizer who tells the Sanhedrin members challenging him that he is unworthy even to become the slave of Jesus the Messiah. We also rejoice in the sincerity and commitment of John who spent himself completely in preparing people for the long-awaited messiah. We have an additional reason to rejoice because, like John the Baptizer, we, too, are chosen to bear witness to Christ Jesus, the Light of the world.

We need to bear witness to Christ the Light: By Baptism we become members of the family of Christ, the true Light of the world. Jesus said: “*You are the light of the world.*” Hence, our mission as brothers and sisters of Christ and

members of his Church is to reflect Christ’s Light to others, just as the moon reflects the light of the sun. It is especially important during the Advent season that we reflect Christ’s unconditional love and forgiveness. There are too many people who live in darkness and poverty, and who lack real freedom. There are others who are deafened and blinded by the cheap attractions of the world. Also, many feel lonely, unwanted, rejected, and marginalized. All these people are waiting for us to reflect the Light of Christ and to turn their lives into experiences of joy, wholeness and integrity. The joy of Jesus, the joy of Christmas can only be ours to the extent that we work with Jesus to bring joy into the lives of others. Let us remember that Christmas is not complete unless we show real generosity to those who have nothing to give us in return.

What should we do in preparation for Christmas? The Jews asked the same question of John. His answer was: “Repent and reform your lives, and prayerfully wait for the Messiah.” This means that we have to pray from the heart and pray more often. Our Blessed Mother, in her many apparitions, has urgently reminded us of the need for more

fervent and more frequent prayer. Let us remember that the Holy Mass is the most powerful of prayers. We must become a Eucharistic people, receiving the living presence of Jesus in our hearts so that we may be transformed into His image and likeness. We encounter Jesus in all the Sacraments. Regular monthly Confession makes us strong and enables us to receive more grace in the Eucharist. Let us also listen daily to God speaking to us through the Bible. Perhaps, we may want to pray the rosary daily and fast once a week all year round, not just during Advent and Lent. After all, we sin all year round, so why not fast also all year round? Let us also find some spare time to adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Let us forgive those who have offended us and pray for those whom we have offended. Finally, let us share our love with others in selfless and humble service, “doing small things but with great love” (Mother Teresa). As we prepare to celebrate Christmas and the coming of God into our lives we need also to remind ourselves that we have been called to be the means of bringing Jesus into other people’s lives.



