

Offertory 2018

	Needed	Weekly Offering
Dec. 2 nd	\$3,700.00	\$ 5157.00
De. 9 th	\$3,700.00	\$ 3260.47
Dec. 16 th	\$3,700.00	\$ 3253.00
Dec. 23 rd	\$ 3,700.00	
Dec. 30 th	\$3,700.00	
TOTAL	\$14,000.00	

Please Remember the Following:

Stephanie Keeler(niece of Fr. Greiner); Sheila Nehls; Patricia Carroll; David & Carol Leonard;; Billie Lanier; Sammi Pedersen; Bob & Lola Godat; Fred Vandehey; Katie Jordon; Joanne Besio; Mike Mulvihill; JenniferChristy; Dee Wettstein; Paul Paquin; Glen Johnston; Ann Pedersen; Gloria Wilcox,

Jim Lanning; Bernice Dubisar; Heather Messick; Family of Ralph and Mary Lee; Hernán Enrique Natalia Chávez; María, Sol Montel; Verónica Rodríguez; Luz Alejandra Bringas, Rodolfo Martin Arruabarrena; Susan Markie, Nettie Irene Downing, Harley & Clea Mayfield, Sam Lane, Naomi Blankenship, Bill Nicholson, Joanne Gleason, Betty Salgado, Rose Varghese, Leo Kuper, Sandy Shriver, Patrick Arnold, Virginia Martell, Kara Bachand, Carter Bailey, Charlene McMann, Marie Annette, Teri Burke, Nancy Meyers, Arelene Mura, Marisa Hazelton, Tuff Penhollow, Debbie Kern, Dennis Rose; Kim Rempel and for the special intentions of our parishioners and others.

St. Joseph Catholic Church Fourth Sunday of Advent December 23, 2018



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 - Saturday 8:00am
Wednesday and Friday 12:15pm

Rev. Fr. Joseph Kunnelaya T, Pastor
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
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Facebook: St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Prineville, Oregon
Email: stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com
Pastor: fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com

Daily Readings Dec. 24th – Dec. 30th

Mon. – 2Sam 7:1-5, 8b-12,14a,16; Luke 1:67-79
Tues.- Isa 62:11-12 (15ABC); Psalm 97:1,6,11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20
Wed. – Act 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mat 10:17-22
Thurs. 1Jo 1:1-4; Jo 20:1a,2-8
Fri. – 1Jo 1:5-2:2; Mat 2:12-18
Sat. - 1Jo 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35
Sun. - 1Sam 1:20-22; 24-28 (17C); Psalm 84:2-3,5-6,9-10; 1Jo 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52

Sacraments

Confessions: Wednesdays: 11:45am – 12:15pm, and Saturdays: 3:30 -4:30pm other times by appointment.
Contact Fr. Joseph for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
Baptisms will be every 4th Saturday of the month: Spanish Baptisms at 12pm and English Baptisms at 5pm vigil mass. Parents of children to be baptized must be registered members of the parish 6 months prior to the baptism. A Baptismal preparation class is mandatory for both parents and godparents. For more information call the parish office.
Marriages: Couples need to make an appointment with Fr. Joseph six months before the proposed date. Marriage Preparation course is mandatory.

Rosary Schedule

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

Date: Dec. 9th – Choir
Dec. 16th – K of C
Dec. 23rd - Ushers
Dec. 30th – Euch. Ministers

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~



2018 Dec. Weekly Minister Assignment

Saturday Dec. 29th 5pm:

Acolyte – Tom Norton

Lectors – Kathie Leanard

Matt Kutcher

Euch. Min. – Barb Dalton

Kathy Thompson

Altar Serv. –

Sunday Dec. 30th 9am:

Acolyte – Steve Schilling

Lectors – Avery LeFevre

Izzy Sherman

Euch. Min. – Amy Koivisto

Joan Hollsand

Altar Serv. –

Sunday Dec. 30th 12pm:

Acolyte –

Lectors – Ruby

Juana

Euch. Min. – Alfredo

Maria

Altar Serv. –

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

Maturing in Christ

Let us seek perfection until we reach
maturity in Christ. Indeed, Jesus Christ
gradually forms Himself in the good
Christian as He gradually completes
himself in the Church, His Mystical
Body.

“My thoughts are not your thoughts” (Is.
55:8). Before us His love and revealing
His heart to us, Christ made us into His
mind with the Sermon on the Mount
and the beatitudes.

Fr. Joseph’s Corner....

Let us have a story today . . .

*ONCE UPON A TIME, there was a man
who looked upon Christmas as a lot of
humbug. He wasn't a Scrooge. He was a
very kind and decent person, generous to
his family, and upright in all his dealings
with other people. But, he didn't believe
all that stuff about an incarnation, which
churches proclaim at Christmas. And he
was too honest to pretend that he did. “I
am truly sorry to distress you,” he told his
wife, who was a faithful churchgoer, but I
simply cannot understand this claim that
God “became man. It doesn’t make any
sense to me.” Then on Christmas Eve, his
wife and children went to church for the
Midnight Mass. He declined to
accompany them. “I’d feel like a
hypocrite,” he explained. “I’d much rather
stay at home. But I’ll wait up for you.”
Shortly after his family drove away in the
car, snow began to fall. He went to the
window and watched the flurries getting
heavier and heavier. “If we must have a
Christmas,” he reflected, “it’s nice to have
a white one.” He went back to his chair by
the fireside and began to read his
newspaper. A few minutes later, he was
startled by a thudding sound. It was
quickly followed by another, then
another. He thought that someone must
be throwing snow balls at his living room
window. When he went to the front door
to investigate, he found a flock of birds
huddled
miserably in the snow. They had been
caught in the storm and, in a desperate
search for shelter, had tried to fly through
his window. “I can't let those poor
creatures lie there and freeze,” he*

*thought. “But, how can I help them?”
Then he remembered the barn where the
children’s pony was stabled. It would
provide a warm shelter. He quickly put
on his coat and galoshes and tramped
through the deepening snow to the barn.
He opened the doors wide and turned on
the light. But the birds didn't come in.
“Food will bring them in,” he thought. So
he hurried back to the house for bread
crumbs, which he sprinkled on the snow
to make a trail into the barn. To his
dismay, the birds ignored the bread
crumbs and continued to flop around
helplessly in the snow. He tried shooing
them into the barn by walking around
and waving his arms. They scattered in
every direction— except into the warm,
lighted barn. “They find me a strange and
terrifying creature,” he said to himself,
“and I can’t seem to think of any way to
let them know that they can trust me. If
only I could be a bird myself for a few
minutes, perhaps I could lead them to
safety.” Just at that moment, the church
bells began to ring. He stood silently for a
while, listening to the bells pealing the
glad tidings of Christmas. Then he sank
to his knees in the snow. “Now I
understand,” he whispered. “Now I see
why you had to do it.” (Author Unknown)*

... Prayerful Wishes, Father Joseph





The Knights of Columbus offer Breakfast every first Sunday of the month after 9am Mass **Jan 6, 2019**

Coffee Hour

Please join us for coffee and donuts every 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Sunday after the 9am Mass. Schedule:
Volunteers Needed for Coffee Hour, to help call Kate Erickson at 541-678-8495

Mass Intentions Dec. 23rd –Dec. 29th
One must never forget the infinite graces that flow from the Sacrifice of the Mass which benefit ones soul.
(L) =Living (D) = Death

Sun. 9am- Lillian Ruseel (D)/ Dennis + Jackie Rose
Sun. 12pm – Maria de Jesus (D)/ Celia Nunez
Mon. 8am – Gilbert Sharp (D)/ Betty McDaniel
Tues. 8am – Lu Streetman (D)
Wed. 12:15pm –Gilbert Sharp (D)
Thurs 8am – Lu Streetman (D)/ Kate Erickson
Fri. 6pm – Sharp Family (Spec. Int.)/ Kate Erickson
Sat. 8am – Richard Moore (D)
Sat. 5pm – Gilbert Sharp (D)



Simple Prayers

Lord, when my hopes have been dashed to pieces and my dreams shattered, keep me close to You, and let me feel the flow of your strength into my heart. Amen.

Heavenly Father, I want to be your follower. Take my hand and tune me into the needs of the suffering and hungry. When I serve them, I serve you also. Amen.

Our Father, I need to feel the joy of Your presence – Your gentle voice of assurance and the comfort of Your arms enfolding me. Be with me today and always. Amen.

Father, some friends are deeply troubled and although I’ve listened to their problems many times, soften my heart and grant me patience to listen again if they need me. Amen.

Deliver me from gossiping, Lord, and give me the moral strength to defend the person being gossiped about. Amen.

Dear Lord, help me to remember to be more understanding of my loved ones’ limitations. Keep me from asking more of them than they are equipped to give. Amen.

Father, when I have been unjustly accused or scolded, I feel so humiliated and unworthy. Help me to restore my self-esteem. Amen



Parish News

Christmas Mass Schedule December 24th : 6pm

This is the vigil for Christmas

Christmas Day December 25th Masses at 9am & 12pm Noon

Father Reeves will celebrate the noon mass in Spanish.

Saint Vincent De Paul Society

The search for a new home for the Food Pantry maybe almost over. Jim Rodosevich, current President of SVdP, is negotiating with Lutheran Community Services for space in the old Hospital. Two meetings are planned in January to nominate and elect a succeeding President and present an action plan for re-starting the Food Panty. Meeting dates and times will be announced in the near future. Stay tuned.

Contact any of our current Board of Directors for information. They are:

Jim
Rodosevich: President
Charlie Kurtz: Vice
President
Ruth
Cholin: Secretary
Linda Holes: Pantry
Manager, Volunteer Coordinator
Gary
Thompson: Member-at-Large

December 29 and 30, 2018 St. Joseph’s Parish will celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family at all three Masses and participate in the following activities:

- Families are encouraged to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 3:30-4:30 pm, Saturday, December 29.
- During weekend Masses, December 29-30, families will have the opportunity to consecrate themselves the Holy Family through a short prayer card reading.
- In the upcoming year, families are encouraged to pray together, arrange a home blessing by Father Joseph and to display religious items throughout their homes.



Christmas Message from Fr. Joseph

The most consoling and encouraging message of Christmas is the angelic message, “Do not be afraid.” This is a phrase that occurs 88 times in the Bible -- and is mostly spoken by God to His people. This phrase is repeated so often that this short phrase has been called a distillation of the whole Bible. The Lord said it to Abraham before cutting a covenant with him: *“Don’t be afraid.”* Angel Gabriel said it to Daniel when he was frightened by a terrifying vision: *“Don’t be afraid.”* The angel said it to Zechariah, future father of John the Baptist. Angel Gabriel said it to Mary, who was troubled at the news she received. An angel said it to shepherds startled by the Christmas glory that shone round them. Jesus repeatedly said it to his disciples, culminating in his resurrected appearance when he came to his grieving, fearful friends and spoke the words, *“Don’t be afraid.”* Mary Magdalene heard this same command when she was in the garden searching for Jesus in the empty tomb. So, on this Christmas day, perhaps this command is the very one God would give to us today: *“Don’t be afraid.”*

Since it is found all over the Bible as words spoken by God, we can trust them. All of us have fears: fears for the safety of our families, fears of our own health and life, fears about possible accidents, illnesses, violent home intrusion, fears about our jobs. We are afraid of snakes and poisonous creatures, deep water and fire hazards. We are afraid of the health of a loved one that seems to be slipping away. We are all afraid to lose what we do have.

We are still afraid that what we do have, may not be enough in the end. On a global level, are afraid of terrorist attacks, nuclear warfare, religious persecution, global warming and so many other natural disasters. Christmas reminds us that if we fear God with reverential fear prompted by love, we don’t have to fear anything else in the world. We don’t have to fear people & things that can only hurt us in this life. No one, can take away who we are in Christ. No one, can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus!

Why we should not be afraid? The essence of Christmas message is that we need not be afraid because of three main reasons. 1) *We have a divine Savior to save us from our sins and grant us eternal life with Him.* 2) *We have an Immanuel God who lives with us and within us as our source of strength and guidance.* 3) *We have a love-sharing God who wanted to share His love with us by becoming one of us and sharing our fears, temptations, pains and suffering.*

We should not be afraid because we have Savior God. Jesus, the Incarnation of God as man, came to save us from the bondage of sin. It is because of God’s immense love for us. “God so loved the world that he sent His only Son so that ever one who believes in Him may not die, but have eternal life.” We celebrate that Incarnation today as good news because we have a Divine Savior. As our Savior, Jesus atoned for our sins and liberated us from slavery to sin by his suffering, death and resurrection. Every Christmas reminds us that we still need this Savior to be reborn in our hearts and to live there, for we need him every day to free us from our evil habits, addictions, baseless fears and unjust, impure and

uncharitable tendencies. Hence, Christmas challenges us to accept Jesus our as our Lord God and personal Savior and to surrender our sinful lives to him, allowing him to rule our lives.

We should not be afraid because we have an Immanuel God living with us and within us. Christmas is the feast of the Emmanuel because God in the New Testament is God-with-us, *Emmanuel*, who continues to live with us in all the events of our lives as announced by the Archangel Gabriel to Mary. The Creator of this vast and wondrous universe entered our history on this night and became human for us. What this means, of course, is that God does not intend to destroy us but to redeem and restore us to be the people he created us to be. The Christmas story tells us that there is a way out of our sinfulness and hopelessness, because God is with us. We are not alone. There is a mighty God within us to strengthen us in our weaknesses and temptations. As Emmanuel, Jesus lives in the Sacraments (especially in the Holy Eucharist), in the Holy Bible, in the praying community and in each believer, with the Holy Spirit Who is transforming us daily into the “Temples of the Holy Spirit.” Hence, each Christmas reminds us that we are bearers of God with the missionary duty of conveying Jesus to others around us by loving others as Jesus did, through sacrificial, humble and committed service. Sharing with others Jesus, the Emmanuel living within us, is the best Christmas gift we can give to, or receive from, others.

We should not be afraid because we have a God who wanted to share

His love with us by becoming one of us and sharing our fears, temptations pains, and suffering. Jesus, as our Savior, brought the “good news” that our God is a loving, forgiving, merciful, saving and rewarding God and not a judging, cruel and punishing God. Jesus demonstrated by his life and teaching how God, our heavenly Father, loves us, forgives us, provides for us and rewards us. All his miracles were signs of this Divine Love. Jesus’ final demonstration of God’s love for us was his death on the cross to atone for our sins and to make us children of God. It means that God accepts each of us just as we are. Each Christmas reminds us that sharing love with others is our Christian duty, and every time we do that, Jesus is reborn in our lives. Let us face this question, *“What does it profit me if Jesus is born in thousands of cribs all over the world and He is not born in my heart?”* (Alexander Pope). Hence, let us free ourselves from all our fears by allowing Jesus to be reborn in our hearts and lives, not only during Christmas, but every day, so that he may radiate the light of his presence from within us as sharing and selfless love, expressed in compassionate words and deeds, unconditional forgiveness, the spirit of humble service and overflowing generosity.

