

Fr. Joseph's Corner

“Lunch with God” (Author Unknown)

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring—all of which have the potential to turn a life around. People come into our lives for a reason, a season, or a lifetime. Embrace all equally! People touch our lives in many different ways. I will explain this with a story.

A little boy wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase with Twinkies and a six-pack of root beer, and he started on his journey. When he had gone about three blocks, he met an old man. He was sitting in the park just staring at some pigeons.

The boy sat down next to him and opened his suitcase. He was about to take a drink of his root beer when he noticed that the old man looked hungry, so he offered him a Twinkie. The old man gratefully accepted it and smiled at him. His smile was so pleasant that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered him a root beer. Again, he smiled at him. The boy was delighted! They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word.

As it grew dark, the boy realized how tired he was and got up to leave, but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old man, and gave him a hug. The old man gave him his biggest smile ever.

When the boy opened the door to his house a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, “What did you do today that made you so happy?” He replied,

“I had lunch with God.” But before his mother could respond, he added, “You know what? He’s got the most beautiful smile I’ve ever seen!”

Meanwhile, the old man, also radiant with joy, returned to his home. His son was stunned by the look of peace on his face and so he asked, “Dad, what did you do today that made you so happy?” He replied, “I ate Twinkies in the park with God.” However, before his son responded, he added, “You know, he’s much younger than I expected.”

We have experienced love, concern and care from our parents, grandparents, children, siblings, friends, and near and dear ones. We take their love for granted. We forget to appreciate them till they leave this world. While they are alive, let them know how important they are, and how much we love them and appreciate them. Why should we wait till they depart from this world?

—Prayerful Wishes, Fr. Joseph



November 2020 Weekly Offertory

Date	Needed	Offering
January 03, 2021	\$3,700.00	\$3,239.00
January 10, 2021	\$3,700.00	\$3,370.00
January 17, 2021	\$3,700.00	
January 24, 2021	\$3,700.00	
January 31, 2021		

“Give to the Most High as he has given to you,
for the Lord is one who always repays,
and he will give back to you sevenfold.”
(Sirach 35:10)

St. Joseph Catholic Church

150 E First St., P.O. Box 1315, Prineville OR 97751
January 17, 2021 † 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil Mass Saturday	5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass (English)	9:00 a.m.
Sunday Mass (Bilingual)	12:00 p.m.
Holy Days	8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Monday • Tuesday • Thursday	8:00 a.m.
Wednesday & Friday	12:00 p.m.

Pastor ♦ Rev. Fr. Joseph Kunnelaya T.
Secretary ♦ Karin Jones

Parish Office Hours ♦ Monday–Thursday ♦ 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Parish Office Telephone: (541) 447-6475
Fr. Joseph: 9:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m. ♦ (541) 420-4458
Parish Website: stjosephsprineville.org
Facebook: St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Prineville, Oregon
Email: stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com
Pastor: fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com
(Fr. Joseph's personal email address: joekunel55@gmail.com)

Director of Religious Education ♦ Barbara Dalton
Funeral Director for Music ♦ Garilynn Tocher



Confessions

Wednesdays: 11:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
Saturdays: 3:30–4:30 p.m.
(other times by appointment)

Anointing of the Sick

Contact Fr. Joseph for this Sacrament

- ♦ **DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET & CENACLE GROUP:** Every Monday after the 8 a.m. Mass.
- ♦ **FRIDAYS OF THE MONTH:** 1st Friday Mass at 12 p.m., with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Hour of Prayer, and Benediction after Mass
- ♦ **REMAINING FRIDAYS:** Mass at 12 p.m., with Rosary and Benediction after Mass



Baptisms

Baptisms will be held on 2nd Saturdays of the month in English and on 4th Saturdays in Spanish. Parents of children to be baptized must be registered members of the parish 6 months prior to 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 6 months before the proposed date. A Marriage Preparation Course is mandatory.

MASS INTENTIONS / DAILY READINGS

The practice of requesting a Mass to be offered for loved ones, living or deceased, is a beautiful and wonderful part of our Catholic tradition.

☛ Please Call the Parish Office to Have a Mass Intention Reserved. ☛

Monday	01/18/2021	8:00 a.m.	Dan Husar (L)	Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 2:18-22
Tuesday	01/19/2021	8:00 a.m.	Anne MacDonald (D)	Hebrews 6:10-20; Mark 2:23-28
Wednesday	01/20/2021	12:00 p.m.	Cheyenne Edgerly (L)	Hebrews 7:1-3, 15-17; Mark 3:1-6
Thursday	01/21/2021	8:00 a.m.	Chuck Bersang (D)	Hebrews 7:25-8:6; Mark 3:7-12*
Friday	01/22/2021	8:00 a.m.	James Mura (D)	Hebrews 8:6-13; Mark 3:13-19**
Saturday	01/23/2021	5:00 p.m.	Sammy Pedersen (L)	Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20
Sunday	01/24/2021	9:00 a.m.	Lu Streetman (D)	Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20
Sunday	01/24/2021	12:00 p.m.	St. Joseph Parish Family	Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

*Memorial / **Day of Prayer ♦ (L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

A CATHOLIC BOY and a Jewish boy were talking one day.

The Catholic boy said, "My priest knows more than your rabbi."

The Jewish boy said, "Well, of course, he does! That's because you tell him everything in Confession!"

Welcome back to Ordinary Time, the longest of the Church Seasons! This is our baseline, our normal; the other seasons celebrate something (Christmas, Easter) or anticipate something (Lent, Advent). But good old Ordinary Time is when we cover most of the story of Jesus' life, preaching, parables, miracles—His day-to-day struggles and successes.

The main theme of today's Scripture readings is Divine vocation—that everyone is called by God to be a witness for Christ by doing something for others with his or her life, using his or her unique gifts and blessings. Hence, today's readings remind us of our personal and corporate call to become witnesses for Jesus, the Lamb of God, by leading lives of holiness and purity.

In the Gospel, John the Baptist claims that his vocation is to introduce Jesus to two of his disciples as the "Lamb of God," suggesting Jesus' vocation to become a sacrificial lamb to atone for our sins. The disciples followed Jesus to His residence, accepting His invitation to "come and see." They stayed with Him that day. Then Andrew brought his brother Simon to Jesus, introducing Jesus to him as the Messiah. Thus, today's Gospel also describes the call or vocation of the first apostles and challenges us to invite others to Christ by our Christian witnessing.

Our Christian call is to live and die like the Lamb of God.

We live like a lamb: 1) by leading pure, innocent, humble, selfless lives, obeying Christ's commandment of love; 2) by appreciating the loving providence and protecting care of the Good Shepherd in his Church; and 3) by partaking of the Body and Blood of the Good Shepherd in the Holy Eucharist and deriving spiritual strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the Sacraments.



We die like a sacrificial lamb: 1) by sharing our blessings of health, wealth and talents with others in the family, parish and community; 2) by bearing witness to Christ in our illness, pain and suffering; and 3) by offering our suffering for

the salvation of souls and as reparation for our sins and those of others.

Our call is to rebuild broken lives. Like the missionary call of Samuel and the apostles, we too are called. Our call is to rebuild broken lives, reconciling them to God's love and justice through Christ Jesus, our Lamb and Lord.

Our call is to bear witness to the Lamb of God. Today's Gospel reminds us that being a disciple of Jesus means that we are to grow in faith and become witnesses for Him.

Bearing witness to Christ is an active rather than a passive enterprise. Knowing Jesus is a matter of experience. One could know the Catechism of the Catholic Church—all 700 pages of it—by heart, and still not know Jesus.

Bearing witness to Christ, then, demands that we should have personal and first-hand experience of Jesus.

We get this personal experience of Jesus in our daily lives—through the meditative reading and study of the Bible, through personal and family prayers and through the Sacraments—especially by participation in the Eucharistic celebration.

Once we have experienced the personal presence of Jesus in our daily lives, we will start sharing with others the Good News of love, peace, justice, tolerance, mercy and forgiveness preached and lived by Jesus.

The essence of our witness-bearing is to state what we have seen, heard, experienced and believed, and then to invite others to "come and see." Other people will see Jesus in our lives when we love, forgive and spend time doing good.

A dynamic and living experience of Jesus will also enable us to invite and encourage people to come and participate in our Church activities.

The Year of St. Joseph

*Thursday—January 21st
Memorial of St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr



According to tradition, Agnes was a member of the Roman nobility, born in AD 291. She suffered martyrdom at the age of 12 or 13 during the reign of Roman Emperor Diocletian, on January 21, 304.

A beautiful young girl from a wealthy Christian family, Agnes had many suitors of high rank, and the young men, slighted by her resolute devotion to religious purity, submitted her name to the authorities as a follower of Christianity. The Prefect Sempronius condemned Agnes to be dragged naked through the streets to a brothel. In one account, as she prayed, her hair grew and covered her body. It was also said that all of the men who attempted to rape her were immediately struck blind. The son of the Prefect was struck dead, but he revived after she prayed for him, causing her release. There commenced a trial from which Sempronius recused himself, allowing another figure to preside and sentence St. Agnes to death. She was led out and bound to a stake, but the bundle of wood would not burn, or the flames parted away from her, whereupon the officer in charge of the troops drew his sword and beheaded her or, in some other texts, stabbed her in the throat. It is also said that her blood poured to the stadium floor where other Christians soaked it up with cloths.

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**Friday—January 22nd
Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), No. 373, designates January 22nd as a particular day of prayer and penance—called the *Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children*: "In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22nd shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion."

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The Prayer List

- Linda Arian ♦ Frederick Smit
- Lyn Rodgers ♦ Tom Burke
- Joe Morales ♦ The Wheeler Family
- Bob George ♦ The Fray Family
- Sister Barbara ♦ Daniel & Marilyn Gilday
- Marilyn & Slim Trahan

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Sunday Rosary

- 01/24/2021: Ushers
- 01/31/2021: Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

Religious Education

Just a reminder that all children attending Religious Education at St. Joseph Parish, need to attend Mass regularly. We are also learning about the Circle of Grace that contributes to the protection of our young children and affirms them as beloved children of God.

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Year of St. Joseph, Pope Francis

Joseph, says Holy Scripture, was a just man; he was innocent and pure, and he became the husband of Mary. He was gentle and tender—as one worthy to be named the father of Jesus.

Please Note: We will say the following prayer to St. Joseph, our Patron Saint, after all the Masses. You will also find the prayer in the pews.

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Prayer to St. Joseph

Oh glorious St. Joseph, on whom God bestowed the name and dignity of foster father of Jesus, and gave Mary ever Virgin to be your most pure spouse, head of the Holy Family on earth.

Oh heavenly patron, St. Joseph, your name our parish has the honor to bear, pray earnestly to God for each one of us in our parish community; confirm us in faith; strengthen us in virtue, defend us in the battle of life, and unite us as a loving, caring and worshipping parish family.

Please remove all the doubts and fear from our life during this time of Pandemic, so that as a worshipping community, we put our trust in our Heavenly Father and do His Will as you have always done in your life. Protect us also from all the snares of the enemy and from all adversity. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

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Plenary Indulgences for the Year of St. Joseph

Recite the Litany of St. Joseph for persecuted Christians. Copies are on the table in the Narthex.

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Divine Mercy Chaplet and Cenacle Group

Please note that the Divine Mercy is said after the **8 a.m. Mass on Mondays**. Immediately following Mass is the Divine Mercy Cenacle Group Meeting in the Parish Classrooms.

