

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"You'll Find Jesus There" (Author Unknown)

The surgeon sat beside the boy's bed. The boy's parents sat across from him. "Tomorrow morning," the surgeon began, "I'll open up your heart . . ."

"You'll find Jesus there," the boy interrupted. The surgeon looked up, slightly annoyed. "I'll cut your heart open," he continued, "to see how much damage has been done."

"But when you open up my heart, you'll find Jesus in there."

The surgeon looked to the boy's parents, who sat quietly. Looking back at the boy, he said, "When I see how much damage has been done, I'll sew your heart and chest back up, and then I'll plan what to do next."

"But you'll find Jesus in my heart. The Bible says he lives there. The hymns all say he lives there. You'll find him in my heart."

The surgeon had had enough. "I'll tell you what I'll find in your heart. I'll find damaged muscle, low blood supply, and weakened vessels. And I'll find out if I can make you well."

"You'll find Jesus there, too. He really lives there!" the boy assured the surgeon as he was leaving his hospital room.

Later, after the surgery, the surgeon sat in his office, recording his notes: ". . . damaged aorta, damaged pulmonary vein, widespread muscle degeneration. No hope for transplant; no hope for cure."



Therapy: painkillers, bed rest. Prognosis . . ." here he paused. "Death in less than a year." He stopped the recorder, but there was more to be said.

"Why?" he asked aloud. "Why did you do this? You've put him here. You've put him in this pain. And you've cursed him to an early death. Why?"

The Lord answered, "The boy, my lamb, was not meant for your flock for long, for he is a part of my flock, and he will forever be. Because here, in my flock," the Lord continued, "he will feel no pain, and he will be comforted as you cannot even imagine. His parents will one day join him here, and they, too, will know peace. And my flock will continue to grow."

The surgeon's tears were hot, but his anger was hotter still. "You created that boy, and you created that heart. He'll be dead in a few months. Why?"

Again, the Lord answered, "The boy, my lamb, shall return to my flock, for he has done his duty. I did not put my lamb with your flock to lose him—but to retrieve another lost lamb."

And the surgeon wept.

Later, the surgeon sat beside the boy's bed. The boy's parents sat across from him.

When the boy awoke, he whispered to the surgeon, "Did you cut open my heart?"

"Yes," said the surgeon.

"What did you find?" asked the boy.

"I found Jesus there," said the surgeon.

—Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph

November 2020 Weekly Offertory

Date	Needed	Offering
April 4, 2021	\$3,700.00	\$5,317.00
April 11, 2021	\$3,700.00	\$3,675.00
April 18, 2021	\$3,700.00	
April 25, 2021	\$3,700.00	

"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 97754

April 18, 2021 † 3rd Sunday of Easter B

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: <https://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.
- ♦ **1ST FRIDAYS OF THE MONTH:** Mass is at 12 p.m., with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a Holy Hour of Prayer with the Rosary, Litany of St. Joseph, and Benediction after Mass.
- ♦ **REMAINING FRIDAYS:** Mass is at 12 p.m., with the 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	04/19/2021	8:00 a.m.	Divine Mercy Cenacle Group (L)	Acts 6:8–15; John 6:22–29
Tuesday	04/20/2021	8:00 a.m.	Tina Hill (L)	Acts 7:51–8:1a; John 6:30–35
Wednesday	04/21/2021	12:00 p.m.	Ed Mura (L)	Acts 8:1b–8; John 6:35–40
Thursday	04/22/2021	8:00 a.m.	Dianna Straine (L)	Acts 8:26–40; John 6:44–51
Friday	04/23/2021	12:00 p.m.	Xander Dean Dikes (L)	Acts 9:1–20; John 6:52–59
Saturday	04/24/2021	5:00 p.m.	Jim Wheeler (D)	Acts 4:8–12; 1 John 3:1–2; John 10:11–18
Sunday	04/25/2021	9:00 a.m.	Lu Streetman (D)	Acts 4:8–12; 1 John 3:1–2; John 10:11–18
Sunday	04/25/2021	12:00 p.m.	St. Joseph Parish	Acts 4:8–12; 1 John 3:1–2; John 10:11–18

(L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

IF THE POINT of last Sunday's gospel was on experiencing the risen Lord, the point of today's gospel seems to be on sharing our faith with others. Christ wants his followers to be his witnesses. Witnessing, like a coin, has two sides. One side has to do with seeing an event, having knowledge of something through personal experience and not on hearsay. The other side has to do with being able to give an account of it before others. That we are called to be witnesses of Christ means that we are called first to have a personal experience of Christ, and then to share this experience with others.

Today's Gospel follows the encounter the two disciples had with the risen Jesus on the road to Emmaus, where they had recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread. Now, these same two disciples had returned to Jerusalem, to the Upper Room where the Last Supper took place to share their experience with the apostles. All of the apostles are hidden there, staying out of sight for fear that those who killed Jesus will soon be coming for them.

We read that, **"While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you' "** (Luke 24:36).

Christ makes himself present in the process of sharing their faith experience with the other unbelieving disciples. Now the eleven apostles and their companions are, in turn, enabled to experience the risen Lord. And, it takes no stretch of the imagination to see that for the two who shared their experience, this would be a big strengthening of faith—a big empowerment.

What does Jesus do to those who experience him? First, he communicates peace to their troubled hearts. Then he tries to convince them that the same Jesus of Nazareth who suffered and died the shameful death on the cross is the very one who is now alive in glory with God. He goes as far as eating broiled fish which, of course, he does not



need, in order to make the point. Then he opens their minds to understand the scriptures and how they point to him.

Finally, he commissions them to be his witnesses: **"You are witnesses of these things"** (Luke 24:48).

This is what Jesus did when he appeared in the gathering of the disciples that Sunday morning 2,000 years ago. And this is what he does when he appears in the Sunday gathering of the faithful here today.

Notice how active Jesus is. He is the one who gives them his peace. He is the one who strengthens their faith and takes away their doubts. He is the one who opens their minds and explains the scriptures to them. He is the one who declares them his witnesses. The disciples do not do much in the encounter except open their eyes to see him, open their hearts to let in his peace, and open their minds to receive his instruction. And, in the end, when he says, "You are witnesses of these things," they would be expected to respond, "Yes, Lord," and then go out and try to be just that.

How do we witness to Christ? Here many way-side preachers get it wrong. It is not by threatening people with eternal hellfire. It is not by arguing with them on controversial theological issues. It is simply—as the two disciples on the way to Emmaus did—by telling the story of our personal encounter with Christ. It is sharing with them why we are Christians. As St Peter tells us, **"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But, do this with gentleness and respect"** (1 Peter 3:15).

In the sacraments, Jesus takes our fears away—the same way he did on the road to Emmaus and in the Upper Room. Like his disciples, we are then called to go to free others from their fears by telling them the good news that Christ has conquered death.

The Year of St. Joseph

Coffee Hour



Starting **this Sunday, April 18th**, the Daughters of St. Joseph will resume **"Coffee Hour"** after the 9 a.m. Mass in the Parish Hall. They will be serving cookies instead of donuts. Come and enjoy!

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The Sacrament of 1st Holy Communion

On **Saturday, April 24th**, Confessions will be at **3 p.m.**, and the celebration of 1st Holy Communion is at the **5 p.m. Mass**. Then on **Sunday, April 25th**, 1st Holy Communion will be celebrated at the **9 a.m. and 12 p.m.** Masses.



All children will receive more information from their Religious Education teacher. Girls in a simple white dress, and boys in black pants, black tie, and a white shirt.

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Sunday Rosary

04/25/21: Lectors

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Ladies' Night Out



Ladies Night Out is back! If interested, here are the details:

When: Thursday, April 22nd
Where: Matzalan Restaurant
Time: 4:30 p.m.

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May Clean-Up

During the month of May, we will be looking for volunteers to help clean up the Church, the hall—including classrooms and the storage units. This will entail painting, general repairs where needed, and recycling things that are no longer needed or being used. We will have a list for you to add your name and what you would like to volunteer to do. This is a great team-building event, and our Confirmation students can add to their credit hours.



Church
Cleanup

Let's Do This!



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The Prayer List

Frederick Smit ♦ Bob George ♦ Terrance Holmes
Sue Morales ♦ Jacqueline Iverson ♦ Mike Mulvihill
Deacon Caleb Cunningham

Parish Feast Day for St. Joseph

Being that it is the Year of St. Joseph, the Knights of Columbus and the Daughters of St. Joseph are preparing a feast day on **Sunday, May 2nd**, for the parishioners of St. Joseph, to honor our Patron Saint.

There will be only one Mass (bilingual) that day at 10 a.m. to be followed by a Parish Picnic. We will keep everyone updated as the plans come together.

There will be a 9-day Novena to St. Joseph starting on **Thursday, April 22nd, and ending on Friday, April 30th**, in preparation for the Feast Day on **May 2nd**.

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Bishops Annual Appeal 2021

The 2021 Bishop's Annual Appeal began last week. This year the theme is *Free to be Faithful*. We are called to reflect on the treasure of faith as a gift to be shared and that we are all free to do just that.

The overall Appeal participation goal is **21%** and the supporting financial target is **\$600,000**. For our Parish the participation goal is **22%** with a supporting target of **\$16,000.00**.

Many important diocesan and parish programs that help thousands in our diocese every year are made possible by your generosity such as tuition for our seminarians, clergy formation, workshops for parish catechists, diocesan-wide youth retreats, as well as assistance to our Catholic Schools.

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FYI



The topmost rank of the Holy Order within the Catholic Church is that of the Bishops. This doesn't mean that all Bishops hold the same positions and responsibilities as one another. Within the role of Bishop, there are 8 separate positions that can be held by these high-ranking members of the clergy.

Major Archbishops:

When the leader of an autonomous branch of the Church that is both large enough and stable enough to govern themselves, but due to historical, ecumenical, or political limitations, are unable to be classified as a patriarch of their Church, they can instead be granted the title of Major Archbishop.

Four Major Archbishops can be found in the following Countries: India, Romania, and Ukraine.