

Fr. Joseph's Corner

Three Conditions of Discipleship

After Peter had made his famous declaration of faith in Jesus as God and the Messiah, Jesus plainly warned his disciples about his suffering death and Resurrection. But the Apostles were unwilling to accept such a fate for their master. Hence, Jesus declared the three conditions of discipleship, which he expected from his followers.

And Jesus said to all, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake, he will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?" (Lk 9:22-25)

The three conditions: 1) Deny yourself, 2) Take up your cross, 3) Follow Me.

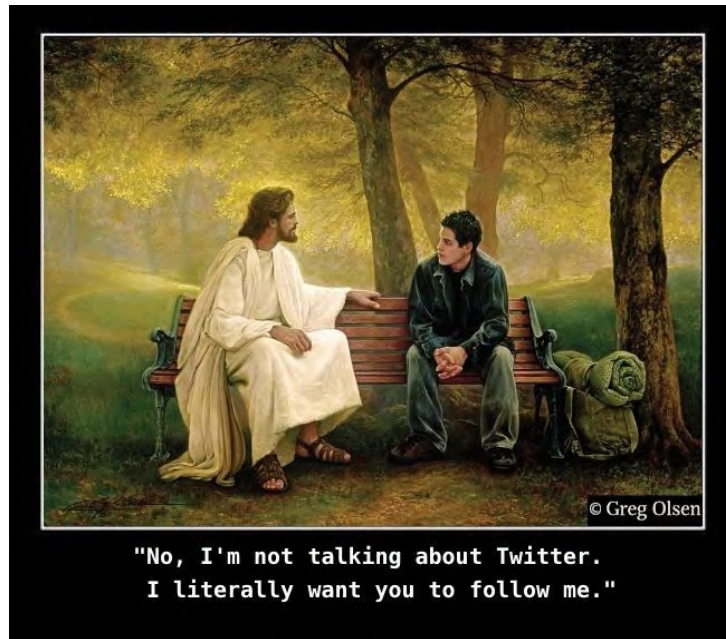
1) Denying oneself involves a) the eviction of self from the heart, and the cleansing of all evil tendencies and addictions from the heart, with the help of the Holy Spirit; b) the enthronement of God in the heart and the dedication of oneself to Him; and c) the surrendering of one's life to the enthroned God through the loving, selfless service of others for God's glory.

2) Taking up one's cross means, not only accepting gracefully from God our pains and suffering, but also accepting the pain involved in serving others, in sharing our blessings with them, and in controlling our evil tendencies. Carrying one's cross becomes easier when we compare our light crosses with the heavier ones given to terminally ill patients and to the exploited people living in subhuman conditions. The realization that Jesus carries with us the heavier part of our cross also makes our cross-bearing easier and more salvific.

3) "Follow Me" means to follow Jesus by obeying the word of God and adjusting one's life accordingly. The disciple should be ever ready to obey as Jesus directs him or her through His words in the Bible and through the teaching authority that He has instituted in the Church.


The paradox of saving/losing and losing/saving life: According to Bible commentators, the word "life" is here used, clearly, in a double sense: the earthly life of man in flesh and time, and his eternal life of happiness in heaven. Hence, what Jesus means is that whoever wishes to save his (earthly) life will lose his (eternal) life. But whoever loses his (earthly) life by spending it for Jesus and the Gospel, will save his (eternal) life.

—Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph



May 2021 Weekly Offertory

Date	Needed	Offering
May 02 2021	\$3,700.00	\$3,334.00
May 09, 2021	\$3,700.00	\$3,042.00
May 16, 2021	\$3,700.00	
May 23, 2021	\$3,700.00	
May 30, 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
 May 16, 2021 † 7th Sunday of Easter & The Ascension of the Lord

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
Parish Bulletin Designer / Editor ♦ Tina Hill



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	05/17/2021	8:00 a.m.	Catherine Bastonero (D)	Acts 19:1-8; John 16:29-33
Tuesday	05/18/2021	8:00 a.m.	Jane Loftus-Cole (L)	Acts 20:17-27; John 17:1-11a
Wednesday	05/19/2021	12:00 p.m.	Leo & Lila Hazelton (L)	Acts 20:28-38; John 17:11b-19
Thursday	05/20/2021	8:00 a.m.	Fred Kappel (D)	Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; John 17:20-26
Friday	05/21/2021	12:00 p.m.	Family of Edgar Morales (L)	Acts 25:13b-21; John 21:15-19
Saturday	05/22/2021	5:00 p.m.	Lu Streetman (D)	Acts 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23*
Sunday	05/23/2021	9:00 a.m.	Jennie Bachman (D)	Acts 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23*
Sunday	05/23/2021	12:00 p.m.	Fr. Victor Mena (L)	Acts 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23*

* = Solemnity ♦ (L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

IN THE FIRST reading from Acts today, two men dressed in white ask the disciple the question, "Why are you standing there looking at the sky?" It might be safe to assume the Apostles were overwhelmed by what they had just heard and seen.

In a few short weeks, they had witnessed the torture and death of their beloved friend, who they believed was the promised Messiah. They were trying to comprehend—and believe—that He was no longer dead after seeing Him, touching Him, and eating with Him.

And in today's scripture, Jesus tells them that He will send the Holy Spirit, and that they will be His witnesses—not only to the Jews in Jerusalem—but to the ends of the earth.

And then He is lifted on a cloud and disappears from their sight!

Standing motionless, staring up at the sky—probably with their mouths gaping open—it seems totally understandable.

It is reasonable to think that the Apostles were still reeling from their thoughts and feelings about recent events.

Mathew's Gospel confirms this. When they met Jesus in Galilee, as He instructed them, they worshiped Him, but they doubted. Yet Jesus had confidence in them.

His response to the doubting Apostles is firm and immediate: "All power in heaven and on

**"Galileans, why are you standing there looking up at the sky? This Jesus, who was taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way that you saw him go to heaven."
(Acts 1:11)**



earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded."

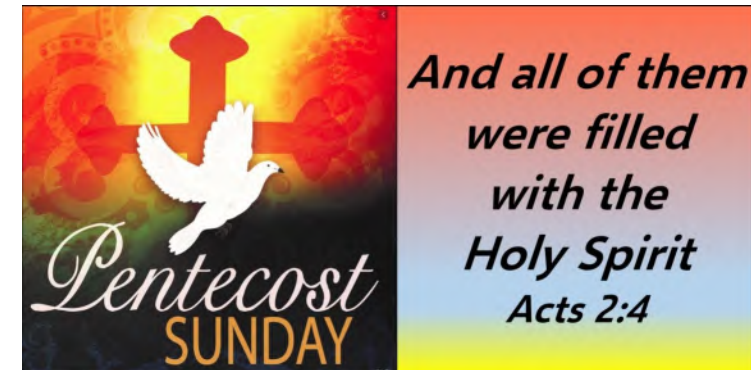
Jesus has total trust in the Father and in God's plan for the world. He commends that plan to the Apostles. He entrusts his power to them to be His witnesses to all the world—to go and make disciples, to baptize them, and to teach all that He commanded.

But He doesn't leave them—or us—alone, staring up at the sky to question and doubt whether we can accomplish this great task.

He remains with us as

we accept and embrace His mission, guiding and empowering us through the Holy Spirit. He remains with us, nourishing and sustaining us for His mission with His body and blood each time we receive Him in the Eucharist. He remains with us, teaching and encouraging us in the community he established—His Church, the Body of Christ. And as He trusted the doubting Apostles, He trusts us to believe in Him and His mission. He trusts us to believe that He is the way, the truth and the life that leads and guides us until His return. And He trusts us to believe that he is with us—always—until the end of the age.

The Year of St. Joseph



*Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021

Solemnity: Pentecost Sunday is one of the most ancient feasts of the Church, celebrated early enough to be mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles and St. Paul's 1st Letter to the Corinthians.

For Christians, Pentecost is the 50th day after Easter (if we count both Easter and Pentecost). That means that it is a moveable feast—a feast whose date changes every year, based on the date of Easter in that year. The earliest possible date for Pentecost Sunday is May 10th; the latest is June 13th.

On Pentecost Sunday, when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles, they were granted the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Those gifts helped them to fulfill their mission to preach the Gospel to all nations. For us, too, those gifts—granted when we are infused with sanctifying grace, the life of God in our souls—help us to live a Christian life.

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are:

Wisdom † Understanding † Counsel
Fortitude † Knowledge
Piety † Fear of the Lord

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Bishop's Annual Appeal 2021 Commitment Weekend



To date, our parish has had 33 families make a pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. This is 47% participation of our family goal. The total amount pledged to date is \$12,115. St. Joseph's goal is \$16,000.

If you have not made a pledge as of today, please consider helping Bishop Liam with his 2021 target. Thanks to all who have already made a commitment to the BAA.

Ladies' Night Out

The Daughters of St. Joseph will have their monthly "Ladies Night Out" on **May 20th** at Dillon's. Please be there by 4:30 p.m.



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The Prayer List

Frederick Smit † Bob George
Terrance Holmes † Sue Morales
Jacqueline Iverson † Pat Buck
Mike Mulvihill † Remi Filken
Deacon Caleb Cunningham
Jenna Gunderson

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2nd Collection

Fr. Joseph would like to have a second collection on the 2nd weekend of the month. This collection will help with Wine, Hosts, Candles, etc., and will begin on **June 13th**. Extra envelopes will be in the narthex on the table. Thank you so much for your support.

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St. Vincent De Paul

Help is desperately needed at St. Vincent de Paul. If you can volunteer a few hours a week or be on call when there is a need due to vacation, sickness, etc., please call Joan Holland at (541) 416-3651, or leave a message at SVdP at (541) 447-7662.



This is a great and rewarding ministry, and we can use your help.

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Erickson's Thriftway

To help our parish, please bring in your receipts from Erickson's Thriftway. We get a percentage of your total, which helps with items that are needed for the Church. Please remember to get the receipt initialed.

On the first of each month, Joan Holland will add up the receipts for the prior month (this is all they will take now) and drop that off at Erickson's. The box is located in the narthex of the church.