

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"Chirpy and the Angel with the Lamp" (by Fr. Joseph Kunnelaya)

Once upon a time, there was a small bird named Chirpy who had so many dreams in his heart. He tried to get out of his cage many, many times but, whenever he reached the open door of the cage, he would shudder with fear. He was afraid of the future, and he was afraid of letting go of his protective surroundings of the little cage. "This is my beautiful little world, and I am safe here," he thought. "No, this is not your world, Chirpy." He heard a very feeble murmur somewhere nearby. "Your world is up there in the sky. You are born to be free." He searched for the author of the voice but could not find anyone around.

Once again he tried to get out of the cage. Nobody was there to stop him, but deep down he felt there would be danger on the way. In the past he had experienced so much rejection, so much criticism, and hopelessness. He was hurt many times and, whenever he stepped into the open space, all these memories were haunting him. There he stood looking out to the future. He looked for someone to liberate him and show him the way.

"What do you want in your life, Chirpy?" someone called out to him. "I want freedom—I want fullness of life," Chirpy murmured. He was surprised at the question, and the answer came from within—from his own heart. "For a new life, you have to die. You have to be purified. You have to die to your insecure feelings, destroy your fears. Just burn the guilt and hurt feelings in the fire that's within you. Thus, you can become a new being, and enjoy the freedom to be yourself!"

Slowly, he stepped out of the cage with much difficulty because his legs were still in shackles, and on his body was a Cactus that had pierced its thorns into his flesh. He tried to pull it out of himself but could not. With this heavy burden, he moved ahead slowly. Then in a little way, he found a beautiful garden where there were so many beautiful cactuses with many magnificent flowers.

His eyes were searching for someone to help him reach the garden and to save him from the Cactus which had become a part of him. Then he heard a beautiful song and in that song, he heard his name. He could not believe his ears. He was being called by someone. He looked back, and he could not see anyone. And then when he looked up, he could not believe his eyes! He saw an angel with a lamp coming down to show him the way to the cactus garden. As the angel came near, Chirpy stretched his hands out and touched the lamp.



With his other hand, he slowly, lovingly patted the Cactus that he was carrying. Suddenly he found himself in the cactus garden, and the Cactus he was carrying came out of him without giving him any pain or discomfort. His heart was filled with so much love for this Cactus, which was once a very painful and heavy burden for him. The angel took the Cactus from his hand and placed it on the beautiful cactus that was in the middle of the garden. As soon as it was placed on the garden cactus, there bloomed a flower of different colors.

Chirpy then placed the cage and the shackles beside that cactus as a reminder to himself that, once upon a time, there were shackles on his legs and a cage around him.

"You are the master of yourself, Chirpy. You have the power to become whatever you want to become. I am with you, and I'll guide you with this burning lamp," the angel said, looking at Chirpy with assurance.

Chirpy felt so much peace and serenity, and his heart was filled with so much joy and happiness. Then the angel took out a flame from the lamp and touched Chirpy's forehead with it. Suddenly all of his being was filled with brightness, and his wings were strengthened. The angel gave him a gentle push, saying, "Fly, fly, my friend, for I am with you."

As he was spreading his wings to fly up into the sky, the small Cactus reminded him, "Don't be afraid of me—go ahead. I will be your strength, not your weakness. I will be with you always." Then Chirpy took off into the vast, wide horizon.

As Chirpy flew high up into the sky, he enjoyed the peace and serenity—the freedom and strength that he was feeling. He looked down and enjoyed the beauty of nature, the vast meadows, and the rolling hills. The wind guided him wherever it wanted, and he just let go of himself freely and willingly.

Then he heard a beautiful song coming from below, as if it were inviting him. He flew down and down, feeling lighter and lighter. There he saw his reflection in the water. In that reflection, he saw that the angel with the lamp was flying with him, spreading his wings wide with the light of the lamp over him.

Then the angel took Chirpy's hands and beckoned him to fly to Eternity with him. And so, with much joy in his heart and a wonderful song on his lips, Chirpy flew to Eternity, accompanied by the Angel with the Lamp.

—Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph

June 2021 Weekly Offertory

Date	Needed	Offering
June 06, 2021	\$3,700.00	\$5,061.50
June 13, 2021	\$3,700.00	\$3,738.30
June 20, 2021	\$3,700.00	\$2,175.50
June 27, 2021	\$3,700.00	

Monthly Rosary Schedule

1st Sunday: Pro Life
 2nd Sunday: Eucharistic Ministers
 3rd Sunday: Knights of Columbus
 4th Sunday: Lectors
 5th Sunday: Ushers



St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

June 27, 2021 † 13th 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: <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

RCIA ♦ Garilynn Torcher & Cheyenne Edgerly

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	06/28/2021	8:00 a.m.	Barbara Barrus (D)	Genesis 18:16-33; Matthew 8:18-22*
Tuesday	06/29/2021	8:00 a.m.	Eunice Thompson (D)	Acts 12:1-11; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18; Matthew 16:13-19**
Wednesday	06/30/2021	12:00 p.m.	Jean Kmiecik (D)	Genesis 21:5, 8-20a; Matthew 8:28-34
Thursday	07/01/2021	8:00 a.m.	Evelyn Walwork (D)	Genesis 22:1b-19; Matthew 9:1-8
Friday	07/02/2021	12:00 p.m.	Evelyn Walwork (D)	Genesis 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Matthew 9:9-13
Saturday	07/03/2021	5:00 p.m.	Ann Olsen (D)	Ezekiel 2:2-5; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 6: 1-6a
Sunday	07/04/2021	9:00 a.m.	Divine Mercy Cenacle Grp (L)	Ezekiel 2:2-5; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 6: 1-6a
Sunday	07/04/2021	12:00 p.m.	Father Steve Garza (L)	Ezekiel 2:2-5; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 6: 1-6a

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

Today's Homily



TODAY'S READINGS SPEAK of the gift of life—both physical and spiritual—that God has given us. They urge and challenge us to be grateful for our health in body and soul and to use God's gifts of life and health responsibly.

The first reading, taken from the Book of Wisdom, tells us that God gave us life and health, and that it was the jealousy of a Satan that produced illness and death. The reading also suggests that the *goal* of our lives on earth is to know, to love, and to serve God here with perfect health in body and soul, and to share God's immortal life forever.

In the second reading, St. Paul asks the Corinthian Christian community to show their Jewish brothers and sisters in Jerusalem living in poverty and sickness the kindness and compassion expressed by Jesus in His healing ministry.

Today's Gospel describes two of our Lord's miracles: the healing of a woman who suffered from a chronic bleeding disease, and the returning of the dead daughter of Jairus to life. These healings teach us that Jesus willed life, and He willed full life for all God's children. The two healings also reveal Jesus as a generous, kind and compassionate God Who wills that men should live their wholesome lives fully.

They also give us further proof of the Divine power and the Infinite mercy of our Savior. These miracles were worked by Jesus as reward for the *trusting Faith* of a synagogue ruler and of a woman with a hemorrhage.

We need to accept God's call *to health, wholeness, and holiness*. Jesus accepts us as we are. Hence, let us bring before Him our bodily illnesses and spiritual wounds, and ask for His healing touch. We should pray for healing that will give us health in every aspect of our lives—not just in our bodies—so that we may function in perfect harmony with people around us and with the environment.

As Christians, we believe that Jesus continues to heal us through His instruments in the medical profession, such as doctors, nurses, and medical technicians.

Hence, when we go to a doctor, we need to offer a prayer to Christ, *the Divine Healer*, that we may choose the right doctor, and that s/he may make the correct diagnosis, prescribe the correct treatment, and give us the right medicine. Let us not forget the truth that, over, above, and beyond the ability and skill of the greatest human healer, Christ still works wonders of healing. Let us also thank God for the great gift of health, and use it for helping those who are sick.

We need to continue the healing mission of the Church: As members of the Church, we are not excused from our vocation to be healers. When a friend of ours is terminally ill, the skill of the doctors and their advanced medical tools often become powerless. What the patient needs in such a situation is our care, concern, and prayerful presence, enabling them to experience through us the love, compassion, and mercy of Jesus.

We do our share of Christ's healing mission by visiting the sick, by praying for their healing, and by boosting their morale through our loving presence, encouragement and inspiration. Whenever we are faced with different afflictions and illness and are afraid, let us listen to Jesus, who tells us, *Do not be afraid; only have Faith*. The phrase, *Do not be afraid*, appears in the Bible 366 times.

We need to have trusting Faith in the mercy and Divine power of Jesus: The primary condition for the effectiveness of our prayer is our Faith in the goodness and mercy of God. Such a Faith is possible only if we remain related to God through prayer, the Sacraments, and a meditative study of the Bible. Every day we should say a fervent prayer of thanksgiving to God for the gift of active Faith.

2021—The Year of St. Joseph June—The Month of the Sacred Heart



ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH TO CELEBRATE 70 YEARS

St. Joseph Catholic Church, 150 East First Street, Prineville, Oregon, was formally dedicated in June, 1951. Thus, 2021 marks the 70th Anniversary at this location.

On August 15, 2021, St. Joseph parishioners and friends will host a celebration of this significant milestone in our history.

Sunday, August 15th, Bishop Liam Cary will celebrate Holy Mass at 10 a.m.. Following Mass, parishioners and guests will gather in the Parish Hall for a light lunch, refreshments, and a brief presentation of the Church's 70-year history. Bishop Cary, a St. Joseph's altar server in the 1950s, will share some memories during the event. The celebration will start at 11:30 a.m.

During July and August, our Parish bulletin will have a weekly article with highlights of the events for each decade over the past 70 years. If you have any memories to share, please contact the Parish office.

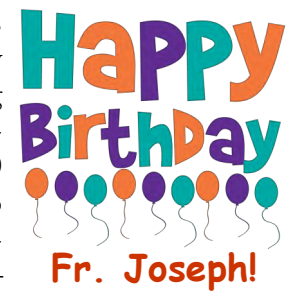
We would appreciate anyone with photos to please share them so that we can develop a presentation for the day of the celebration. Any photos or written materials will be scanned to a computer file, and then returned in the same condition in which they were provided. Please drop off your photos at the Parish Office, or email digital content to stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com.

Anyone with verbal information to share should contact Gary Thompson at (541) 447-5001.

Please contact former parishioners and/or any other members of the Central Oregon community who would like to join us on August 15th. We would like this event to also be a "welcome home" celebration for all current and former St. Joseph parishioners.

Happy Birthday

Fr. Joseph will be celebrating his 66th birthday on **Saturday, July 10th**. The Daughters will be taking Father to dinner at Mazatlan Restaurant, 887 N. Main Street at 6:50 p.m. All parishioners are invited to share in this wonderful celebration. Reservations NOT needed—just show up! The party will be in the back room.



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Bible Quotation for the Week:

Matthew 5:43-45—Love for Enemies



"You have heard that it was said, 'Love your friends, hate your enemies.' But now I tell you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may become the children of your Father in Heaven. For He makes His sun to shine on bad and good people alike, and He gives rain to those who do good and those who do evil."

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St. Joseph Yard Sale

A BIG Heads Up: St. Joseph Catholic Church is planning to have a yard sale on **Saturday, September 18th**. Now is the time to clean out your closets, garages, attics and storage sheds. We will be accepting only items in good to great shape (nothing that needs repair). All proceeds will go to the Parish. Updates to follow!



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Prayer List

Deacon Caleb Cunningham
Frederick Smit • Linda Arian
Larry Bellah • Wes Linn
Diane Ingmire • People of India
Anthony and Ruth Jordan
Julie Bither • Jim Linn • Wally Boe
Robert Gray and Family

