

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"A Chinese Legend" (Author Unknown)

Once upon a time, in the heart of the Eastern Kingdom, lay a beautiful Garden. And there in the cool of the day, the Master of the Garden went to walk. Of all the denizens of the Garden, the most beautiful and the most beloved was a gracious and noble Bamboo tree.

Year after year, Bamboo grew yet more noble and gracious, conscious of his Master's love and watchful delight, but modest and gentle withal. And often when Wind came to revel in the garden, Bamboo would cast aside his grave statelyness to dance and play—merrily tossing, swaying, leaping, and bowing in joyous abandon—doing the Great Dance of the Garden that most delighted the Master's heart.

Then one day, the Master himself drew near to contemplate Bamboo with eyes of curious expectancy. And Bamboo, in a passion of adoration, bowed his great head to the ground in loving greeting.

The Master spoke: "Bamboo, I would use thee."

Bamboo flung his head to the sky in utter delight. The day had come—the day for which he was made, the day for which he had been growing hour by hour, this day in which he would find his completion and his destiny. His voice was low: "Master, I am ready. Use me as thou wilt."

"Bamboo," the Master's voice was grave, "I would fain take thee and cut thee down."

A trembling of great horror shook Bamboo. "Cut me down? Me . . . whom thou, Master, hast made the most beautiful in all thy Garden? Cut me down? Ah, not that! Use me for thy joy, O Master, but cut me not down!"

"Beloved Bamboo," the Master's voice grew even graver still. "If I cut thee not down, I cannot use thee."

The Garden grew still. Wind held its breath. Bamboo slowly bent his proud and glorious head. There came a whisper. "Master, if thou cannot use me but thou cut me down, then do thy will."

"Bamboo, my beloved Bamboo, I would cut thy leaves and branches."

"Master, Master, spare me! Cut me down and lay me in the dust, but wouldst thou take from me my leaves and branches also?"

"Bamboo! If I cut them not away, I cannot use thee."

The Sun hid his face. A listening Butterfly glided fearfully away. Bamboo shivered in terrible expectancy, then whispering low: "MASTER, CUT AWAY!"

"Bamboo, Bamboo, I would cleave thee in twain, and cut out thine heart, for if I cut not so, I cannot use thee."

Then the noble Bamboo bowed down low and said, "MASTER, MASTER! THEN CUT AND CLEAVE!"

So did the Master of the Garden take Bamboo and cut him down, and hack off his branches, and strip off his leaves, and cleave him in twain, and cut out his heart. And lifting him gently, carried him to where there was a spring of fresh, sparkling water in the midst of his dry fields.

Then putting one end of the broken bamboo in the spring and the other end into the water channel in his field, the Master laid down gently his beloved Bamboo.

And the spring sang welcome, and the clear sparkling waters raced joyously down the channel of Bamboo's torn body into the waiting fields. Then rice was planted, and the days went by, and the shoots grew, and harvest came.

On that day was Bamboo, once so glorious in his stately beauty, yet more glorious in his brokenness and humility. For in his beauty, he was life abundant; but, in his brokenness, he became a channel of abundant life to his Master's world.



July 2021 Weekly Offertory

Date	Needed	Offering
July 04, 2021	\$3,700.00	\$4,727.00
July 11, 2021	\$3,700.00	\$3,147.00
July 18, 2021	\$3,700.00	
July 25, 2021	\$3,700.00	

St. Joseph Parish Prayer List:

Deacon Caleb Cunningham ♦ Jim Linn
 Anthony & Ruth Jordan ♦ Linda Arian
 Robert Gray & Family ♦ Frederick Smit
 People of India ♦ Julie Bither
 Diane Ingmire ♦ Larry Bellah
 David Leonard ♦ Wes Linn

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

July 18, 2021 † 16th 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	07/19/2021	8:00 a.m.	Robert J. Schoales (D)	Exodus 14:5-18; Matthew 12:38-42
Tuesday	07/20/2021	8:00 a.m.	Thea Giovanini (D)	Exodus 14:21-15:1; Matthew 12:46-50
Wednesday	07/21/2021	12:00 p.m.	Roberto Reyes (D)	Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15; Matthew 13:1-9
Thursday	07/22/2021	8:00 a.m.	John Pagano (D)	Song of Songs 3:1-4b; John 20:1-2, 11-18*
Friday	07/23/2021	12:00 p.m.	Helen Husar (D)	Exodus 20:1-17; Matthew 13:18-23
Saturday	07/24/2021	5:00 p.m.	Lu Streetman (D)	2 Kings 4:42-44; Ephesians 4:1-6; John 6:1-15
Sunday	07/25/2021	9:00 a.m.	Nellie Brasel (D)	2 Kings 4:42-44; Ephesians 4:1-6; John 6:1-15
Sunday	07/25/2021	12:00 p.m.	Fr. Todd Unger (L)	2 Kings 4:42-44; Ephesians 4:1-6; John 6:1-15

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

Today's Homily

A PASTOR is called to attend to his dying parishioner—a notorious criminal who could not care less about the things of God or his spiritual life. The pastor arrives and is surprised to see the dying man frantically turning the pages of a big Bible. Supposing he could be of help, the pastor asked, “What are you searching for?” And the dying man coldly replies, “Loopholes.”



Today's gospel is a good one for those who read the Bible looking for loopholes. It gives us two apparently contradictory images of Jesus. First, we have the image of Jesus as a man of firm, uncompromising, and even insensitive personality who turns his back on a needy and helpless crowd of people who need his help and takes off on a break once it was time for a break. Then we have the image of Jesus as a caring, empathetic, and compassionate man who calls off his well-deserved rest to attend to a noisy crowd of clients who are bugging him when they should not. So, is Jesus a stern and inflexible man of principle and discipline who sticks to his program come what may? Or, is he a considerate and receptive person disposed to change his plan according to the needs of the moment?

The average reader of the Bible faced with this dilemma is likely to see in Jesus the character that best suits his or her own personality. Staunch disciplinarians tend to see in Jesus a staunch disciplinarian, and kindhearted philanthropists tend to see in him a kindhearted philanthropist. Is the Bible, then, a mirror in which the reader only sees the reflection of his or her own face? If so, then we are really no better than that dying criminal searching the scriptures for loopholes.

The fact is, the Bible is there in some way to affirm us—and in some way to challenge us. If we read the Bible expecting the word of God to challenge our prevailing lifestyle, then it is easy for us to see that what shines out in today's gospel is nothing but the image of Jesus as the compassionate one: **“As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like**

sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things” (Mark 6:34).

Even though Jesus has come here for a much-needed retreat with his disciples, even though the people have no right to invade his privacy in this manner, still he is able to look at their weary faces, see their need, change his program, and respond to their need. Of course he is entitled

to his rest; of course the people have no right to bug him in this manner. But Jesus is not interested in asserting his rights. He knows the people are bugging him out of desperation. And he sets himself to diagnose and treat the cause of such desperate behavior.

How would you and I respond in a similar situation? We would probably berate the crowd, accusing them of insensitivity. We would send the disciples to drive them away and, if necessary, bring in the law enforcement agencies. We would become angry and critical of the people rather than try to understand them. But compassion is putting oneself in the other person's position and trying to see things the way the other person sees them. Compassion is the Mohawk proverb that says, “Do not criticize your neighbor until you have walked a mile in his moccasin.”

So, if Jesus is so compassionate, why then did he try to get away from the crowd initially? Even that action could be seen as an act of compassion, not for the crowd, but for the disciples who certainly needed a rest: **“He said to them, ‘Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.’ For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat”** (verse 31). The former decision was motivated by compassion for the disciples, the latter by compassion for the people. None of it was motivated by self-interest. It was compassion through and through.

Today, let us ask Jesus to give us his spirit of compassion so that we can be as sensitive and responsive to the needs of people around us as he was. And let us be prepared to live lives of compassion whether it calls for a change in our plans for the summer or in our plans for the rest of our lives.

2021—The Year of St. Joseph July—The Month of the Most Precious Blood

Thank You All!



Thanks to everyone for the blessings, birthday wishes and gifts that I received for my birthday. They were so greatly appreciated!

—Peace and Blessings, Fr. Joseph

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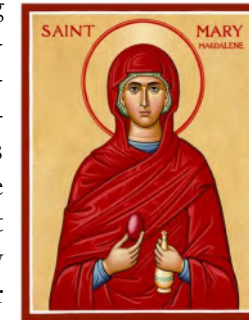
Knights of Columbus

Your scheduled monthly meeting is set for **Tuesday, July 20th, at 7 p.m.**, in the Parish Hall.

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Thursday, July 22nd: Feast of St. Mary Magdalene

Mary was a woman who, according to the four canonical gospels, traveled with Jesus as one of his followers, and she was a witness to his crucifixion and its aftermath. She was mentioned by name 12 times in the canonical gospels, more than most of the apostles and more than any other woman in the gospels, other than Jesus's family.



Mary's epithet, Magdalene, may mean that she came from the town of Magdala, a fishing town on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee in Roman Judea.

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Funeral Mass

On **Saturday, July 24th, at 9 a.m.**, there will be a Funeral Mass with the Rosary for Wallace (Wally) Boe. Wally and his wife, Rosemary, attended Mass at St. Joseph Church for many years. Please remember Wally in your prayers.

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Bible Quotation for the Week: Psalm 118:6, 7

“The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me? The Lord is with me; He is my helper. I will look in triumph on my enemies.

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Please Note

If you are moving out of the Parish, please contact the parish office at (541) 447-6475 so that we can update your registration with the Parish.

St. Joseph's Parish: Decade of the '70s

The 1970s were marked with significant changes. Bishop Leipzig retired in 1971, and Bishop Thomas J. Connolly came to us from Reno, driving his vehicle and towing a trailer with his favorite horse aboard. He was ordained that same day as the Diocese of Baker's 4th Bishop, and he served until 1999. His motto was: “I am spent and will be spent for you.”



Monsignor Crotty was our Pastor from 1962 to 1972. He guided us through major changes and growth until he was transferred to Klamath Falls. Fr. Patrick Garrett returned and stayed until June of 1977, when ill health necessitated his retirement. He returned to Ireland and passed away in September of 1978. His replacement was Fr. John Phelan, installed in June 1977, and who continued as our Pastor until 1982.

In 1971, the front entrance of the Church was repaired, and carpet was installed throughout the Church.

In 1975, the rectory garage was added, the Church was painted, and the parking lot was paved. Also in 1975, the parish was debt-free (except for the mortgage), and the shared agreement with Redmond and Madras was ended. Madras was reimbursed and Redmond was paid \$3,000.

In 1978, the sanctuary was renovated, the “kneelers” were covered and, in October, a new altar was purchased by St. Mary's Card Club and installed. The music ministry included a folk choir, and we owned the property from Main to Court Streets. We also acquired a small house on the corner of 1st and Court that we rented out for income, and then the parish agreed to pay off the mortgage.

Some of the nuns left, but Sr. Barbara Marie and Sr. Gail Tenny came in 1978—but they too left in early 1979.

Then in July of 1979, Sr. Regina Francis and Sr. Agnes McCort arrived at our parish. It was also in 1979 that Sr. Regina Francis became our CCD Director.

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Volunteer Needed!

The parish is looking for someone who would be willing to clean the brass on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. The main objective is to remove the wax on the candle holders and polish the sacramental vessels. Please call the parish office at (541) 447-6475 if you are interested.

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Holy Humor

Lord, keep your arm around my shoulder,
and your hand over my mouth!