

Fr. Joseph's Corner

Suffering and Pain

Have you ever suffered in life? Have you experienced pain—not mere physical pain but mental pain? Have you spent sleepless nights rolling in your bed, saying something like, “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?” Pain is part of human existence—rich or poor, young or old, married or unmarried, holy or unholy—you cannot escape from pain. You may ask why there *is* pain, why God did not even spare His own son from suffering, but there is no answer to that question. Although there are many explanations, philosophies, etc., about pain, there is no satisfactory answer to the “why” of pain.

The pity of the world today is not that we suffer, which everyone has to—whether we like it or not, but we waste our suffering. The usual tendency amongst us when we are confronted with pain or evil is to escape from it. There are different ways of escaping: One is to *blame others for our misery*. “You or the other made me sad, angry, jealous, miserable, unhappy, etc.” Even if what you say is absolutely true, will blaming others help you to be free from your pain?

Another escape is to *blame God, or the circumstances, or fate, or oneself*. None of these attitudes help us to be free from pain. As you are reading through these things, enter into your own life, and discover the truth of it for yourself. It's not a matter of agreeing with me or not, but discovering it for yourself. Another common escape from pain is to *forget about it by taking alcohol, drugs, etc.*

Once the effect of these things are over, one feels worse, like the alcoholic who feels guilty for drinking, and takes more alcohol to forget his guilt, and feels more guilt later, and takes more alcohol to forget that . . . In fact, after some time, these drugs will have no effect at all.

Some people get involved in humanitarian works, social activities, and religious activities to forget about their pain. But, no escape will help us to solve the problem—even prayer, religion, etc., can be a drug and an escape.

The only way we can free ourselves from the control of pain is to face it, as Jesus did. We have to face the pain exactly as it is, without running away from it. That is how even Jesus freed Himself from the agony of pain. He, too,

blamed His disciples, prayed to God, and ran away from it. Finally, He accepted it, and faced it: “If it's Your will, let it be done to me—let me drink the cup.” That acceptance made the difference. Now He was calm, peaceful, relaxed, and He even surprised His persecutors by His calmness.

If we can face our pain, we, too, can gain a lot from our pain. Pain can make ordinary people be extraordinary men and women. Helen Keller, Beethoven, Buddha, Gandhi, Mother Teresa, St. Ignatius of Loyola, etc., are examples. Pain—when it is accepted and used—can bestow a maturity, a wisdom that no other experience can provide. Pain is the best teacher within you. Pain is the source of great art, literature, music, discoveries, etc.

The Bible says: “Unless a grain of wheat falls and dies, it will not bear fruit.” It is an invitation to growth, to maturity, to wisdom. If we are to be re-made, re-born, re-shaped, we must be first broken into pieces. A butterfly, before it comes out of its cocoon, struggles a lot inside for two to three days. If we cut the cocoon with a blade and let the butterfly out, it will not be able to fly. Its wings and muscles will not hold its own weight. That there is some positive value in suffering is obvious. When our own need is great, to whom do we turn? To the one for whom life has always been easy, or to the other who has been affected by more than one storm and yet not defeated by them? It is pain that gives us an extraordinary wisdom and an inner power that no other teacher can give.

—Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph



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	\$3,635.00
July 25, 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
July 25, 2021 † 17th 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	07/26/2021	8:00 a.m.	Anne Clark (D)	Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34; Matthew 13:31-35*
Tuesday	07/27/2021	8:00 a.m.	Wesley Linn (D)	Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; Matthew 13:36-43
Wednesday	07/28/2021	12:00 p.m.	Robert Fowls (D)	Exodus 34:29-35; Matthew 13:44-46
Thursday	07/29/2021	8:00 a.m.	Jennie Bachman (D)	Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38; John 11:19-27*
Friday	07/30/2021	12:00 p.m.	Marcella Hintze (D)	Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Matthew 13:54-58
Saturday	07/31/2021	5:00 p.m.	Rosemary Brazel (D)	Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15; Ephesians 4:17, 20-24; John 6:24-35
Sunday	08/01/2021	9:00 a.m.	Lu Streetman (D)	Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15; Ephesians 4:17, 20-24; John 6:24-35
Sunday	08/01/2021	12:00 p.m.	St. Joseph Parish Family (L)	Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15; Ephesians 4:17, 20-24; John 6:24-35

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

Today's Homily

FROM HER personal experience, St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) tells a story showing how the poor are more generous than the rich because they have experienced hunger and poverty. When she learned of a poor Hindu family in Calcutta that had been starving for many days, Mother Teresa visited them and brought a big bag of rice to the mother. She was surprised to see how the mother divided the rice into two equal portions and went out with one bundle to give it to her Muslim neighbor. When she returned, Mother Theresa asked her why she had done such a generous deed. The woman replied: "My family can manage with half the rice in this bag. My neighbor's family has several children, and they are also starving."

Today's Gospel tells the story of a small boy who showed this same kind of generosity. By sharing his small lunch (which consisted of five barley loaves and two dried fish), he became the instrument in Jesus' working of a miracle that fed thousands.

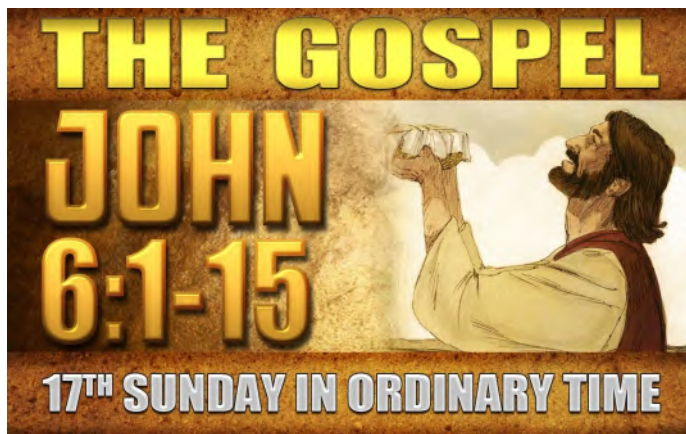
"You give them something to eat." The gospel story teaches that Jesus meets the most basic human need—hunger—with generosity and compassion. Today's readings also tell us that God really cares about His people and that there is enough and more than enough for everybody.

As Christians, we need to commit ourselves to share what we have with others, and to work with God in communicating His compassion to all.

God is a caring Father, and He wants our cooperation to be part of His caring for all of us—His children. That's what the early Christians did, generously sharing what they had with the needy. They were convinced that everything they needed to experience a fulfilling life was already there—in the gifts and talents of the people around them.

People of our time need to be encouraged to share, even when they think they have nothing to offer. Whatever we offer through Jesus will have a life-giving effect on those who receive it.

We are shown two attitudes in today's Gospel story: that of Philip and that of Andrew (John 6:7-9).



Philip said, in effect: "The situation is hopeless; nothing can be done." But Andrew's attitude was: "I'll see what I can do, and I'll trust Jesus to do the rest." Let us have Andrew's attitude! God blesses those who share their talents with loving commitment. This is illustrated by Mother Teresa who went to

serve the slum dwellers of Calcutta with just 20 cents in her pocket. When she died 49 years later, God had turned those original 20 cents into 80 schools, 300 mobile dispensaries, 70 leprosy clinics, 30 homes for the dying, 30 homes for abandoned children, and 40,000 volunteers from all over the world to help her.

We can also begin our own humble efforts at "sharing" right in our parish by participating in the works of charity done by organizations such as the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Knights of Columbus, and so many other volunteer groups.

We may say, "I do not have enough money or talent to make any difference."

However, we need to remember that the small boy in the story had only five barley loaves and two dried fish! We all have something.

If you have never trusted God with your time, or your talent, or your treasure . . . all your resources . . . this is the time to start! Let us offer ourselves and whatever we have to God saying, "Here is what I am and what I have, Lord; use me; use it." And He will bless us and bless our offering, amplifying it beyond our expectations.

When we give what we have to God, and we ask Him to bless it, it is then that the miracle happens.

We, too, can perform wonders in our own time and place, by practicing the four "Eucharistic verbs" of Jesus:

- **Take** humbly and generously what God gives us;
- **Bless** it by offering it to others in God's love;
- **Break** it off from our own needs and interests for the sake of others;
- **Give** it away with joy-filled gratitude to God who has blessed us with so much.

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

2nd Collection Update

Please note with your contribution to the 2nd Collection, we were able to purchase a new Roman Missal and Lectionary for both Sunday and Weekday Masses (1-2). They were truly in need of being replaced, so thanks to all who contributed. What a Blessing!

—Fr. Joseph

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Monday, July 26th: Memorial of St. Joachim & St. Anne



Anne and Joachim, known from apocryphal texts, were the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. They were old and childless but, in the end, the Omnipotent gave them a child, and from that child would be born the Messiah.

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Thursday, July 29th: Memorial of St. Martha

Martha was the sister of Mary and Lazarus. Martha lived with her family in a place called Bethany. Jesus is said to have stayed with the family at Bethany after his entry into Jerusalem. The gospels refer to her three times: the episode of the raising to life of Lazarus; when she complained that Mary, intent on listening to words of Jesus, was not helping with the domestic chores; and just before the Passion, when she and Mary entertained Jesus at dinner.



Martha followed Jesus until the time of his crucifixion. It was then believed that Martha, Mary and Lazarus left Judea and went to France where Martha died in 84 AD.

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Bible Quotation for the Week: Psalm 121:1-3

"I lift up my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip—He who watches over you will not slumber."

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St. Joseph Parish Prayer List:



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

St. Joseph's Parish: Decade of the '80s

Bishop Thomas Connolly continued as Bishop through the '80s, (and **Fr. Phelan** continued as Pastor until mid-1982).

The Diocese recognized two of our parishioners: **Helen Fagan** and **Kathleen Drewelow** with the Papal Medal *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice*, and **Fr. Phelan** was recognized as Monsignor in 1980.

A commercial dishwasher was installed in the Parish Hall in July of 1980, and in February of 1981, a new organ was purchased.

Also in 1981, the DeSales Adult Education Program was initiated in the Diocese. Parishioners from 90-year-old **Annie Hendricks** to recent High School graduates participated in the program. Retreats and "Day of the Son" celebrations were held, and the High School students thoroughly enjoyed them.

Fr. Charles Dreisbach became Pastor in August of 1982. (He was here until he left in June of 1986.)

Also in 1982, the front steps had heaters installed in them, and then in March of 1983, an elevator lift was installed to assist the elderly with access to the church.

In March of 1984, new tile roofs were installed on the Rectory and the Parish Hall, and that same year, the sidewalks were repaired.

During the Spring of 1985, the church pews were re-finished and, in August of that same year, **Sr. Barbara Ann** became the Religious Education Director. (She continued in that capacity until June 1988.)

In February of 1986, the Sanctuary was painted, protective coverings were installed over the stained-glass windows, and new cabinets were installed in the Parish Hall.

Fr. Gerald Condon came in June of 1986. He then received a leave of absence to visit Ireland from June to December of 1987. (He left the parish in June of 1989.)

It was in 1987 that a new Parish Directory was published and, in 1988, the Parish Hall guidelines were approved by the Parish Council.

Fr. Robert Simard was appointed Pastor in July of 1989. (He stayed until 1999 and passed away in January of 2002.)

Also in 1989, **John Solitz** established the St. Vincent de Paul—Crook County Social Services organization, and he became its first President. SVdP operated out of the church basement with the consent of the Pastor and the support of the Parishioners.

TOTALLY RAD!

like...I'm so sure!

Gag me with a spoon!

GRODY TO THE MAX!