

# Fr. Joseph's Corner

## "A Sweet Lesson on Patience" by a New York City Taxi Driver

I arrived at the address and honked the horn. After waiting a few minutes, I honked again. As this was going to be my last ride of my shift, I considered just driving away, but instead I put the car in park, and walked up to the door and knocked.

"Just a minute," answered a frail, elderly voice. I could hear something being dragged across the floor.

After a long pause, the door opened, and a small woman in her '90s stood before me wearing a print dress and pill-box hat with a veil pinned on it, like somebody out of a 1940s movie.

By her side was a small nylon suitcase, and the apartment looked as if no one had lived in it for years. All the furniture was covered with sheets.

There were no clocks on the walls, no knickknacks or utensils on the counters. In the corner was a cardboard box filled with photos and glassware.

"Would you carry my bag out to the car?" she asked.

I took the suitcase to the cab, and then returned to assist the woman. She took my arm, and we walked slowly to the curb.

She kept thanking me for my kindness. "It's nothing," I told her. "I just try to treat my passengers the way I would want my mother to be treated."

"Oh, you're such a good boy," she said, and when we got in the cab, she gave me an address and then asked, "Could you drive through downtown?"

"It's not the shortest way, I answered, but she said, "Oh, I don't mind. I'm in no hurry. I'm on my way to a hospice."

I looked in the rear-view mirror. Her eyes were glistening. "I don't have any family left," she continued in a soft voice. "The doctor says I don't have very long." I quietly reached over and shut off the meter.

"What route would you like me to take? I asked. And for the next two hours, we drove through the city. She showed me the building where she once worked as an elevator operator.

We drove through the neighborhood where she and her husband had lived when they were newlyweds. She had me pull up in front of a furniture warehouse that had once been a ballroom where she had gone dancing as a girl.

Sometimes she'd ask me to slow down in front of a particular building or corner, and she would sit staring into the darkness, saying nothing.

As the first hint of sun was creasing the horizon, she suddenly said, "I'm tired. Let's go now." We drove in silence to the address she gave me. It was a low building like a small convalescent home with a driveway that passed under a portico.

Two orderlies came out to the cab as soon as we pulled up. They were solicitous and intent, watching her every move.

They must have been expecting her.

I opened the trunk and took the small suitcase to the door. The woman was already seated in a wheelchair.

"How much do I owe you?" she asked, reaching into her purse.

"Nothing," I said.

"You have to make a living," she answered.

"There are other passengers," I responded.

Almost without thinking, I bent and gave her a hug. She held onto me tightly.

"You gave an old woman a little moment of joy," she said. "Thank you!"

I squeezed her hand, and then walked into the dim morning light. Behind me, a door shut. It was the sound of the closing of a life.

I didn't pick up any more passengers that shift. I drove aimlessly, lost in thought. For the rest of that day, I could hardly talk. What if that woman had gotten an angry driver, or one who was impatient to end his shift? What if I had refused to take the run, or had honked only once, and then driven away?

On a quick review, I don't think that I have done anything more important in my life.

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**W**e're conditioned to think that our lives revolve around great moments—but great moments often catch us unaware—beautifully wrapped in what others may consider a small one.

—Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph



### January 2022 Weekly Offertory

Date	Needed	Offering
January 2, 2022	\$3,700.00	\$1,881.88
January 9, 2022	\$3,700.00	\$4,204.00
January 16, 2022	\$3,700.00	
January 23, 2022	\$3,700.00	
January 30, 2022	\$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

January 16, 2022 † 2nd 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](mailto:stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com)

Pastor: [fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com](mailto:fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com)

(Fr. Joseph's personal email address: [joekunel55@gmail.com](mailto: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	01/17/2022	8:00 a.m.	Rev. Fr. Robert Simard (D)	1 Samuel 15:16-23; Mark 2:18-22 [M]
Tuesday	01/18/2022	8:00 a.m.	Robert Maska (D)	1 Samuel 16:1-13; Mark 2:23-28
Wednesday	01/19/2022	12:00 p.m.	Jack & Vicki Maska (D)	1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Mark 3:1-6
Thursday	01/20/2022	8:00 a.m.	Cheyenne Edgerly (L)	1 Samuel 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Mark 3:7-12
Friday	01/21/2022	12:00 p.m.	Lu Streetman (D)	1 Samuel 24:3-21; Mark 3:13-19 [M]
Saturday	01/22/2022	5:00 p.m.	Helen Husar (D)	Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Corinthians 12:12-30; Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21
Sunday	01/23/2022	9:00 a.m.	Thad Davis (L)	Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Corinthians 12:12-30; Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21
Sunday	01/23/2022	12:00 p.m.	Shirley & Ron Lattin (L)	Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Corinthians 12:12-30; Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

[F] = Feast Day ♦ [M] = Memorial ♦ [S] = Solemnity ♦ (L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

## Today's Homily

THIS WEEK we are at a wedding in Cana, where Jesus reveals His Divine power by transforming jars of water into wine.

The Bible begins with one wedding, that of Adam and Eve in the Garden (Genesis 2:23–24), and ends with another, the marriage supper of the Lamb (Revelations 19:9, 21:9, 22:17).

At Cana, Jesus also blesses human marriage, perhaps at that moment instituting the Sacrament of Matrimony. Throughout the Bible, marriage is the symbol of the Covenant relationship between God and His chosen people. God is the faithful Bridegroom, and humanity is His beloved bride. Let us pray for God's daily miracles in our families.

We see this theme beautifully presented in today's first reading, where Isaiah uses the metaphor of spousal love to describe God's love for Israel. God's fidelity to His people is compared to a husband's fidelity to his wife.

In today's second reading, St. Paul reminds us that the new wine that Jesus pours out for us is the gift of the Holy Spirit, given to His bride.

In today's Gospel, John describes the first of the seven "signs" by which Jesus showed His Divinity. When the wine "ran short," Jesus' mother told him about it.

At first Jesus seemed to refuse to do anything, but later He told the servants to fill six large stone jars with water, and take some of the miraculously made wine to the headwaiter. When they did so, the headwaiter expressed his surprise that such a great wine had been reserved for late use.

Let us, "invite Jesus and Mary to remain with us in our homes whenever we feel shortages in our family lives.



The spouses need Jesus and Mary when their dreams are all gone, their mutual love has dried up, their relationship has become boring, and raising their children has become a burden that drains them of their energy.

Awareness of the presence of Jesus and Mary in the

family will encourage

parents to create an atmosphere of prayer, Bible-reading, mutual love, and respect with a spirit of forgiveness and sacrificial service at home. It will refresh and renovate family life, removing its boredom.

Let us follow Mary's instruction: "Do whatever He tells you." That is the only command given by Mary—which is recorded in the New Testament—and it is a prerequisite for miracles in our families.

The Bible tells us how to do the will of God and effect salvific changes in our daily lives. Just as Jesus filled the empty water jars with wine, let us fill the empty hearts around us with love.

By the miracle of Cana, Jesus challenges us to also enrich the empty lives of those around us with the new wine of love, mercy, concern, and care.

Let us learn to appreciate the miracles of God's providence in our lives. God, often as an uninvited guest in our families, works daily miracles in our lives by protecting us from physical and moral dangers, providing for our needs, inspiring us and strengthening us with His Holy Spirit.

Let us also appreciate the miracle of the Real Presence of the Lord on the altar, where God transforms our offering of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus.

## January—The Holy Name of Jesus

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity



The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) has a history of over 100 years in which Christians around the world have taken part in an octave of prayer for visible Christian unity.

By annually observing the WPCU, Christians move toward the fulfillment of Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper, ". . . that they all may be one" (cf. John 17:21).

In 1908, there was the Octave of Christian Unity that focused on praying for Church unity, and whose dates were put forward by Fr. Paul Wattson. He chose the week beginning on the Feast of the Confession of St. Peter on **January 18th**, concluding with the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul on **January 25th**. **Pope Pius X** approved the concept, and **Pope Benedict XV** encouraged its observance throughout the Roman Catholic Church.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity gained worldwide recognition among churches when the World Council of Churches was established in 1948.

By 1958, the French Catholic group, *Unité Chrétienne*, and the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches, began cooperative preparation of materials for the Week of Prayer.

In 1968, churches used notes and texts created through the joint effort of the Faith and Order Commission and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity officially for the first time. The cooperation between these two organizations has grown since, resulting in joint publications in the same format, said to represent the entire Catholic Church.

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### Bible Study Is Back!

Bible Study started this past Tuesday. The first lesson was on St. Francis of Assisi, as well as the next lesson. Everyone was very impressed by the video and the dialog that came after. It is not too late to come to the next session on **Tuesday, January 18th, at 2 p.m.** The video will be available for anyone to watch at a later date.



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### Bible Verse—Matthew 11:28

Jesus said "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

### Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed to count the Offertory on **Tuesday mornings each week**. This normally takes about an hour and will require you to make a deposit at the bank. Please contact **Nancy Redfern** at (541) 508-9872 if you are interested in being part of this Ministry.



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### National Sanctity of Human Life



The Respect for Life Ministry's 49th observance of the Roe vs. Wade decision is being held at St. Francis Church in Bend on **Saturday, January 22nd**, with the Rosary at **10 a.m.**, and a Pro-Life Mass at **10:30 a.m.** The Mass will be celebrated by **Bishop Liam Cary**, with **Fr. Jose** and **Fr. Shaji** concelebrating.

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### Special Collection

Thank you for your generosity in 2021 to the Cathedral Conservation Collection which brought in \$94,785, along with \$75,000 from a generous donor, totaling \$169,785. Many much-needed projects were funded (98,684): basement drains, security locks, external basement doors, lighting ballasts, and external paint. Projected work will be extensive repair of stairs and sidewalks over the next two years.

Please consider supporting your Cathedral again this year through a second collection **next weekend (January 22/23)**. Envelopes are in the narthex. Please pick one up for the special collection next week.

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### Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List

Dcn. Caleb Cunningham ♦ Sharon Blue  
Sandi Shriver ♦ The People of India  
Frederick Smit ♦ David Leonard  
Mason Gattey ♦ Ben Guyger  
Julie Bither ♦ Patricia Bither  
Linda Arian ♦ Mike Mulvihill



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### St. Vincent de Paul

We would like to extend a heartfelt "Thank You" to our food and monetary donors for their generosity in December. Our volunteers put in 403 hours last month.

If you find some free time, consider joining our team. You may contact SVdP at (541) 447-7662.