Fr. Joseph's Corner

"Bill and the Deacon" (author unknown)

is name is Bill. He has wild hair, wears a T-shirt with holes in it, jeans, and no shoes. This was literally his wardrobe for his entire four years of college. He is brilliant—kind of esoteric and very, very bright. He became a Christian while attending college.

Across the street from the college campus is a church with well-dressed and very conservative members. They want to develop a ministry to the students, but they are not sure how to go about it.

One day, Bill decides to go there. He walks in with no shoes, jeans, his T-shirt, and wild hair. The service has already started, and so Bill starts down the aisle looking for a place to sit. But, the church is completely packed, and he can't find a seat.

By now, people are looking a bit uncomfortable, but no one says anything. Bill gets closer and closer to the pulpit, and when he realizes there are no seats, he just squats down right on the carpet. (Although it was perfectly acceptable behavior at a college fellowship, this had never happened in this church before!)

Now the people are really uptight, and the tension in the air is thick. About this time, the minister realizes that from way at the back of the church, the deacon is slowly making his way toward Bill. The deacon is in his eighties, has silver-gray hair, a three-piece suit, and a pocket watch.

He is a godly man, very elegant, very dignified, and very courtly. He walks with a cane, and as he starts walking toward this boy, everyone is thinking to themselves, You can't blame him for what he's going to do. How can you expect a man of his age and of his background to understand some college kid on the floor?

It takes a long time for the man to reach the boy. The people in the church are utterly silent—the only sound is the clicking of the deacon's cane. All eyes are focused on them. You can't even hear anyone breathing.

Meanwhile, most of the people are thinking, The minister can't even preach his sermon until after the deacon does what he has to do.

But wait! Now, they see this elderly man drop his cane on the floor. Then with great difficulty, he lowers himself to sit down next to Bill and worships with him so that the boy won't be alone.

Everyone chokes up with emotion. When the minister gains control he says to the congregation, "What I'm about to preach, you will never remember. But what you have just seen, you will never forget."

—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	\$4,400.00	\$4,775.00
January 23, 2022	\$4,400.00	
January 30, 2022	\$4,400.00	

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 23, 2022 # 3rd 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	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 Tocher & Laura Lang 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

- ◆ <u>DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET & CENACLE GROUP</u>: 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.





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

Today's Homily



TODAY'S GOSPEL, presenting Jesus' inaugural speech in the synagogue of Nazareth and outlining His theology of total liberation, marks a great moment in Jewish history. The Scripture readings for today focus our attention on the importance and liberating power of the Word of God as "sacramental," making God present in our midst. The readings challenge us to listen to the Word, accept it into our hearts, then put it into practice as we live out our lives, liberating ourselves and others from all types of bondages.

The reading from Isaiah describes a kind of Messianic figure. Jesus identifies himself as that figure and declares that the mission and ministry prophesied are His mission and His ministry.

This mission was similar to the mission given to Moses in Exodus 3:7–10. Jesus claims that He has been sent to Israel: (1) to bring glad tidings to the poor; (2) to proclaim liberty to captives; (3) to give recovery of sight to the blind; (4) to free the oppressed, and (5) to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.

First, Jesus claims the power of God's Spirit as the source of His work. Second, Jesus makes this proclamation in the context of Judaism—on the Sabbath, from the Scriptures, and in the synagogue. Third, Jesus identifies His work, the work of the Messiah, with that of the Suffering Servant of Yahweh (see Isaiah 42:1–4, in particular), who brings Good News to the poor, proclaims release to the oppressed, and the recovery of sight to the blind—figuratively and literally. Fourth, this agenda begins in Nazareth, and it extends to all places where the Word of God will be heard and understood.

We need to receive Christ's freedom, live it and pass it on to others: As members of Christ's Mystical Body, we share in the freeing, saving mission of Jesus. However, even after we have chosen to believe in Him, to accept His teachings and to live them out in our lives, we are still in bondage. We are

captives of sin, and only Christ can set us free. We are often blinded by our evil habits, addictions and need for financial security. Pride and prejudice can make us blind to the needs of the less fortunate, prompting us to fear and avoid them, rather than to love and help them. We can also be blind to the presence of God within ourselves and others. We are often not free to listen to a lonely, heart-broken neighbor. We can be prisoners of materialism and consumerism, chained to pleasure, power, money and control of everyone and everything in our world. Accordingly, we need to be freed and raised to a richer level of life. Once we receive true liberation from Christ, we need to share it with those we encounter in our daily lives—in our families, communities, parishes and workplaces.

We need to let the power of the Holy Spirit fill us, and to be ready to have miracles done through us. Today's Gospel tells us that Jesus performed miracles because He was filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus promised the same Spirit to His disciples: "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. . . . He lives with you and will be in you" (John 14:16–17). To this very day, the Holy Spirit is available to all believers who sincerely ask Him to dwell in their hearts.

Miracles occur every day through weak human instruments, although they may be less spectacular than the ones Jesus performed. People whose minds are ravaged by fear and hatred can be miraculously filled with peace and kindness. Those whose hearts are crippled with bitterness and anger can be made gentle and peaceful. Perhaps others, whose relationships with their spouses are strained, can be miraculously healed by love and faithfulness. These are true miracles, performed by the power of God, through the Holy Spirit, often making use of human instruments. Let us be ready to become Spirit-filled instruments of Christ's saving freedom.

January—The Holy Name of Jesus

Lord, bless

this home Eall who enter

MAY)

Bible Study Is Back!



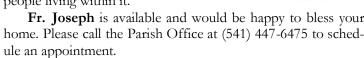
Bible Study has started. . . . St. Francis of Assisi was awesome. The next two weeks will be on St. Thomas Aquinas. Everyone was very impressed by the video and the dialog that came after. It's not too late to come to the

next session which is on **Tuesday, January 25th, at 2 p.m.** The video will be available for anyone to watch at a later date.

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Blessing of the Home

In Christianity, the "Blessing of the Home" rite welcomes God's protection into a family's house and lives. Many religions have some form of house blessing tradition, a rite that (in Christianity) is intended to protect a home by inviting God's love, peace, and presence to inhabit the space and the people living within it.



Bible Verse—Philippians 4:12, 13

I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.

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.

Gum

Again we have "GUM" on the bottom of the pews and the metal chairs. Please make sure all chewing gum is discarded in the trash receptacle prior to entering the church.

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Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List

Deacon Caleb Cunningham

Sandi Shriver ♦ Frederick Smit

David Leonard ♦ Linda Arian

Mike Mulvihill ♦ Ben Guyger



Religious Education

Please note that some of our Religious Education teachers are preparing the children for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion, along with First Reconciliation and Confirmation. Please make sure your children are attending Mass weekly, practicing their prayers at home, and completing any assignments associated with the sacrament being received.



About . . .

<u>First Reconciliation</u>: The Sacrament of Reconciliation, also known as Confession or Penance, is one of the sacraments of healing, through which we express sorrow for our sins and receive God's forgiveness. First Reconciliation is received prior to receiving the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

<u>First Holy Communion</u> is one of the 7 Sacraments of the Catholic Church. First Holy Communion is the common name for a person's first reception of the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Roman Catholics recognize the importance of this event as the Eucharist is the central focus of the sacramental life of the Catholic Church.

<u>Confirmation</u> is also one of the 7 Sacraments in the Catholic Church. This is when the one who is confirmed (confirmandi) receives the gifts of the Holy Spirit through the imposition of hand and anointing with oils by the bishop. It's considered a sacrament of initiation, which means that it brings you deeper into communion with the Church.

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Welcome to Faith Walk



You can grow in your relationship with Christ through prayer, study, community, action, and more.

Please select your area of interest from the list below, and then you can access the best free resources available at the "Faith Walk" Website which can be found at: https://www.myfaithwalk.org/.

Pray: Build up your prayer life using a variety of resources including devotions, podcasts, reflections, and more.

Study: Grow in faith through Scripture, commentaries, informational videos, apologetics resources, and more.

<u>Act</u>: Put your faith into action through the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, information on Catholic charities, and resources on faithful citizenship.

<u>Bible</u>: Join Fr. Mike Schmitz via his daily podcast, "Bible in a Year," as he reads and reflects on Holy Scripture every day of the year.

More: Seek out even more ways to explore your faith through a huge variety of the best resources available.