

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"A Day in God's Court"

After living a "decent" life, my time on earth came to an end. The first thing I remember is sitting on a bench in the waiting room of what I thought to be a court house. The doors opened and I was instructed to come in and have a seat by the defense table. As I looked around I saw the "prosecutor"—he was a villainous looking gent who snarled as he stared at me. He definitely was the most evil person I had ever seen.

I sat down and looked to my left, and there sat my lawyer, a kind and gentle looking man whose appearance seemed very familiar to me. The corner door flew open and there appeared the judge in full flowing robes. He commanded an awesome presence as He moved across the room, and I couldn't take my eyes off of Him. He took His seat behind the bench and said, "Let us begin."

The prosecutor rose and said, "My name is Satan, and I am here to show you why this man belongs in hell." He proceeded to tell of the lies I had told, of things that I had stolen, and of when I had cheated others in the past. Satan told of other horrible perversions that were once in my life. The more he spoke, the further down in my seat I sank. I was so embarrassed that I couldn't look at anyone, not even my own lawyer, as the devil told of sins that I had completely forgotten about.

As upset as I was at Satan for telling all these things about me, I was equally upset at my representative who sat there silently not offering any form of defense at all. I knew I had been guilty of those things, but I had done some good things in my life, too. Couldn't that at least equal out part of the harm I'd done?

Satan finished with a fury and said, "This man belongs in hell! He is guilty of all that I have charged, and there is not a person who can prove otherwise. Justice will finally be served this day."

When it was His turn, my lawyer first asked if He might approach the bench. The judge allowed this over the strong objections of Satan and beckoned Him to come forward. As He got up and started walking, I was able to see Him now in His full splendor and majesty. I realized why He seemed so familiar—this was Jesus representing me—my Lord and my Savior!

He stopped at the bench and softly said to the judge, "Hi, Dad," and then He turned to address the court.

"Satan was correct in saying that this man has sinned. I won't deny any of these allegations. And, yes, the wages of sin is death. And this man deserves to be punished."

Jesus took a deep breath and turned to His Father with outstretched arms and proclaimed, "However, I died on the cross so that this person might have eternal life, and he has accepted Me as His Savior, so he is Mine!" My Lord continued, "His name is written in the Book of Life, and no one can snatch him from Me! Satan still does not yet understand that this man is not to be given justice, but rather—mercy."

As Jesus sat down, He quietly paused, looked at His Father and went on, "There is nothing else that needs to be done—I've done it all!"

The Judge lifted His mighty hand, and He slammed the gavel down. The following words bellowed from His lips: "This man is free—the penalty for him has already been paid in full. CASE DISMISSED!"

As my Lord led me away, I could hear Satan ranting and raving and exclaiming, "I won't give up! I'll win the next one!"

I asked Jesus, as He gave me my instructions where to go next, "Have you ever lost a case?" Christ lovingly smiled and said, "Everyone who has come to me and asked me to represent them has received the same verdict as you: PAID IN FULL."

Oh what a blessing! There is no greater commandment than to love your neighbor as yourself!

—Prayerful Wishes, Father Joseph



April 2022 Weekly Offertory

Date	Needed	Offering
April 3, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$4,135.00
April 10, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$3,331.00
April 17, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$3,726.00
April 24, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$2,748.00

Christmas Bazaar 2022

We know it sounds funny to bring up the Christmas Bazaar in May, but it truly is not that far away. It will be held on **Saturday, November 12th**. Now is the time to start planning your projects. We are looking forward to another successful bazaar, thanks to everyone's help.

—Thank you, Nancy Redfern

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

May 1, 2022 † 3rd Sunday of Easter

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 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

- ♦ **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	05/02/2022	8:00 a.m.	Jennie Bachman (D)	Acts 6:8-15; John 6:22-29 [M]
Tuesday	05/03/2022	8:00 a.m.	Janet Spooner (D)	1 Corinthians 15:1-8; John 14:6-14 [F]
Wednesday	05/04/2022	12:00 p.m.	Lorraine Thompson (D)	Acts 8:1b-8; John 6:35-40
Thursday	05/05/2022	8:00 a.m.	Agneta Jones (L)	Acts 8:26-40; John 6:44-51
Friday	05/06/2022	12:00 p.m.	Linda Meade (L)	Acts 9:1-20; John 6:52-59
Saturday	05/07/2022	5:00 p.m.	Don Arian (D)	Acts 13:14, 43-52; Revelation 7:9, 14b-17; John 10:27-30
Sunday	05/08/2022	9:00 a.m.	Betty Bailey (D)	Acts 13:14, 43-52; Revelation 7:9, 14b-17; John 10:27-30
Sunday	05/08/2022	12:00 p.m.	St. Joseph Parish Family (L)	Acts 13:14, 43-52; Revelation 7:9, 14b-17; John 10:27-30

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

Today's Homily

TODAY'S GOSPEL narrative shows us the rehabilitation of Peter, who denied Jesus three times in the courtyard of Caiaphas, repented, and then received from Jesus Primacy in the Church. The Gospel also shows us God in search of man, even



when man tries to evade Him. This theme prompted Francis Thompson to write his famous mystic poem, "The Hound of Heaven."

The Apostles' experience and our experience:

Just as Peter recognizes the risen Lord and leaps into the waters, so Christians profess their faith in the risen Jesus and are baptized in water and the Spirit. Just as the first disciples share a meal with the risen Jesus, so we now regularly share the Eucharist with him. And just as the risen Jesus commissions Peter to undertake a pastoral mission on his behalf, so the natural consequence of Baptism and the Eucharist for us is to share ourselves and our Faith with others.

Life Messages:

1) We need to open our eyes, ears and hearts wide to see, hear and experience the Risen Lord coming to our life in various forms, circumstances and events.

a) The Risen Lord gives us success and achievements: We often fail to acknowledge the presence of the risen Jesus behind our unexpected victories, great achievements, job promotions, miraculous healings and success in relationships. Let us not foolishly attribute a success in our career only to hard work; our good health only to daily exercise coupled with moderation in food and drink; and our sound financial position, only to frugal spending habits and good management of money. Let us remember the Divine warnings, "Without Me, you can do nothing" (John 15:5); and "If the Lord does not build the house, the work of the builders is useless" (Psalm 127:1).

b) The Risen Lord is present in our pain and suffering: Acts 9:1-13 tells us how the Risen Lord transformed the life of Saul by pushing him down onto the Damascus road and making him temporarily blind. The same Jesus often visits us in the form

of accidents, illnesses, the loss of dear ones, pain and suffering, and problems in relationships. When Bishop Desmond Tutu, who was losing the battle against prostate cancer, spoke of how the disease had given him new ears, and new eyes,

to see things and hear things he had so taken for granted—the love of your spouse, the Beethoven symphony, the dew on the rose, the laughter on the face of your grandchild.

c) The Risen Lord is visiting us in our friends and well-wishers: He is present in those who visit us and encourage us in our sad and desperate moments. The Risen Lord visits us in the form of unexpected help from the least expected persons in our dire needs. He is right there at our parties and celebrations and occasions of rejoicing.

d) The Risen Lord is present in our Christian worship. He is present on our altars during the Holy Mass to share His life with us; He is present in the words of Holy Scripture; He is there in the Sacraments; and He is there where two or three are gathered in His name (Matthew 18:20).

2) We need to work with the Risen Lord and plan all our activities with His blessing, after consulting Him in prayer and receiving His instruction. Let us pray that we may be a Church that continues in that Gospel lifestyle of fishing for people, of tending the sheep and feeding them with the word of life.

3) Let us compensate for our moments of weakness by genuine acts of love, compassion and service. Peter was called upon to prove his love: "If you love me, feed my sheep." The same Risen Lord reminds us: "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments" (John 14:15).

What do our present actions and activities say about our love for Christ? The Risen Jesus accepts our apology, dismisses the charges against us, exonerates us of guilt, and forgives all our weaknesses. He continues to challenge us to demonstrate our love for Him by faithfully, freely, feeding His sheep entrusted to our care.

May—The Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary



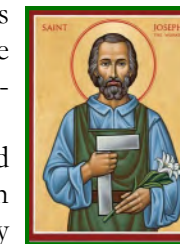
The Month of May Is Dedicated to The Blessed Virgin Mary

The Blessed Virgin Mary offered the disciples her prayers, motherly care, and witness. She continues to offer us her motherly love and intercession. During this month of May, let us rediscover her maternal role in each of our lives. Let us offer our spiritual mother our sincere prayers, that just as she aided the first Apostles with her prayers, she may also guide and intercede for us in our journey of faith. Let us learn from her how to love and trust God completely, and how to be faithful witnesses of the risen Lord.

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May 1st—The Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker

This feast was established by Pope Pius XII in 1955 in order to Christianize the concept of labor and to give to all workmen a model and a protector.



By the daily labor in his shop, offered to God with patience and joy, St. Joseph provided for the necessities of his holy spouse and of the Incarnate Son of God, and thus became an example to all laborers. "Workmen and all those laboring in conditions of poverty will have reasons to rejoice rather than grieve, since they have in common with the Holy Family, daily preoccupations and cares" (Leo XIII).

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Bingo

Bingo is now on **Wednesday evenings, starting May 4th, from 6 to 8 p.m.** Doors will open at **5:30 p.m.** Come and join the fun and show support for your parish.

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Mother's Day



Sunday, May 8th, is Mother's Day. Please make note on the offertory envelope the name of that special woman you would like to be remembered at Mass. There are blank envelopes in the Narthex for those who need them.

The Knights of Columbus will be handing out carnations in celebration of our Mothers.

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

Those fabulous Knights of Columbus chefs are cooking breakfast on **Sunday, May 8th**, for the children who will receive their First Holy Communion. Everyone is invited!



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Sacraments



First Holy Communion will be celebrated on **Sunday, May 8th**, at both the **9 a.m. and 12 p.m. Masses**. There are 16 children who will receive the Body of Christ for the first time. Please keep the children in your prayers.

Confirmation will be celebrated on **Thursday, May 12th**, at **7 p.m.** **Bishop Cary** will be celebrating the Mass with **Fr. Joseph** concelebrating. There are currently 26 children who will receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

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Maintenance Fund

Reminder that on **May 15th**, there will be an additional envelope for the Maintenance Fund. We are currently working to upgrade the Rectory with air conditioning, so any and all donations will help immensely.

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Inspiring Quote

"Jesus, help me to simplify my life by learning what you want me to be—and becoming that person."

—*St. Thérèse of Lisieux*

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Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List:

- ◆ Fulvia & Ben Guyger ◆ Peggy Jones
- ◆ Andrea Vandehey ◆ Steve Forrester
- ◆ David Leonard ◆ Margaret Halsey
- ◆ Linda Arian ◆ Sandi Shriver
- ◆ Sue Gerke ◆ Lyn Rodgers

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St. Vincent de Paul—Redmond

St. Vincent de Paul Society in Redmond is looking for a qualified person to be the Store Manager who will oversee day-to-day operations, employees, and volunteers. This is a full-time position with paid vacations and dental benefits. The annual salary range is \$42,000 to \$47,000.

If interested, please call **Don Smith**, at SVdP: (541) 788-3905 or email him at: svredmond@gmail.com.

