

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"I Will Move the Rock" by Sheiliah Manuel

A man was sleeping one night in his cabin—when suddenly his room filled with light—and the Savior appeared. The Lord told the man he had work for him to do and showed him a large rock in front of his cabin. The Lord explained to the man that he was to push against the rock with all his might. And this he did, day after day.



For many years, the man toiled from sunup to sundown, his shoulders set squarely against the cold, massive surface of the unmoving rock, pushing with all his might. Each night the man returned to his cabin sore and worn out, feeling that his whole day had been spent in vain.

Seeing that the man was showing signs of discouragement, Satan decided to enter the picture by placing thoughts into the man's mind such as: "You have been pushing against that rock for a long time, and it hasn't budged. Why kill yourself over this? You are never going to move it," thus giving the man the impression that the task was impossible and that he was a failure.

These thoughts discouraged and disheartened the man even more. "Why kill myself over this, indeed?" he thought. "I'll just put in my time, giving just the minimum effort, and that will be good enough."

And that he planned to do, until one day he decided to make it a matter of prayer and to take his troubled thoughts to the Lord.

"Lord," he said, "I have labored long and hard in your service, putting all my strength to do that which you

have asked. Yet, after all this time, I have not even budged that rock by half a millimeter.

What is wrong? Why am I failing?"

To this the Lord responded compassionately, "My friend, when I asked you to serve me and you accepted, I told you that your task was to push against the rock with all your strength,

which you have done. Never once did I mention to you that I expected you to move it. Your task was to push. And now you come to me, with your strength spent, thinking that you have failed. But, is that really so? Look at yourself. Your arms are strong and muscled, your back sinewy and brown, your hands are callused from constant pressure, and your legs have become massive and hard. Through opposition you have grown much, and your abilities now surpass that which you used to have. Yet you haven't moved the rock. But, your calling was to be obedient, and to push, and to exercise your faith, and to trust in my wisdom. This you have done."

Then the Lord said, "I, my friend, will move the rock."

At times when we hear a word from God, we tend to use our own intellect to decipher what He wants, when actually what God wants is just simple obedience and faith in Him.

By all means, exercise the faith that moves mountains; but, it is still God who moves the mountain!

—Prayerful Wishes, Father Joseph

May 2022 Weekly Offertory

Date	Needed	Offering
May 1, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$5,185.00
May 8, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$3,000.49
May 15, 2022	\$4,400.00	
May 22, 2022	\$4,400.00	
May 29, 2022	\$4,400.00	



St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

May 15, 2022 † 5th 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	05/16/2022	8:00 a.m.	Marco Vargas (L)	Acts 14:5-18; John 14:21-26
Tuesday	05/17/2022	8:00 a.m.	Larry Hill (L)	Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31a
Wednesday	05/18/2022	12:00 p.m.	Dorothy Rupert (D)	Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8
Thursday	05/19/2022	8:00 a.m.	Mike Mulvihill (L)	Acts 15:7-21; John 15:9-11
Friday	05/20/2022	12:00 p.m.	Fred Kappel (D)	Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17
Saturday	05/21/2022	5:00 p.m.	Bob George (D)	Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Revelations 21:10-14, 22-23; John 14:23-29
Sunday	05/22/2022	9:00 a.m.	Evelyn Walwork (D)	Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Revelations 21:10-14, 22-23; John 14:23-29
Sunday	05/22/2022	12:00 p.m.	St. Joseph Parish Family (L)	Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Revelations 21:10-14, 22-23; John 14:23-29

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

Today's Homily

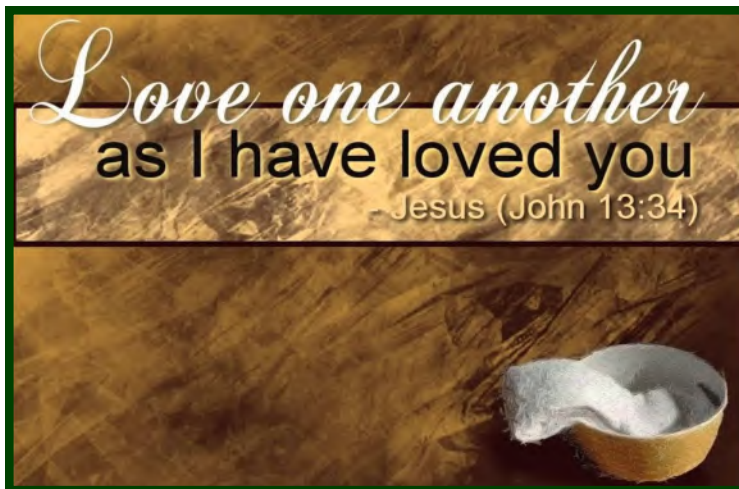
TODAY'S READINGS are about renewal and new things: *The New Jerusalem, a new Heaven and a new earth, and a new commandment.*

The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, describes how the small Christian communities helped the work of renewal in their members by their *agape* love, imitating the *agape* love of Paul and Barnabas.

The second reading, from the Book of Revelation, explains how God renews His Church, *the New Jerusalem*, by being present in her members, in their parish communities, and in their liturgical celebrations. "*See, I am making all things new.*"

Today's Gospel passage gives us the secret of Christian renewal as the faithful practice of Jesus' new commandment: "*Love one another as I have loved you*" (Jn 13:34). Jesus has added a new element to the Old Testament command of love by teaching us that the true test of discipleship is to love other people in the same way that he has loved us, with sacrificial, selfless, self-giving, unconditional, *agape* love. Hence, the renewal of Christian life means a radical change of vision and a reordering of our priorities in life. Such a renewal brings us to embrace new attitudes, new values, and new standards of relating to God, to other people and, indeed, to our whole environment.

Let us learn to love ourselves so that we may learn to love each other. The old commandment (*Lk 19:1-2, 9-18*), says: "*Love your neighbor as yourself.*" How do we learn to cherish others and care for them if we have never learned to do the same for ourselves? We live in a culture that devalues life and worships death—a culture in which people drug themselves into oblivion. Women and girls are willing to starve themselves to fit some unrealistic media image of beauty and worth. People and relationships are sacrificed on the altar of "workaholicism." How are we to love ourselves when we are told over and over again that we are unlovable? How do we reclaim our basic worth? We can become whole and holy only when we learn to love ourselves properly, acknowledging the loving presence of the Triune God



in our souls, making our bodies the "*Temple of the Holy Spirit.*" Only those persons who are fully convinced that they are themselves lovable, because God has loved them and so brought them into being, can reach out comfortably and unconditionally to love those who themselves cannot love but

can only hurt and hate and destroy.

It is through constant love-centered interaction with God and each other that the "*new earth, the new Heaven and the new Jerusalem*" can begin to come into existence.

Let us love others in our daily lives. We are asked to love as Jesus loved, in the ordinary course of our lives. This means that we should love others by allowing ourselves to be moved with pity for them. We love others by responding to their everyday needs. We can show love by materially sharing with those who have less. We love others by comforting and protecting those who have experienced loss. We love others by serving others in every possible way, no matter how small. We love others by forgiving rather than condemning, by challenging rather than condoning. We love others by responding to the call of God in our lives and by walking in the footsteps of Jesus. We love others by making sacrifices for them. This is how the world will know that we are the Disciples of Christ.

Let us demonstrate our love for others. When we are assembled and have guests, we have an opportunity to demonstrate our love for one another. They must see Christians as people who are glad to see one another, who are willing to take the time to visit with each other and who know each other's names. Our assemblies may be the only time some guests have the opportunity to see Christians interact with love and concern for one another, an interaction that reveals the strong love and appreciation for one another which the members have. Christians will often sin against one another and offend one another. But, others should see in us a quickness to forgive, even as Christ has forgiven us.

May—The Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday Night Live—Catholic Style!

Italian Dinner with
Dr. Marcellino D. Ambrosio,
AKA "Dr. Italy"

Following the 5 p.m. Vigil Mass on Saturday, May 21st, at St. Thomas Catholic Church in Redmond!

"Dr. Italy" is a world-renowned commentator on Catholic issues, a popular speaker, a TV and radio guest, professor, author, theologian, co-founder of Crossroads Initiative Ministry, and a leader of frequent pilgrimages to the Holy Lands!

Tickets are only \$15 per person and can be purchased at the St. Thomas Parish Office or call (541) 923-3390 for "Will-Call" tickets.

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Coats for Kids Program

Did you know that many children across these United States go without a coat each winter?

Many families use their limited resources to meet the most basic essentials (housing), and they need help to provide this vital winter necessity.

That's why the Knights of Columbus developed the "Coats for Kids" Program in 2009. Councils across North America have the opportunity to purchase new winter coats for children at a discount and to distribute them to children in need in their local communities.

Our Order of Knights will be collecting donations from our Parish in many different ways this year in order to ensure that no child in Prineville goes without a coat during this coming winter season.

Thank you in advance for generously supporting this great program.

—*The Knights of Columbus*

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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
- ◆ Jerry Pimentel



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Inspiring Quote

"Our hearts were made for You, O Lord, and they are restless until they rest in You."

—*St. Augustine of Hippo*



Bishop's Annual Appeal

The 2022 Bishop's Annual Appeal has begun. This is the "Commitment Weekend" for the BAA. This year, the theme is "Faith Finds the Way." The overall Appeal participation goal is 21%, and the supporting financial target is **\$635,000**. **For our Parish, the participation goal is 55 families with a supporting target of \$20,465.**

For more information, please visit the diocesan website at: dioceseofbaker.org.

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Ministries

There are many Liturgical Ministries within this and every parish. As you know, a Mass consists of a: Priest, Acolyte, Altar Server, Sacristan, Lector, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Cantor or Choir Director and Ushers/Greeters. There are currently two Ministries in need of new volunteers:

The Ministry of the Instituted Acolyte. The Acolyte is instituted to serve at the altar and assist the priest and deacon. In particular, it is his responsibility to prepare the altar, the sacred vessels, and if necessary, an extraordinary minister to distribute the Eucharist to the faithful. The duties that the acolyte may carry out are of various kinds.

The Ministry of Altar Serving. An Altar Server is a lay assistant to a member of the clergy during Mass. An Altar Server attends to supporting tasks at the altar such as fetching and carrying, ringing the altar bell, helps bring up the gifts, brings up the book, among other things.

There were many children who just made their First Holy Communion. This is an excellent time to continue your faith journey by becoming an Altar Server!

Serving God in any of these Liturgies is a gift. Look at the Ministries available, and find one you would like to join. For any questions or concerns, please call the office, and you will be directed to the head of the Ministry.

We are called by God to be active in our Faith by attending Mass both on weekdays and Sundays, going to confession, volunteering in a ministry, bible study, be aware and be available, participate in fundraisers (bingo), altar society (renew), and also be creative in new ministries (example: sending cards to parish members who are sick and homebound, making a welcome basket for new members, yard and garden club). These are just a few things you can do to be more active in our Parish. Please get involved!!!!