

## Fr. Joseph's Corner

**"The Cracked Pot" (author unknown)**

**A** water bearer in India had two large pots; each hung on either end of a pole, which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, and while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the master's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water to his master's house.



Of course, the perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But, the poor, cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection, and it was miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been created to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you."

"Why?" asked the water bearer. "What are you ashamed of?"

"I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your master's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said.

The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in his compassion he said, "As we return to the master's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path."

Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old, cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it up some. But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half of its load, and so again it apologized to the bearer for its failure.

The water bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walked back from the stream, you've watered them. For two years now, I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my master's table. Without you being just the way you are, he would not have this beauty to grace his house."

Each of us has our own unique flaws. We're all cracked pots. But if we will allow it, the Lord will use our flaws to grace His Father's table. In God's great economy, nothing goes to waste.

So, as we seek ways to minister together, and as God calls you to the tasks He has appointed for you, don't be afraid of your flaws. Acknowledge them, and allow Him to take advantage of them, and you, too, can be the cause of beauty on His pathway. Go out boldly, know that in our weakness we find His strength, and that in Him every one of God's promises is a "yes."

—*Prayerful Wishes, Fr. Joseph*

### July 2022 Weekly Offertory



Date	Needed	Offering
July 3, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$4,943.00
July 10, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$2,732.00
July 17, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$2,577.00
July 24, 2022	\$4,400.00	
July 31, 2022	\$4,400.00	



## St. Joseph Catholic Church

150 E First St., P.O. Box 1315, Prineville OR 97754  
July 24, 2022 † 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>  
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 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	07/25/2022	8:00 a.m.	Terri Cetina (D)	2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Matthew 20:20-28 [F]
Tuesday	07/26/2022	8:00 a.m.	Braylee Kay Bachman (D)	Jeremiah 14:17-22; Matthew 13:36-43 [M]
Wednesday	07/27/2022	12:00 p.m.	Fay Breckenridge (D)	Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21; Matthew 13:44-46
Thursday	07/28/2022	8:00 a.m.	Charlene McMann (D)	Jeremiah 18:1-6; Matthew 13:47-53
Friday	07/29/2022	12:00 p.m.	Howard Tocher (D)	Jeremiah 26:1-9; John 11:19-27 [M]
Saturday	07/30/2022	5:00 p.m.	Lyn Rodgers (L)	Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11; Luke 12:13-21
Sunday	07/31/2022	9:00 a.m.	Theresa Davis (L)	Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11; Luke 12:13-21
Sunday	07/31/2022	12:00 p.m.	Kathie Leonard (D)	Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11; Luke 12:13-21

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



## Today's Homily

**THE FIRST READING**, taken from the book of Genesis, gives us the model for intercessory prayer provided by Abraham in his dialogue with God. Although Abraham seems to be trying to manipulate God through his skillful bargaining and humble, persistent intercession, God is actually being moved to mercy by the goodness of a few innocent souls.

**The second reading**, taken from Paul's Letter to the Colossians, though it does not address prayer, reminds us of the need of perseverance in our living faith in Christ, which provides the basis for all Christian prayers, especially for liturgical prayer: the mystery of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Paul assures us that even when we were dead in sin, God gave us new life through Jesus and pardoned all our sins.

**In the Gospel passage**, after teaching a model prayer, Jesus instructs His disciples to pray to God, their Heavenly Father, with the same boldness, daring, intimacy, conviction, persistence and perseverance that Abraham displayed and the friend in need in the parable employed. He gives us the assurance that God will not be irritated by our requests or unwilling to meet them with generosity.

If there was one word that best describes the characteristic of a good prayer life, it would be persistence. Our Lord Himself very clearly illustrates this truism in today's Gospel.

Many consider the "Our Father" to be the perfect prayer model—not just because Our Lord taught it Himself—but because it provides all the elements of what a good prayer life should entail.

First, it recognizes God as Our Father and gives Him the glory and praise that He is due. Second, it provides for petitions in which we ask God for His blessings. Third, it provides us with the opportunity to recognize our own sinfulness



and ask for His forgiveness. Finally, it forces us to realize that God knows better than we do what is best for us and therefore we submit to His will. and not to ours.

When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, He tells them to call God "Father," or "Abba."

Jesus goes on to say: "And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened to you." For everyone who asks, receives, and the one who seeks, finds, and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

God does indeed listen to our prayers. However, it's only logical that He waits to see how committed we are to what we are praying for. Is this really something we want from God, or is it just some passing fancy that would be nice, but it's really not all that important?

Just like the woman in our story, God is waiting for us to be persistent in our requests. Only then, do we demonstrate our sincerity of praying. When something is important enough that we continually ask, we should expect to receive it. When something is important enough that we continually seek, we should expect to find it. When something is important enough that we continually knock on God's door, we should expect Him to open the door for us to know how to obtain it.

The bottom line is God loves us. He knows what we want before we ask Him. He wants what is best for us. God does listen! But, how committed are we? Are we persistent with God? Persistence is a gift that not only helps God to determine our sincerity, but also provides us with the time for reflection as to whether what we feel is important truly is. Pray that we are able to decipher what is truly good in our lives, and then exercise the virtue that God is wanting us to show—persistence.

## July—The Month of the Precious Blood of Jesus



I would like to thank everyone who attended my birthday celebration/pizza party. The cards and good wishes were overwhelming! It was a fabulous birthday celebration with my parish family.

—*Thank you again, Fr. Joseph Kunnelaya*

+++

### Liturgy and Life

This week's readings challenge us to spend time with God to build our relationship. *Lectio Divina*, or "Divine Reading" is a traditional Benedictine practice of scriptural reading, meditation, and prayer intended to promote communion with God and increase knowledge of God's Word.

For more information and daily and weekly readings, go to: <https://catholic.bible/lectio-divina-in-english/>. An example is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

+++

### Inspiring Quote

"Faith is like a bright ray of sunlight. It enables us to see God in all things as well as all things in God."

—*St. Francis de Sales*

+++

### Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List:



- ◆ David Leonard
- ◆ Margaret Halsey
- ◆ Kathie Leonard
- ◆ Mike Mulvihill
- ◆ Dolores Koivisto
- ◆ Fulvia & Ben Guyger

- ◆ Bill O'Brien ◆ Carl Johnson
- ◆ Sue Gerke ◆ Steve Forrester
- ◆ Linda Arian ◆ Lyn Rodgers
- ◆ Jerry Pimentel ◆ Arlene Mura

+++

### Invitation

**Bishop Cary** invites all parents, catechists, and parish leaders to come and be "Refreshed for Mission" at this year's Catechetical Symposium, **August 5th–7th**, at the Cascade View Retreat Center in Powell Butte. Visit the website: [dioceseofbaker.org](http://dioceseofbaker.org) to register or to learn more.



**At 10 a.m., on Sunday, August 7th, Fr. Joseph** will celebrate a bilingual Mass, followed by the **Annual Parish Picnic**. There will be hamburgers, hot dogs and carne asada barbecued by the Knights of Columbus. Bring your favorite main dish, salad or desert. Games and outdoor activities for children of all ages will be set up on the lot adjacent to the Parish. Hall. There also will be a "cupcake walk," so we need volunteers to make cupcakes. Please call **Barbara Dalton at (541) 410-3720**.

This year we extend a special welcome to all Crook County Catholics from Prineville, Juniper Heights, Powell Butte, Brasada Ranch, and all surrounding areas. After several years of COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings, we look forward to this celebration.

Picnic activities will begin immediately following Mass and continue into the afternoon. Mark your calendars for **August 7th**, so you can join us for a day of fun and celebration. More information to follow.

+++

### RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process in which adults become full, participating members of the Catholic Church.

Participants will study the Gospel, nurture their relationship with God, become familiar with Catholic teachings and practices, profess their faith in Jesus and the Church, and receive the initiation Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation.

An invitation is being extended to all who wish to become members of the Catholic faith. The RCIA process is for someone who has never been baptized; someone who was baptized in another Christian denomination and wishes to become a Catholic; someone who was baptized in the Catholic Church, but never received the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation; or someone who has been away from the Catholic Church and would like a renewal.

Once someone becomes a Catholic, the journey of faith doesn't end there—it lasts a lifetime.

**If you or someone you know wishes to take this journey, call the Parish Office at (541) 447-6475. Classes will begin in September 2022.**

