

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"A Love Story" (Author Unknown)

One morning I awoke early to watch the sunrise. Ah, the beauty of God's creation is beyond description. As I watched, I praised God for His beautiful work, and as I sat there, I felt the Lord's presence with me. He asked, "Do you love me?" I answered, "Of course, God! You are my Lord and Savior!" Then He asked, "If you were physically handicapped, would you still love me?"

I was perplexed. I looked down upon my arms, legs, and the rest of my body, and wondered about how many things I would not be able to do, the things that I took for granted. So I answered, "It would be tough, Lord, but I would still love you." Then the Lord said, "If you were blind, would you still love my creation?"

How could I love something without being able to see it? Then I thought of all the blind people in the world, and how many of them still loved God and His creation. So I answered, "It's hard to think of it, but I would still love you." Then the Lord asked me, "If you were deaf, would you still listen to my word?"

How could I listen to anything being deaf? Then I understood. Listening to God's Word is not merely using our ears, but our hearts. I answered, "It would be tough, but I would still listen to your word." The Lord then asked, "If you were mute, would you still praise my name?"

How could I praise without a voice? Then it occurred to me: God wants us to sing from our very hearts and souls. It never matters what we sound like. And praising God is not always with a song; but when we are persecuted, we give God praise with our words of thanks. So, I answered, "Although I could not physically sing, I'd still praise your name." And then the Lord asked, "Do you really love me?" With courage and a strong conviction, I answered boldly, "Yes, Lord! I love you because you are the one and true God!"

I thought I had answered well, but then God asked, "THEN WHY DO YOU SIN?" I answered, "Because I am only human. I am not perfect." "Then why, in times of peace, do you stray the farthest? Why only in times of

trouble do you pray in earnest?" No answers. Only tears. The Lord continued: "Why only sing at fellowships and retreats? Why seek me only in times of worship? Why ask for things so selfishly? Why ask so unfaithfully?"

The tears continued to roll down my cheeks. "Why are you ashamed of me? Why are you not spreading the good news? Why, in times of persecution, do you cry to others when I offer my shoulder to cry on? Why make excuses when I give you opportunities to serve in my name?"

I tried to answer, but there was no answer to give. "You are blessed with life. I made you not to throw this gift away. I have blessed you with talents to serve me, but you continue to turn away. I have revealed my word to you, but you do not gain in knowledge. I have spoken to you, but your ears were closed. I have shown my blessings to you, but your eyes were turned away. I have sent you servants, but you sat idly by as they were pushed away. I have heard your prayers, and I have answered them all. DO YOU TRULY LOVE ME?"

I could not answer. How could I? I was embarrassed beyond belief. I had no excuse. What could I say to this? When my heart had cried out, and the tears had flowed, I said, "Please forgive me, Lord. I am unworthy to be your child." The Lord answered, "That is my grace, my child." I asked, "Then why do you continue to forgive me? Why do you love me so?" The Lord answered, "Because you are my creation. You are my child. I will never abandon you. When you cry, I will have compassion and cry with you. When you shout with joy, I will laugh with you. When you are down, I will encourage you. When you fall, I will raise you up. When you are tired, I will carry you. I will be with you until the end of your days, and I will love you forever." Never had I cried so hard before. How could I have hurt God as I had done? I asked God, "How much do you love me?" The Lord stretched out his arms, and I saw his nail-pierced hands. I bowed down at the feet of Christ, my Savior. And for the first time, I truly prayed

—Prayerful Wishes, Fr. Joseph

October 2022 Weekly Offertory

Date	Needed	Offering
October 02, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$4,563.50
October 09, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$2,638.04
October 16, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$2,938.00
October 23, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$2,389.00
October 30, 2022	\$4,400.00	\$1,896.00



St. Joseph Catholic Church

150 E First St., P.O. Box 1315, Prineville OR 97754
November 6, 2022 † 32nd 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

Pastor: fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com

(Fr. Joseph's personal email address: joekunel55@gmail.com)

Director of Religious Education ♦ Barbara Dalton

RCIA ♦ Gari Lynn 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	11/07/2022	8:00 a.m.	Emerson Edgerly (L)	Titus 1:1-9; Luke 17:1-6
Tuesday	11/08/2022	8:00 a.m.	Emily Rosenbaum (D)	Titus 2:1-8, 11-14; Luke 17:7-10
Wednesday	11/09/2022	12:00 p.m.	Prayers for Souls in Purgatory	Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; John 2:13-22 [F]
Thursday	11/10/2022	8:00 a.m.	Della Harrison (D)	Philemon 7-20; Luke 17:20-25 [M]
Friday	11/11/2022	12:00 p.m.	Cecilia Marquiz (D)	2 John 4-9; Luke 17:26-37 [M]
Saturday	11/12/2022	5:00 p.m.	Marilyn Gilday (D)	Malachi 3:19-20a; 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12; Luke 21:5-19
Sunday	11/13/2022	9:00 a.m.	Elizabeth Casey (L)	Malachi 3:19-20a; 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12; Luke 21:5-19
Sunday	11/13/2022	12:00 p.m.	Anita Marquiz (L)	Malachi 3:19-20a; 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12; Luke 21:5-19

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

Today's Homily



IF THERE IS one belief that the men and women of our world need today, it is the belief in the resurrection. Why? Because it is the effective antidote to the infectious disease of materialism. The story is told of an American tourist who paid the 19th Century Polish Rabbi Hofetz Chaim a visit. Astonished to see that the rabbi's home was only a simple room filled with books, a table, and a bench, the tourist asked, "Rabbi, where is your furniture?" "Where is yours?" replied the rabbi. "Mine?" asked the puzzled tourist. "I'm only a visitor here—I'm only passing through." "So am I," said Hofetz Chaim.

As we near the end of the Church's liturgical year, the readings become more eschatological—having to do with the end times. The main theme of today's readings is the reality of life after death and of the relationship between our lives on earth and the life of glory or punishment that will follow. The readings invite us to consider the true meaning of the Resurrection in our lives.

The first reading describes a Jewish family, consisting of a mother and her seven sons, who refuse their conqueror's command to eat pork, forbidden as "unclean" by Jewish Law. Because of their obedient Faith in God, they endure suffering and accept martyrdom. During their torture, three of the brothers speak, and each of them finds strength in the belief that he will eventually be raised and rewarded by God. In the refrain for today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 17), we proclaim our Faith: "Lord, when Your glory appears, my joy will be full!" The second reading encourages the Thessalonians who were waiting for the Parousia or the second coming of Christ, to trust in the fidelity of God Who would strengthen their hearts in every good work and word.

This same belief in the resurrection of the dead is the basis of the confrontation described in today's Gospel passage. In this confrontation, Jesus ingeniously escapes from a doctrinal trap set for him and explains the doctrine of the resurrection of the dead, supported by the Pharisees and denied by the Sadducees. Jesus speaks of God as the God of the living, and declares that heavenly life with God in glory is totally different from earthly life, explaining that there is no marriage in Heaven in the earthly sense.

We need to live as people of the Resurrection. This means that we are not to lie buried in the tomb of our sins and evil habits. Instead, we are to live joyful and peaceful lives, constantly experiencing the real Presence of the Risen Lord. In addition, the hope of our resurrection to eternal life with God provides us with lasting peace and celestial joy to counter the boredom and tension of our day-to-day lives. Cultivating our awareness of the all-pervading Presence of the Spirit of the living God will help us to control our thoughts, desires, words, and behavior. The salutary thought of our own resurrection and eternal glory, or eternal punishment, should also inspire us to honor our bodies, keeping them holy, pure, and free from evil habits, and to respect those with whom we come in contact, rendering them loving and humble service.

We need to offer living worship to a living God. If our God is the God of the living, our worship of this living God also has to be alive. That means our participation in prayers and songs during the Holy Mass should be active, and our behavior in Church reverent, as we offer our lives and all our activities to our living God on the altar with repentant and grateful hearts.

Inspiring Quote

"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us."
—Ralph Waldo Emerson

November—The Month of the Holy Souls in Purgatory



The Lateran Basilica

On Wednesday, November 9th, we honor the Feast of the Dedication of the Cathedral Church of Rome.

Dedicated on November 9, 324, by St. Pope Sylvester I, this basilica, the episcopal seat of the Pope as Bishop of Rome, is "the mother and head of all churches of Rome and the world."

Christians first met in homes to hear Jesus' teachings and to celebrate the Eucharist. When the Christians were no longer persecuted for their faith, they built beautiful churches. Sometime before the 4th Century, a palace owned by a noble Roman family named Laterani had been built. It became the property of the Emperor Constantine. Constantine had recognized Christianity as the religion of the empire, and he donated to the Church the palace and other buildings on the site. This became Rome's oldest church. It was given the title Basilica of the Savior, but later was dedicated to John the Baptist and called St. John Lateran.

St. John Lateran was the home of the popes—the center of the Catholic world for many years. Twenty-eight popes are buried there. Although our pope now lives at the Vatican and presides at St. Peter's Basilica, St. John Lateran is considered his cathedral as the Bishop of Rome. The dedication of this basilica is a happy occasion for the Church because it reminds us of our beginnings—our unity. It stands as a monument to God and all that God does through the Church.

Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List:

David Leonard ♦ Margaret Halsey ♦ Kathie Leonard ♦ Mike Mulvihill ♦ Dolores Koivisto ♦ Sue Gerke ♦ Bill O'Brien
Fulvia & Ben Guyger ♦ Carl Johnson ♦ Steve Forrester ♦ Lyn Rodgers ♦ Jerry Pimentel ♦ Arlene Mura ♦ Anita Marquez

Veterans' Day

We celebrate all Veterans on Friday, November 11th, both living and deceased, for their service to our country.

+++

Christmas Bazaar

Just a reminder that the Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 12th. Doors will open at 9 a.m. Cinnamon rolls and coffee will be available for \$4. Note: All items need to be dropped off on Friday, November 11th, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. We are looking forward to another successful St. Joseph's Bazaar—thanks to everyone's help!



—Thank you, Nancy Redfern

+++

Coffee and Donuts



Do you miss Sunday morning coffee and donuts and a time to chat with your friends? Well, the Knights of Columbus and Our St. Joseph Ladies want to bring this back with no cost to the parish. How is this possible? The Knights of Columbus are collecting aluminum cans and plastic bottles (no glass) to use just for the coffee and donuts. This will supplement the cost, *so donations are still needed.*

Coffee and Donuts hospitality will begin Sunday, November 20th, after the 9 a.m. Mass.

Please bring your cans and plastic bottles to the Parish Hall, Monday through Thursday. There will be containers to place any of your loose cans or bottles, and for the balance in bags.

Thank you so much for the support of this Ministry!

+++

U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking

Give thanks that there are many organizations working to abolish human trafficking, and we as a Church are one of them and can share resources with one another.

U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking is a 501 c (3) organization, located at 2039 N. Geyer Road, St. Louis, MO 63131 (sistersagainsttrafficking.org).