

Fr. Joseph's Corner No Worries! (Author unknown)

The carpenter I hired to help me restore an old farmhouse had just finished a rough first day on the job.

A flat tire made him lose an hour of work, his electric saw quit, and now his ancient pickup truck refused to start, so I said I'd drive him home.

During the drive to his home, he sat in stony silence. And then on arriving, he invited me in to meet his family.

As we walked toward the front door, the carpenter paused briefly at a small tree that was growing in the yard. He gently touched the tips of the branches with both hands.

Then when he opened the front door, he underwent an amazing transformation. His tanned face was wreathed in smiles—and he hugged his two small children—and gave his wife a kiss.

Afterward, he walked me out to my car. When we passed the tree, my curiosity got the better of me. I asked him about what I had seen him do earlier.

“Oh! That's my Trouble Tree,” he replied. “I know I can't help having troubles on the job,

but one thing's for sure—troubles don't belong in the house with my wife and the children. So, I just hang them up on the tree every night when I come home. Then in the morning I pick them up again.

“Funny thing is,” he continued, as he smiled, “when I come out in the morning to pick 'em back up, there ain't nearly as many as I remember hanging up on it the night before.”

—Prayerful Wishes, Fr. Joseph



Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List:

- 🕯️ David Leonard 🕯️ Steve Forrester 🕯️ Carl Johnson 🕯️ Rick Nolte
- 🕯️ Mike Mulvihill 🕯️ Margaret Halsey 🕯️ Lyn Rodgers 🕯️
- 🕯️ Dolores Koivisto 🕯️ Jerry Pimentel 🕯️ Ben and Fulvia Guyger
- 🕯️ Sammi Pedersen 🕯️ Anita Marquez 🕯️ Georgia Fitzgerald
- 🕯️ Sue Gerke 🕯️ Mary Beth McCauley



St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

December 18, 2022 † 4th Sunday of Advent

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 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 ♦ 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 👈

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|-----------|------------|------------|-----------------------|---|
| Monday | 12/19/2022 | 8:00 a.m. | Maria Walwork (L) | Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25 |
| Tuesday | 12/20/2022 | 8:00 a.m. | Leo Thaler (D) | Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38 |
| Wednesday | 12/21/2022 | 12:00 p.m. | David Geiman (D) | Song of Songs 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45 |
| Thursday | 12/22/2022 | 8:00 a.m. | Rhonda Dible (L) | 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56 |
| Friday | 12/23/2022 | 12:00 p.m. | Leo Thaler (D) | Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:47-66 |
| Saturday | 12/24/2022 | 5:00 p.m. | Lu Streetman (D) | Isaiah 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17; 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25 |
| Sunday | 12/25/2022 | 10:00 a.m. | Kathleen Ferguson (L) | Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1–18 |

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

Today's Homily



EVERYONE HAS, at times during life, experienced moments of doubt, confusion and anxiety. In this gospel story, we find Joseph in a state of embarrassment because Mary, his betrothed, is with child. Being a man of honor, he felt the right thing to do was to break his ties and divorce her informally. At the last moment, an angel appeared to him in a dream, explaining that the child Mary would give birth to, was the work of the Holy Spirit. He was told not to be afraid to take Mary home as his wife and to adopt her child as his own.

Today's Gospel, from Matthew, focuses on the person and role of Joseph. For Jesus to fulfill the Messianic prophecy given by Isaiah, Joseph had to accept Jesus as his son, making Jesus a legal descendant of David because Joseph was a descendant of David. Hence, Matthew makes it clear that Jesus was not the biological child of Joseph. But because Joseph was the husband of Mary at the time Jesus was born, Jesus was legally the son of Joseph and thus a descendant of David. As we focus on today's readings in which Joseph plays a role, we can glean some insights and lessons about God and our path of discipleship.

First, as we hear in the story, God invites Joseph's cooperation in His plan of salvation. We see this in Scripture time and again, and it is true in our lives as well. If we were in God's seat, we might choose to force people into submission and to comply with our will, but this is not how God operates. God wants to win us over and to

see us participate in the building up of His kingdom.

Second, what is the obstacle the angel identifies in the heart of Joseph? Fear. Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife into your home, says the angel. Do not be afraid to do this

strange thing that runs counter to what you know, to what seems sensible, and even just.

Might this be true in our own lives? Might we be afraid to move forward with a choice we know in our hearts is what God wants us to do but hesitant because it just doesn't make sense from a worldly perspective?

As Advent draws to a close, let us spend some time pondering these two questions: How is God inviting me to cooperate with the slow work of building up His kingdom, in my own heart, in my family and friendships, in the community? And examining my heart, how is fear posing an obstacle to my cooperation? As we ponder these questions, let us ask St. Joseph to intercede for us, and show us how to respond with graciousness and humility—with trust and courage—to the Lord's invitation.

Joseph was a man who gave everything in the service of Christ. His example gives us courage to face problems in a similar spirit and to keep on believing when all seems hopeless. Along with Mary, he is singled out as the one who can best prepare us for Christmas. We are asked to receive Christ as freely and fully into our hearts as he did, and to make the major decisions of our lives based on that given to us from God.

Inspiring Quote

“Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem.

May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man.”

—Pope Francis

December—The Month of the Immaculate Conception

Diocese of Baker—Attempting to Locate:



Bishop Cary is trying to locate Fr. Andrew Szymakowski. If you have been in communication with him or know how to contact him, please contact Very Rev. Saji Thomas at the Diocese of Baker **no later than December 19th.**

Fr. Saji can be contacted at: vg@diocesefbaker.org or by calling the Chancery Office at (541) 388-4004.

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Coffee & Donuts

Reminder that coffee and donuts are being served in the Parish Hall after the 9 a.m. Mass on Sunday.

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Parish Envelopes for 2023

Parish envelopes are available **THIS WEEKEND** in the Narthex on the table. They are alphabetical to make it easy to find. If you no longer wish to use the envelopes, please mark the label with an X and leave on the table. I will remove the envelope # from your name.

If you would like to use envelopes, please call the Parish Office at (541) 447-6475. I will assign a # for you and have the envelopes ready the following weekend for Mass.

—Karin

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Mass for Kathie Leonard

Please note that there will be a funeral Mass for **Kathie Leonard on Tuesday, December 20th.** Rosary will be at 10:30 and Mass at 11 a.m. Immediately following there will be a reception in the Parish Hall. **Bishop Liam Cary** will be officiating.

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No Daily Mass

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no Mass on Monday, December 26th (8 a.m.), Tuesday, December 27th (8 a.m.), and Wednesday, December 28th (12 p.m.).

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Office Closed

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 26th, and Monday, January 2nd. Normal times will begin again on Tuesday, January 3rd. Wishing all a very Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

—Karin

Winter Is Upon Us

While there may already be a chill in the air, the official, astrological start to the season won't be until **December 21st**, when the winter solstice arrives.

As the earth spins on its axis, the different hemispheres get closer, or further from the sun. When the Northern Hemisphere is at its furthest point, the winter solstice arrives, making for an extraordinarily short number of daylight hours.

In the Northern Hemisphere, the sun will set on the winter solstice at **4:47 p.m. EST.**

All across the globe, the solstice can be experienced at the same moment, as the sun's rays will be directly over the Tropic of Capricorn, a latitudinal line that lies south of the equator.

After winter solstice, the days begin to grow longer, offering more and more hours of sunlight until the calendar reaches the summer solstice—the longest day of the year. Because the days begin to lengthen, in some cultures the winter solstice signifies a holiday of renewal and fresh beginnings.

Winter solstice can be celebrated in all different ways depending on your culture, and your family's traditions.

Sunset Magazine lists these easy ways to mark the solstice: Decorate a yule tree, or make a wreath. Exchange gifts made from nature, or spend some time outdoors and light lots of candles.

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Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule

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| 12/24/2022 | Saturday | 6 p.m. | Mass (English) |
| 12/25/2022 | Sunday | 10 a.m. | Mass (Bilingual) |
| 12/31/2022 | Saturday | 5 p.m. | Vigil Mass (Solemnity of Mary—Holy Mother of God) |
| 01/01/2023 | Sunday | 9 a.m. | Solemnity of Mary—Holy Mother of God |
| | | 12 p.m. | |