

Fr. Joseph's Corner

Reflection on Prayer

TODAY LET US reflect about Prayer. Catholic teachings on the subject of prayer are contained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, where quoting St. John Damascene, "Prayer is defined as the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God." St. Theresa of Lisieux describes prayer as "... surge of the heart; it is a simple look toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing trial and joy." It is a communion—communication with God.

The advice given by Jesus before He taught the disciples how to pray is worth reflecting upon. Here we find the most essential quality of prayer. He tells his disciples that it is needless to use a lot of meaningless words while praying (Matthew 6, 6-8). What does Jesus mean?

Jesus' injunction shows the central characteristic of Prayer. Prayer is essentially a disposition, an attitude, a way of life, a relationship with God, other people, and nature. Francis of Assisi once said, "Preach always; if needed, use words." In this way, we can say with regard to prayer, "Pray always; if needed, use words."

By prayer, one acknowledges God's power and goodness, and one's own neediness and dependence. It is therefore an act of the virtue of religion, implying the deepest reverence for God, and habituating a person to look to Him for everything.

Prayer presupposes a belief in the personality of God, His ability and willingness to hold a loving relationship with us, His personal control of all things, and of all His creatures and all their actions. In short, prayer presupposes faith in God and hope in His goodness.

Acceptable prayer must be sincere (Hebrews 10:22), offered with reverence and godly fear, with a humble sense of our own insignificance as creatures, and of our own unworthiness as sinners, with earnest importunity, and with unhesitating submission to the divine will. Prayer must also be offered in the faith that God is, and that He is the hearer and answerer of prayer, and that He will fulfill His word: "Ask and you shall receive" (Matthew 7:7, Matthew 7:8, 21:22; Mark 11:24, John 14:13-14).

To be prayerful is more important than reciting a few prayers. If we are not prayerful people, reciting vocal prayers may not be very useful. For, we can recite any number of prayers without even thinking of God and forgetting that we are sitting in His presence. But prayerfulness means our constant awareness that we are in His presence.

- ◆ A prayerful person will be sensitive to his relationship with others.
- ◆ A prayerful person will be humble.
- ◆ A prayerful person will be generous.
- ◆ A prayerful person will be obedient, kind, and compassionate.



On the other hand, when we are focused only on vocal prayers, we may be proud, thinking "I pray enough." Such people may be arrogant and look down upon others who may not be regular in vocal prayers.

—Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph

Register Now for Diocesan Summer Camps

Youth Camp: July 9-13, current 4th-12th Grade

Come discover JOY at Catholic Youth Camp and meet new friends, have adventures, campfires, time with Jesus, and just being Catholic! Registration Fee: \$150

Family Camp: August 3-6

Catholic families coming together, having fun, and celebrating what it means to be families fully alive in Christ! Family outing adventures, prayer, learning, games, crafts, men's & women's sessions, campfire, and s'more!

Registration is open through the Diocese website at: DioceseofBaker.org

Youth Camp Adult Volunteers Openings

Summer Catholic Youth Camp, July 9-13, is seeking:

- 10-15 Adult Chaperones (camp is free!)
- 1-2 Camp Nurses / EMTs (stipend available)
- 1-2 Camp Musicians (stipend available)

For Info, email: Marie@DioceseofBaker.org

St. Joseph Catholic Church

150 E First St., P.O. Box 1315, Prineville OR 97754
June 25, 2023 † 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Vigil Mass Saturday	5:00 p.m.
Sunday Mass (English)*	9:00 a.m.
Sunday Mass (Spanish)	12:00 p.m.
Holy Days	8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.
Mondays • Tuesdays • Thursdays	8:00 a.m.
Wednesdays • Fridays	12:00 p.m.

*Coffee and Donuts are served after the 9 a.m. Mass.



Pastor ◆ Rev. Fr. Joseph Kunnelaya T.

Secretary ◆ Darlene Counts

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 / joekunel55@gmail.com

Diocese of Baker Website: dioceseofbaker.org / Phone: (541) 388-4004

Director of Religious Education ◆ Barbara Dalton

RCIA ◆ Jim Friese

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 AND CENACLE GROUP: Every Monday after the 8 a.m. Mass.
- ◆ FRIDAY ROSARY at 11:30 a.m., MASS at 12:00 p.m., EXPOSITION of the Blessed Sacrament immediately following Mass, EUCHARISTIC ADORATION 1-2 p.m., BENEDICTION AND REPOSITION



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	06/26/2023	8:00 a.m.	Sophia Arian (D)	Gn 12:1-9; Mt 7:1-5
Tuesday	06/27/2023	8:00 a.m.	Ingrid Ruyter (L)	Gn 13:2, 5-18; Mt 7:6, 12-14
Wednesday	06/28/2023	12:00 p.m.	Kathleen Ferguson (D)	Gn 15:1-12, 17/18; Mt 7:15-20
Thursday	06/29/2023	8:00 a.m.	Laine Musil (D)	Acts 12:1-11; Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19
Friday	06/30/2023	12:00 p.m.	Vernita Parker (D)	Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Mt 8:1-4
Saturday	07/01/2023	5:00 p.m.	Evelyn Walwark (D)	2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a; Rom 6:3-4; Mt 10:37-42
Sunday	07/02/2023	9:00 a.m.	Linda Arian (D)	2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a; Rom 6:3-4; Mt 10:37-42
Sunday	07/02/2023	12:00 p.m.	The Parishioners of St Joseph (L)	2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a; Rom 6:3-4; Mt 10:37-42

(L) = Living ◆ (D) = Deceased ◆ [M] = Memorial ◆ [F] = Feast Day

Today's Homily

Our Scripture readings for this 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time challenge us to preach Christ through our words and lives without fear.

The first reading tells us

how the prophet Jeremiah trusted in the power of God while he faced opposition for his prophetic ministry.

In the second reading, Paul assures the Christians in Rome that they need not be afraid of opposition both because they share in the death of Jesus and his Resurrection and because they are united with Christ, the new Adam, in his Resurrection.

Today's Gospel passage is taken from the end of Jesus' instruction to his disciples as he sends them forth to carry on his mission of preaching and healing. He asks them to live simple lives and to expect opposition and rejection. After having foretold future opposition and persecution, Jesus encourages his disciples to stand firm. Three times they are urged, "Do not fear!" "Do not be afraid!" Instead of shrinking from their task, they are to proclaim the Gospel boldly, because they will be protected just as Jeremiah was assured of God's protection.

Hence, Jesus commands his disciples not to fear their persecutors. He presents before them the image of the sparrow to reinforce the disciples' trust and hope in God. The readings hint at the opposition we future Christians will encounter as we carry on the work of Jesus in the world, and they encourage us to persevere in doing the work of Jesus.



More Valuable Than Sparrows

Matthew 10:26-33

They assure us that we will be successful, despite the opposition we encounter.

We need not be afraid because our life is in the hands of a loving God.

Sometimes we are afraid that we will make a wrong

decision. At other times, we are afraid of what others will think when we speak up for Jesus. We are afraid of what the future will bring our children. We are also afraid of growing old.

Sometimes we are afraid of what bad health will bring us. At the root of these fears is the fear of loss. Every fear we have is grounded in the knowledge that we have something or someone to lose. I can lose my job, family, house, money, health and even life itself. Rejection and loss are the basis of our fears. But we forget one thing: whatever trouble or crisis affects us, we know that God understands it better than we do ourselves.

Our Heavenly Father knows exactly what is happening. What a release from fear it is to know that God is on our side; that our life is in the hands of a loving God! The next time fear grips our life, we need to remember that being faithful to Christ wherever we meet Him in this life is much more important than our fear of rejection and loss. Also, let us take a moment to recall some of the great promises of God. Let us remind ourselves that God cares—we are each a dear child of His and He cares for each of us. "Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows." The last verse of Psalm 27 sums it up nicely, "Trust in the Lord. Have Faith; do not despair. Trust in the Lord."

June: The Month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Independence Day

In observance of Independence Day, **Tuesday, July 4th**, the Parish Office will be closed. There will still be the Daily Mass at 8 a.m.

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St. Thomas Church Rummage Sale

The St. Thomas Altar Society in Redmond is having their Annual Rummage Sale in the Parish Center Gym, located at 1720 NW 19th St., on **Friday, July 7th, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**, and **Saturday, July 8th, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.** (\$1 bag sale).

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Birthday Party

We will have a birthday party for **Fr. Joseph** on **Sunday, July 9th, at 1:30 p.m.** For more information, contact **Darlene** in the Parish office, (541) 447-6475. We hope everyone can come and celebrate **Fr. Joseph!**



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Housekeeper Position Available

If you are interested in the Housekeeper position for the Rectory, please call **Darlene** at the Parish Office, (541) 447-6475.

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Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows

Registration is going on now for the Our Lady of Peace Institute in Catholic Teaching, from **Monday, July 10th, to Friday, July 14th**, at Our Lady of Peace Retreat in Beaverton. The theme is "Be Still and Know that I Am God," and the presenters are: Catholic Answers Apologist **Tim Staples**, **Fr. Theodore Lange**, **Mother Mary Assumpta Long**, OP, and **Sr. Joseph Andrew**, OP, of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, and **Bishop Peter Smith**. Attend as a resident, day student, or register for our virtual option. For rates, to register, and the address, call (831) 432-8093, ext. 5, or visit: olpretreat.org/summer-institute-2022.

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Annual Catechetical Symposium

The 2023 Annual Catechetical Symposium is from **Wednesday, July 21st, to Friday, July 23rd**, presented in English and Spanish. Inviting all parents, catechists, and parish leaders to join **Bishop Cary** and his guests for this unique opportunity to be inspired, connect, learn, and grow. Come and walk with Mary Magdalene and remember your encounters with God's glory in your faith story at the Cascade View Retreat Center in Powell Butte. For more information, call (541) 388-4004 or go to the website at: dioceseofbaker.org/symposium.

Thank You from the Pimental Family

Family, friends, neighbors,

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, calls and visits on the passing of **Jerry Pimental**. The outpouring of your sympathy and support is humbling.

In the 60 years Jerry lived in this community, he touched a lot of people's lives—and we have heard from just about all of them.

We are especially touched by the number of people who wrote notes and letters about how Jerry affected their lives as a teacher and coach. Thank you for sharing in our celebration of his life. A special thank you to the women and men of St. Joseph's Catholic Church and the ladies of the P.E.O. Chapter AD who helped so much with the funeral service and reception.

—**Deanna, Paul & Mark Pimental**

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2023 Bishop's Annual Appeal Pledge

As of **June 20th**, **38** parish families have pledged **\$17,505** toward our goal of **48** families pledging **\$21,826**.

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Rediscover Your Marriage

Retrouvaille simply means "rediscovery." The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. Retrouvaille is not a spiritual retreat, not a sensitivity group, not a seminar, not a social gathering. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve communication. Visit helpourmarriage.org for testimonials, confidential information, or to register for the program from **Friday, August 25th, to Sunday, August 27th**, in Canby, or call (503) 225-9191.

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Prayer List

David Leonard, Steve Forrester, Carl Johnson, Lyn Rodgers, Mike Mulvihill, Dolores Koivisto, Anita Marquez, Ben Guyger, Georgia Fitzgerald, Lloyd Rodgers, Pierre Jones, Sammi Pedersen, Steven Clifton, Ken Dalton, Joan Holland, Jordan Ortega, & Chuck Renwick

