

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"The Sacrament of Reconciliation"

Reconciliation is coming back home to the Father. This sacrament also brings an inner healing to each individual. Three very important and radical changes take place when an individual does his or her Confession: (1) The wounds caused by sin are healed, (2) The penitent is freed from evil forces, and (3) The capacity to do good is strengthened by the grace one receives from the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It really brings an inner healing to those who seek it with sincere repentance. "Whoever confesses his sins . . . is already working with God. God indicts your sins; if you also indict them, you are joined with God.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation has Scriptural Roots.

The New Testament is full of instances where Jesus forgives sins, for which He was accused by the Pharisees and Sadducees as blaspheming—as it was understood that only God can forgive the sins of others. The most memorable stories in the bible are: **1)** The prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32), **2)** The woman caught in adultery (John 8:11), **3)** the thief on the cross (Luke 23:40-43), and **4)** Peter after his betrayal of Jesus.

Every encounter is very personal and intimate. For example, the adulterous woman who was publicly humiliated and condemned by the people, was forgiven by Jesus. He forgives—He does not condemn. Jesus says, "The Son of Man has not come to call the virtuous but call the sinners to repentance" (Luke 19:10).

He came to call the sinners and, therefore, He was accused of being a glutton, a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners. Jesus accepts us when we acknowledge that we

are sinners. Today, more people seem to ask why go to a priest for Confession to tell our sins? Why not go directly to God? When we are sick, we go to a doctor. He gives medicine. He is not the one who heals.

You might have seen the caption, "We give medicine—God heals." But someone has to give medicine—and it has to be a human being. The one who gives medicine is not God. God does the healing. In the same way, the priest at the confessional is only taking the place of a doctor. He is there in the place of Christ. He absolves sins in the name of Jesus. It is Jesus who forgives—it is God who forgives.

At the Mass, when the priest says the prayer over the bread and wine, we believe that the bread and wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. In the same way, when the priest forgives sins and absolves us, it is Jesus who does it. It is Jesus who forgives us. He said to Peter, "If you forgive sins, they are forgiven. If you retain them, they are retained" (John 20:23). Jesus gave that power to forgive sins, so the priest is a tangible sign of God's presence. He is God's "agent," but he is very much flesh and blood, like any one of us. Therefore, Confession is much more than going to a counselor or a psychiatrist. A counselor doesn't forgive sins. God's grace comes with forgiveness. The blood of Jesus washes our sins. God's grace, mercy, and forgiveness come to us through Christ and His church. He has bought for us this grace with His blood. The Church not only calls us to humble repentance, but it also intercedes for us and helps us toward ongoing conversion.

—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

Youth Camp Leaders: 10th–12th Graders are invited to apply.

Zoom training begins in late May! Registration fee: \$75

Two Family Camps: July 27–30 & 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 for all camps 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

Amazing, P/T Catholic Summer Opportunity:

We are seeking a Summer Event Assistant, from 6/19 to 8/11. Email Marie at: Marie@DioceseofBaker.org

St. Joseph Catholic Church

150 E First St., P.O. Box 1315, Prineville OR 97754
June 4, 2023 † The Most Holy Trinity Sunday

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	06/05/2023	8:00 a.m.	Lorraine Popish (D)	Tb 1:3, 2:1b-8; Mk 12:1-12
Tuesday	06/06/2023	8:00 a.m.	Holy Soul Most in Need of Prayer (D)	Tb 2:9-14; Mk 12:13-17
Wednesday	06/07/2023	12:00 p.m.	Elizabeth Swanson (D)	Tb 3:1-11a, 16-17a; Mk 12:18-27
Thursday	06/08/2023	8:00 a.m.	Most Bound to Pray for (D)	Tb 6:10-11,7:1 bcde,9-17, 8:4-9a; Mk 12-28-34
Friday	06/09/2023	12:00 p.m.	Helen Husar (D)	Tb 11:5-17; Mk 12:35-37
Saturday	06/10/2023	5:00 p.m.	Dolores Kovisto (L)	Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a; 1 Cor 10:16-17; John 6:51-58
Sunday	06/11/2023	9:00 a.m.	Clint Giovanini (D)	Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a; 1 Cor 10:16-17; John 6:51-58
Sunday	06/11/2023	12:00 p.m.	Brittany Counts (L)	Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a; 1 Cor 10:16-17; John 6:51-58

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

Today's Homily—The Holy Trinity

This Sunday we gather together in community to celebrate one of the great solemnities of the liturgical year. We celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, the fundamental mystery, the most important of all of the mysteries, of our Catholic Christian faith.



This celebration is, in essence, the “Feast Day” of God, the Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It is a profound mystery that is difficult to fathom.

We can only begin to study it if we have faith. Any human mind—however knowledgeable it may be—it is too small to comprehend the immensity of this mystery. The mystery of the Most Holy Trinity is impossible for our minds to understand. Because of this, we can only accept it if we have faith. Without faith it is practically impossible to do so.

The doctrine of the inner relationship of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in such a way that each of them is fully and equally God, yet there are not three Gods but one, cannot be fully comprehended by the human mind. It *is* a mystery.

If we expected today's readings to give us a clear and elaborate presentation of the doctrine of the Blessed Trinity, we have found out that they simply do not. The doctrine of three persons in one God—equal in divinity yet distinct in personality—is not explicitly spelled out in the Bible. In fact, the very word “Trinity” is not found anywhere in the Bible.

Early Christians arrived at the doctrine when they applied their God-given reason to the reve-

lation which they had received in faith.

Jesus spoke about the Father who sent Him (the Son)—and about the Holy Spirit—whom He was going to send. He said that the Father had given Him (the Son) all that He has and that He, in turn, has given to the Holy

Spirit all that He has received from the Father. In this we see the unity of purpose among the three persons of the Trinity.

In the story of salvation, we usually attribute creation to the Father, redemption to the Son, and sanctification to the Holy Spirit. Nevertheless, although they are distinct as persons, neither the Father nor the Son nor the Holy Spirit ever exists or acts in isolation from the other two persons of the Godhead.

We are made in God's image and likeness. Just as God is God only in a Trinitarian relationship, so we can be fully human only in a relationship of three partners. The self needs to be in a horizontal relationship with others and in a vertical relationship with God. In that way, our life becomes Trinitarian like that of God. Then we discover that the so-called “I-and-I” principle of unbridled individualism which is acceptable in modern society leaves much to be desired.

The doctrine of the Holy Trinity challenges us to adopt rather an “I-and-God-and-neighbor” principle. I am a Christian insofar as I live in a relationship of love with God and other people.

May the grace of the Blessed Trinity help us to banish all traces of self-centeredness in our lives and to live in love of God and of neighbor.

June—The Month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Prayer List



David Leonard,
Steve Forrester,
Carl Johnson,
Lyn Rodgers,
Mike Mulvihill,
Dolores Koivisto,
Jerry Pimentel,
Anita Marquez,
Georgia Fitzgerald,

Ben Guyger, Lloyd Rodgers, Pierre Jones, Sammi Pedersen, Steven Clifton, Ken Dalton, Debi Allan, Joan Holland, Thomas Cook, and Jordan Ortega

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Corpus Christi Procession

On Sunday, June 11th, we will be having a Eucharistic Procession on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi.

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No Daily Mass

There will be no daily Mass on Wednesday, June 14th, and Thursday, June 15th. Fr. Joseph will be participating in the Ordination to the Holy Priesthood of Caleb Joshua Cunningham, in Baker City. (See below).

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Ordination Ceremony

Everyone is invited to the Ordination to the Priesthood of Deacon Caleb Cunningham by Bishop Liam Cary.

The Ordination Mass will be on Thursday, June 15th, at 11 a.m., at the St. Francis Cathedral in Baker City, or you may join us via livestream for this joyous occasion on the diocese website at: dioceseofbaker.org. A reception will follow immediately after the ceremony.



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Mass Intentions

As we celebrate Father's Day on June 18th, let us remember our loved ones, living or deceased, and pray for them. Anyone who may be going through a difficult time will also need extra prayers. The best way is to offer a Mass for them. Please schedule a Mass Intention at the Parish Office, or mail a request (include name and how many Masses) to P.O. Box 1315, Prineville, OR 97754.

Respect Life Fundraiser

The Annual Baby Bottle Campaign asks that you fill a baby bottle with cash/checks and return it to the Parish Office by Father's Day, June 18th. Questions? Call Gari Lynn at: (541) 815-5823. The proceeds go to benefit Pro-Life organizations.

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Housekeeper Position Available

If you are interested in the position of Housekeeper 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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House Blessings

If you would like to have your house blessed, call the Parish Office to make an appointment for Fr. Joseph to come out on either a Tuesday or Wednesday at 3 p.m., or at any time Fr. Joseph is available.

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2023 Bishop's Annual Appeal Pledge

As of May 30th, St. Joseph's Parish has had 33 families pledge \$16,295 toward our parish goal of 48 families pledging \$21,826.

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U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking

Talitha Kum (Little girl, I say to you, rise up) is a global network of Catholic Sisters who stand with victims and survivors of trafficking in persons who work to promote a just world in which every human being can live in dignity and fullness of life.