

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"A Worthy Vessel" (author unknown)

The Master was searching for a vessel to use. On the shelf there were many—which one would He choose?

"Take me," cried the gold one. "I'm shiny and bright, I'm of great value, and I do things just right.

My beauty and luster will outshine the rest, and for someone like You, Master, gold would be the best!"

The Master passed on with no word at all. He looked at a silver urn, narrow and tall.

"I'll serve You, dear Master, I'll pour out Your wine, and I'll be at Your table whenever You dine. My lines are so graceful, my carvings so true, and my silver will always compliment You!"

Unheeding, the Master passed on to the brass. It was wide-mouthed and shallow, and polished like glass.

"Here! Here!" cried the vessel. "I know I will do! Place me on Your table for all men to view."

"Look at me," called the goblet of crystal so clear. "My transparency shows my contents so dear. Though fragile am I, I will serve You with pride, and I'm sure I'll be happy in Your house to abide."



The Master came next to a vessel of wood. Polished and carved, it solidly stood. "You may use me, dear Master," the wooden bowl said. "But I'd rather You used me for fruit—not for bread!"

Then the Master looked down and saw a vessel of clay. Empty and broken it helplessly lay. No hope had the vessel that the Master might choose to cleanse and make whole—to fill and to use.

"Ah! This is the vessel I've been hoping to find! I will mend it, and use it, and make it all Mine! I need not the vessel with pride of its self. Nor the one who is narrow to sit on the shelf. Nor the one who is big-mouthed and shallow and loud. Nor the one who displays his contents so proud. Not the one who thinks he can do all things just right. But this plain earthy vessel filled with My power and might."

Then gently He lifted the vessel of clay, mended and cleansed it, and filled it that day. He spoke to it kindly, "There's work you must do. Just pour out to others as I pour into you."

The vocation of each one of us is to become a worthy vessel in the Hands of God.

—Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph

Please Pray for Those on Our 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, Joan Holland, Jordan Ortega, Chuck Renwick, John Huthmacher, and Ed McNamara



St. Joseph Catholic Church

150 E First St., P.O. Box 1315, Prineville OR 97754
August 6, 2023 † The Transfiguration of the Lord

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 ♦ Very 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	08/07/2023	8:00 a.m.	Juvenal Robles Lopez (D)	Num 11:4b-15; Mt 14:13-21
Tuesday	08/08/2023	12:00 p.m.	Curtis S. Morris, Jr. (L)	Num 12:1-13; Mt 14:22-36
Wednesday	08/09/2023	12:00 p.m.	Ensley Edgerly (L)	Num 13:1-2, 25, 14:1, 26-29a, 34-35; Mt 15:21-28
Thursday	08/10/2023	8:00 a.m.	Edward R Ordway (D)	2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26
Friday	08/11/2023	12:00 p.m.	Donald Arian (D)	Dt 4:32-40; Mt 16:24-28
Saturday	08/12/2023	5:00 p.m.	Bob Rodgers (D)	1 Kgs 19:9a,11-13a; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33
Sunday	08/13/2023	10:00 a.m.	Niel Rodgers (D)	1 Kgs 19:9a,11-13a; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

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

Today's Homily—Transfiguration 2023

THE COMMON THEME of today's readings is the metamorphosis or transformation of Christ by the empowering of God the Father Who sent His Son as our Savior and Redeemer. Today's Gospel, describing Christ's Transfiguration, challenges us to revitalize our Faith as true disciples of Christ—just as the passages from Daniel and II Peter were written to strengthen the Faith of their audiences in times of persecution.

The first reading, taken from the Book of Daniel, spreads out before us Daniel's vision of God's glorious Heavenly Court of Judgment. The Transfiguration is a prefiguring of Christ's glorification by God the Father in the Court of Heaven after Jesus' Ascension into Heaven.

In the second reading, St. Peter argues, in his Second Letter to the Church, that the Transfiguration of Jesus Christ (at which the voice of God the Father was heard by the three apostles, verses 16–18), and the testimony of the Old Testament prophets (in the Messianic prophecies), are the guarantee of the doctrine of Christ's Second Coming.

In the Transfiguration account in today's Gospel, Jesus is revealed as a glorious figure, superior to Moses and Elijah. The primary purpose of Jesus' Transfiguration was to allow Jesus to consult his Heavenly Father in order to ascertain His plan for His Son's suffering, death, and Resurrection. The secondary aim was to make his chosen disciples aware of Jesus' Divine glory, so that they might discard their worldly ambitions and dreams of a conquering political Messiah—and might be strengthened in their time of trial. On the mountain, Jesus is identified by the Heavenly Voice as the Son of God. Thus, the Transfiguration narrative is a *Christophany*; that is, a manifestation or revelation of Who Jesus really *IS*.

Describing Jesus' Transfiguration, the Gospel gives us a glimpse of the Heavenly glory awaiting those who do God's will by putting their trusting Faith in Him.



The changing of bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus by transubstantiation in the Holy Mass is the source of our strength. Just as the Transfiguration of Jesus strengthened the Apostles in their time of trial, each Holy Mass should be our source of Heavenly strength against our own temptations and our chief source for the renewal of our lives.

In addition, communion with Jesus in prayer and especially in the Eucharist should be a source of

daily transformation of both our minds and hearts—enabling us to love and serve Jesus in every one of our brothers and sisters with whom we come in contact each day.

Each Sacrament that we receive transforms us. Baptism, for example, transforms us into sons and daughters of God and heirs of Heaven. Confirmation makes us the temples of the Holy Spirit. By approaching the Sacrament of Reconciliation when we recognize—repenting—that we have sinned, God brings us back to the path of holiness. By receiving in Faith, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, we are spiritually—and sometimes physically—healed, and our sins are forgiven.

The Transfiguration offers us a message of hope and encouragement. In moments of doubt, pain and suffering, disappointment and despair, we need mountain-top experiences that we may reach out to God and listen to His consoling words: *This is my beloved son/daughter in whom I am well pleased.*

We need these “mountain-top” experiences in our own lives. We can share experiences like those of Peter, James, and John when we spend some extra time in prayer. Perhaps we may want to fast for one day—taking only water—thus releasing spiritual energy, which in turn, can lift our thoughts to a higher plane. Such a fast may also help us to remember the starving millions in the world, and make us more willing to help them.

August—The Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

The Transfiguration of the Lord

“After six days, Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was **transfigured** before them. His clothes became white as light. And then Elijah and Moses appeared, talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, ‘Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.’ While he was still speaking, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, and from the cloud came a voice that said: ‘This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.’ When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very afraid. But Jesus touched them, saying, ‘Rise, and do not be afraid.’ And when the disciples raised their heads, they saw no one else but Jesus who gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead” (Mt 17:1–9).

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Change in Daily Mass

On **Monday, August 7th, at 12 p.m.**, there is a Funeral Mass for **Juvenal Robles Lopez**, so there won't be morning Mass.

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Crook County Fair Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers Needed!



The Crook County Fair starts on **Thursday, August 9th, and goes through Saturday, August 12th, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.** The St. Joseph's Respect Life Committee is hosting a Pro-Life booth this year, and we need many volunteers to be in the booth—we'll have teams of two to serve for two hours each. Please sign up by calling **Gari Lynn** at (541) 815-5823.

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2023 Parish Potluck Picnic

On **Sunday, August 13th**, we celebrate a bilingual **Mass at 10 a.m.**, immediately followed by the traditional picnic on the Parish Hall lawn east of the Church with hamburgers, hot dogs and carne asada, supplied by the K of C. We ask everyone to bring their favorite picnic side dish or desert. Games and outdoor activities for children of all ages will be set up on the lawn adjacent to the Parish Hall. Please join us!

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Holy Day of Obligation

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is on **Tuesday, August 15th**. Mass will be held at 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Stress in Your Marriage

Retrouvaille is a program for married couples who feel bored, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. To register for the weekend of **August 25th–27th**, in Canby, OR, email portland@retrovaille.com or call (503) 225-9191.

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Religious Education Resumes in the Fall

Please register your children in the Parish Hall, Room #4, **September 5th to the 8th, from 3 to 6 p.m.**

You can also set up an appointment with **Mrs. Dalton** if these dates do not work for you. Please call (541) 410-3720. Do not register in the office!

Cash or check is accepted—no credit cards please. The fees are \$40 per child. Thank you! We look forward to seeing you and your children.

—*Barbara Dalton, DRE*

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RCIA

*Do you know of anyone who would like to become a Catholic?
Do you know a Catholic who needs Confirmation?
Would you like to know more about the Catholic religion?*

RCIA classes will begin on **Tuesday, September 12th**. Come by the Parish Office for a registration form, or contact **Jim Friese** at (541) 991-2814.

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Acolyte Volunteers

St. Joseph Parish is requesting applications from parishioners who wish to become Acolytes. Applications must be from male parish members who are in good standing.

This is a commitment requiring participation in several workshops or private/online classes. The primary purpose of an Acolyte is to aid the Priest in the celebration of the Mass.

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2023 Bishop's Annual Appeal Pledge

This year, the diocesan-wide participation goal is 21%, and the supporting financial target is \$675,000. For our Parish, the participation goal is **48 families** with a supporting target of **\$21,826**. So far, **47 families** have supported the Appeal with **\$19,410** toward our goal. Many important diocesan and parish programs that help thousands in our diocese every year are made possible by your generosity. For more information visit: <https://dioceseofbaker.org/bishops-annual-appeal>.

