

Fr. Joseph's Corner

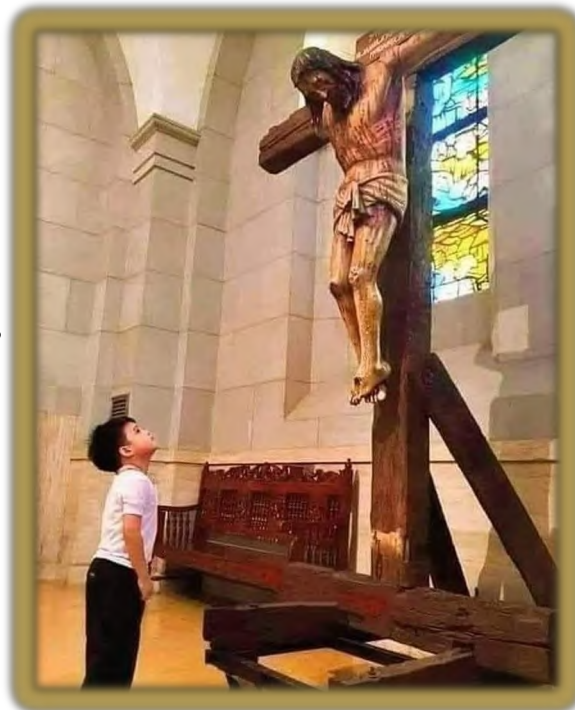
"I Will Cry Out to Your Mother"

One day a five-year-old boy ran into a pharmacy and said to the pharmacist: "Sir, here's all the money I have. Please give me a miracle."

The pharmacist, surprised, asked him what miracle he wanted and for what. The little one replied: "The doctor said that my mother would need a miracle to heal. Here is all the money I saved to buy a bicycle, but I love my mom, and I want her to be okay. Please help me. Is that money enough?"

The pharmacist, very moved, replied that he did not have the medicine "miracle" to cure his mother, but that if he had he would have offered it without charging a single penny. Then he added that only Jesus, the Son of God, has that special remedy, and he invited him to go to Church to ask.

The boy ran to the Church. He arrived in front of the crucifix near the altar and said, "I know that you're on that cross, and that it hurts you, and that you don't have much time for me, but the pharmacist told me that you have my



mother's miracle. I promise to come back as soon as possible to help you."

The priest, who had heard the child's cry, came over and invited him to speak in a low voice to Jesus.

He explained that Christ hears him even though he does not respond directly.

Moved by the child, the priest decided to go home with him. Along the way, the child explained to the priest how much he wanted his mom to be healed, that she was everything to him, and

that only Jesus had the miracle that could cure her, as the pharmacist had explained.

Once they reached the home, the boy found his mother's bed empty. He looked and saw her coming out of the kitchen. She said, "The doctor who came to visit has healed me."

MORAL—

Even if your prayers are met with silence, don't give up hope. Trust in God. His timing is perfect!

—*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 ♦ Ed McNamara ♦ Duncan Osgood ♦ Doni Bachand



St. Joseph Catholic Church

150 E First St., P.O. Box 1315, Prineville OR 97754
 September 10, 2023 † 23rd 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 ♦ Very Rev. Fr. Joseph Kunnelaya T.

Secretary ♦ Darlene Counts

Parish Office Hours ♦ Monday – Thursday ♦ 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 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

Facebook: St. Joseph Parish / Instagram: [st_josephparish](https://www.instagram.com/st_josephparish)

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 Saturdays.

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	09/11/2023	No Daily Mass	—	Col 1:24–2:3; Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday	09/12/2023	No Daily Mass	—	Col 2:6-15; Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday	09/13/2023	No Daily Mass	—	Col 3:1-11; Lk 6:20-26
Thursday	09/14/2023	No Daily Mass.	—	Nm 21:4b-9; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
Friday	09/15/2023	No Daily Mass	—	1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Jn 19:25-27; Lk 2:33-35
Saturday	09/16/2023	5:00 p.m.	Cookie Benton (L)	Sir 27:30-28:7; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35
Sunday	09/17/2023	9:00 a.m.	Victoria Maska (L)	Sir 27:30-28:7; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35
Sunday	09/17/2023	12:00 p.m.	Martiniano Lopez (D)	Sir 27:30-28:7; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35

(L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

WHEN learning a new sport, it is vital to know the rules. Basketball players cannot kick the ball, but they can pass it with their hands; soccer players cannot touch the ball with their hands, but they can use their feet to dribble and kick it; football players cannot cross the line of scrimmage until play begins, but they can move in certain directions beforehand. The rules are helpful, keeping athletes in line so the game can run smoothly, objectives can be met, and goals achieved.

Each of us has our own Christian “athletic” adventure of “running the race toward the prize of the eternal crown” as St. Paul often analogizes (Cf., 1 Cor 9:24-25; 2 Tim 4:7; Phil 3:14). This is a lifelong route along a path of moral living, striving for holiness. There are “way stations” designed to nourish and hydrate us: Scripture, Church teachings, the Sacraments, and prayer—to name a few. They elucidate for us how to avoid sin, and how to do good. They are the “rules of the game,” per se.

This is helpful, because as obstinate humans, clear teaching often comes in handy. This is true especially for children, who need to be taught clear boundaries, often through clear delineation: “Do *not* steal toys”; “Do help your sister.” Yet as we mature developmentally and, especially in our spiritual lives, it is essential to understand the wider context and rationale behind the commandments we heard as children.

Jesus was raised learning all the precepts of the Jewish law—hundreds of commandments. As a faithful Jew, honoring the law was paramount for Jesus. So, as we come upon Him in today's Gospel, He is instructing His disciples on how to reprimand sinners.



At first glance, it appears that Jesus is reinforcing a rule-based morality. After all, at the time of Jesus, the rules were clear, and the consequences for breaking them were serious.

Women, for instance, were

stoned on the spot for committing adultery.

In this context, however, Jesus is proposing a more merciful way: Talk to the sinner directly—then bring a witness or two along—and finally involve the Church if necessary. Jesus' goal is not simply to reprimand the sinner but to rebuild the broken relationship.

The desire to correct stems from love; the manner of addressing it stems from and manifests love, and all of it is housed within the greater body of love—a community caring for and looking out for its members. The way of Jesus always promotes reconciliation and love.

St. Paul, in today's second reading, takes a page directly from Jesus' teaching when he describes love as the *fulfillment of the law*. Paul tells the Roman Church that all the negative commandments—what one should not do—can be achieved by the positive directive to *love your neighbor as yourself*.

Jesus and Paul both knew that a healthy spirituality cannot be maintained by the mere avoidance of sin.

God is offering us so much more; namely, the pursuit of virtue and the abundant life that comes through love. We need look no further than the gifts of the Cross and the Eucharist to see the extent to which Christ was willing to stretch to reconcile us by His love.

May the same be true of us, guided by a positive understanding of morality that leads us into right relationship—with God—and with one another.

September—The Month of the Seven Sorrows of Mary

RCIA



There is still time to register for RCIA classes. They will begin on **Tuesday, September 12th, at 3 p.m.**

Come by the Parish Office for a registration form, or call **Jim Friese** at (541) 991-2814. Or you can send an email to: kkpeaches2@msn.com to register or for more information.

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Have You Ever Wondered . . .

where the Mass is in the Bible? Join us for the series, “The Bible and the Mass: A Journey Through Scripture,” presented by **Scott Hahn**.

The series begins on **Wednesday, September 13th, at 1:30 p.m.** in the Parish Hall, Room #2.

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Meetings

◆ The next Right 2 Life meeting is on **Tuesday, September 19th, at 6 p.m.**, in Room #4.

◆ The Knights of Columbus will be meeting also on **Tuesday, September 19th, at 7 p.m.**

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Daily Mass

Fr. Joseph will return from vacation on **Wednesday, September 27th**, so daily Mass will resume on **Friday, September 29th**.

Fr. Joe Reeves will be here for Confession on Saturdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Saturday Vigil 5 p.m. Mass, Sunday Mass at 9 a.m. (English), and 12 p.m. (Spanish).

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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 and 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.



Pray-4-Life



Bishop Cary is asking for everyone's participation in a Diocesan-wide “Pray-4-Life” Prayer Vigil for 40 days—from **Wednesday, September 27th, through Friday, November 3rd**.

He would like you to participate in our organized Prayer Vigil Pilgrimage in Ontario—while also praying daily at our parish. It is our mission to call on the Holy Spirit to close the Ontario Planned Parenthood!

Registration is required. You can register online at www.dioceseofbaker.org or come to the Parish Office.

St. Joseph Parish has chosen the following for Mass and Vigil in Ontario:

⇒ **Friday, September 29th, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.**, Blessed Sacrament Church, 829 SW 2nd Ave., Ontario

⇒ **9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Planned Parenthood Vigil**

⇒ **10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Lunch** (optional)

We will meet at **St. Joseph's at 8 a.m. on Thursday, September 28th**, to travel to Ontario. Carpooling by request. Contact **Gari Lynn** at (541) 815-5823 for more information.

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Volunteer Needed

We are looking for a volunteer to take over cleaning the brass candlesticks in the Church. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

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Message from the Maintenance Department

As the cooler weather moves in, we will be having our heating systems serviced. There shouldn't be anything blocking these areas or on the stage stairs. If you are currently using these areas for storage, please find somewhere else.

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St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, Jesus says: “. . . where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St Vincent de Paul so that together we help them to know that, indeed, “God is in the midst of them.”