

## Fr. Joseph's Corner

"Grains of Sand: The Beggar's Rags" (author unknown)

A poor beggar lived near the king's palace, and one day he saw a proclamation posted outside the palace gate. The king was giving a great dinner. Anyone dressed in royal garments was invited to the party. The beggar went on his way. He looked at the rags he was wearing and sighed. Surely only kings and their families wore royal robes, he thought. And slowly an idea crept into his mind. The audacity of it made him tremble. Would he dare?

He made his way back to the palace and approached the guard at the gate. "Please, sir, I would like to speak with the king."

"Wait here," the guard replied. In a few minutes, he was back and said, "His majesty will see you," and he led the beggar inside the gate.

"You wish to see me?" asked the king.

"Yes, your majesty. I want so much to attend the banquet, but I have no royal robes to wear. Please, sire, if I may be so bold, may I have one of your old garments so that I, too, may come to the banquet?"

The beggar shook so badly that he could not see the faint smile that was on the king's face.

"Sir, you have been wise in coming to me," the king said. And then

he called to his son, the young prince, and said. "Take this man to your room and array him in some of your clothes."

The prince did as he was told and soon the beggar was standing before a mirror, clothed in garments that he had never dared to hope for.

"You are now eligible to attend the king's banquet tomorrow night," said the prince. "But even more important, you will never need any other clothes. These garments will last forever."

"Oh, thank you!" the beggar cried. But as he started to leave, he looked back at his pile of dirty old rags on the floor and hesitated. He thought, "What if the prince is wrong? What if he ever needed his old clothes again?" And so he quickly gathered them up.

The banquet was far greater than he had ever imagined, but he could not enjoy himself as he should. He had made a small bundle of his old rags, and it kept falling off his lap. The food was passed quickly, and the beggar missed some of the greatest delicacies.

Time proved that the prince was right. The clothes lasted forever. But the poor beggar still grew fonder and fonder of his dirty old rags. And as time passed, people seemed to forget the royal robes he was wearing. They only saw the little bundle of filthy rags he clung to wherever he went. They even spoke of him as "the old man with the rags."

One day as he lay dying, the king visited him. The beggar saw the sad look on the king's face when he looked at the small bundle of rags by the bed.

Suddenly the beggar remembered the prince's words, and he realized that his bundle of rags had cost him a lifetime of true royalty. He wept bitterly at his folly. And the king wept with him.

—Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph



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### 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

prayer requests

## St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

November 12, 2023 † 32nd 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](mailto:stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com)

Pastor: [fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com](mailto:fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com) / [joekunel55@gmail.com](mailto: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	11/13/2023	8:00 a.m.	James Harmon Cearly, Jr. (D)	Wis 1:1-7; Luke 17:1-6
Tuesday	11/14/2023	8:00 a.m.	Todd Holeman (D)	Wis 2:23-3:9; Lk 17:7-10
Wednesday	11/15/2023	12:00 p.m.	Henry Kaiser (D)	Wis 6:1-11; Lk 17:11-19
Thursday	11/16/2023	8:00 a.m.	Lorraine Espinosa (D)	Wis 7-22b-8:1; Lk 17:20-25
Friday	11/17/2023	12:00 p.m.	Beth Mueller (D)	Wis 13:1-9; Lk 17:26-37
Saturday	11/18/2023	5:00 p.m.	Jim Goodpaster (D)	Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30
Sunday	11/19/2023	9:00 a.m.	Bob Rodgers (D)	Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30
Sunday	11/19/2023	12:00 p.m.	Ladislao Robles (D)	Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30

(L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased



## Today's Homily

**TODAY, WE GATHER** here to reflect upon a passage from the Gospel of Matthew, specifically Matthew 25:1–13. In this parable, Jesus imparts a profound message that holds significance, not only in the context of the time when He spoke these words, but also for our lives today.

The parable of the ten virgins speaks of readiness, anticipation, and the importance of being prepared for the Lord's return. Let's dive into the key points of this passage.

First, Jesus tells us about ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. In this context, the bridegroom symbolizes Christ, and the virgins represent His followers—His Church. The lamps they carry symbolize the light of faith, and this tells us that all of us are called to shine the light of Christ in the world.

Now, what distinguishes the wise virgins from the foolish ones? It's their preparation. The wise virgins took oil in their vessels along with their lamps, while the foolish ones took their lamps but didn't take extra oil. This extra oil signifies our spiritual reserves—our relationship with God, our prayer life, and the depth of our faith. The wise virgins were prepared for the unexpected delays, but the foolish ones were not.

We often encounter unexpected delays and challenges in our lives. It could be personal struggles, crises, or even waiting for the fulfillment of God's promises. The wise virgins teach us the importance of being spiritually prepared for such times. It's a reminder for us to nurture our relationship with God daily through prayer, scripture, and acts of love and service.

But notice, the bridegroom was delayed, and they all slumbered and slept. This reminds us that waiting can be a difficult and tiring process. It's easy to grow complacent or discouraged in our faith journey when we don't see immediate results or when challenges



seem insurmountable. However, this parable encourages us to remain steadfast and keep our lamps burning.

Then comes the pivotal moment: the cry at midnight, "Behold, the bridegroom is coming; go out to meet him!" This is a call to readiness and alertness. When the cry came, the foolish virgins realized their lamps were running out of oil, and they asked the wise virgins for some. However, the wise virgins wisely responded that they couldn't share their oil.

The oil of faith and spiritual preparedness is something each person must cultivate individually; it cannot be borrowed or acquired at the last minute.

This moment in the parable reflects the reality of judgment. When the day of the Lord comes, we will each stand before Him, and we cannot rely on someone else's faith to carry us through. We must have our own personal relationship with Christ.

The parable concludes with a warning: "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour." This is Jesus' call to us to be vigilant, to be watchful, to be ready at all times for His return. We don't know when that will be, but we should live each day as if it could be the day when He comes back.

In summary, the parable of the 10 virgins emphasizes the importance of spiritual preparedness, vigilance, and personal responsibility in our relationship with Christ. It reminds us that faith is not something we can borrow or take for granted; it's something we must nurture and cultivate daily. Let us be like the wise virgins—ready to meet our Lord whenever He comes—and let our lamps shine brightly in a world that so desperately needs His light.

May the Holy Spirit guide us in living out the wisdom of this parable, so that when the Bridegroom comes, we may be found faithful and prepared. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## November—Month of the Holy Souls in Purgatory

### Veterans Day



Thank you to our Veterans, for your time, your bravery, and your sacrifice for this country. We are forever grateful for your service to maintain America's freedom!

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### A Message from Father Joseph

**THANK YOU** to all the parishioners for your prayers and wishes for my Priestly Ordination Anniversary!

—*Father Joseph*

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### Meetings

There will be a Liturgical Meeting on **Wednesday, November 15th, at 3 p.m.**, in the Parish Hall.

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### 1st Annual St. Joseph's Thanksgiving



We are hosting our first Thanksgiving Dinner on **Thursday, November 23rd**. If you aren't going away, if you aren't having a large family gathering, or if you'll be alone, you are welcome. We do not want anyone to be alone this Thanksgiving.

There is **NO CHARGE!** However, we do need to know by **Wednesday, November 15th**, if you will be attending so that we prepare enough food.

Please call **Darlene** in the Parish Office at **(541) 447-6475**, or send her an email at: [stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com](mailto:stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com).

**JOIN US TO CELEBRATE WITH OUR PARISH FAMILY!**

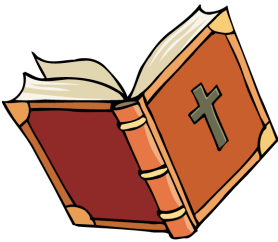
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### Holy Hour

We will have a Holy Hour on **Sunday, November 19th, at 5 p.m.**

### ACTS

We will be starting a new Bible Study series on **Wednesday, November 29th, at 1:30 p.m., in Classroom #2:** "Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Advent" by Dr. Brant Pitre. Everyone is welcome to join us.



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### Knights of Columbus

It's that time of year again! Your Knights of Columbus are selling Christmas cards, ornaments, pins, and Advent wreaths with candles. You can purchase these items in the Parish Office during the week, or at our Sunday Coffee Hour.

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### You Can Help Your Marriage



- ◆ Do you feel alone?
- ◆ Are you frustrated or angry with each other?
- ◆ Do you argue, or have you just stopped talking to each other?
- ◆ Does talking about it only make it worse?

Retrouvaille helps couples through the most difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped 10s of 1,000s of couples just like you experiencing marital difficulties. **IF YOU FEEL LIKE YOUR WORLD IS FALLING APART . . . We did too!**

Join Oregon Retrouvaille as we host a working weekend for couples struggling in their marriages by couples who have been there in the struggle. Come for the **January 26–28, 2024 weekend** at Our Lady of Peace Retreat Center in Beaverton, Oregon.

For confidential information about or to register for the program call (503) 225-9191 or send an email to: [portland@retrouvaille.org](mailto:portland@retrouvaille.org) or visit the website at: [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org).