

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"The Burning Hut" (author unknown)

The only survivor of a shipwreck washed up on a small, uninhabited island. He prayed feverishly for God to rescue him, and every day he scanned the horizon looking for help, but none seemed forthcoming.

Thoroughly exhausted, he eventually managed to build a little hut out of driftwood to protect himself from the elements, and to store in it his meager possessions.

But then one day, after scavenging for food, he arrived "home" to find that his little hut was in flames—the smoke rolling up toward the sky. The worst had happened! Everything was lost!

The poor man, stung with grief and anger, shouted, "Oh, my God! How could you do this to me?"

Early the next day, however, he was awakened by the sound of a ship that was approaching the island. It had come to rescue him!

"How did you know I was here?" asked the weary man of his rescuers.

"We saw your smoke signal!" they replied.



It is easy to get discouraged when things are going bad. But we shouldn't lose heart, because God is at work in our lives, even in the midst of pain and suffering.

Paul wrote, ". . . I have learned the secret of being content in any and in every situation—whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want."

Paul had confidence that good would come out of everything, so he learned to be thankful, not bitter, even when he was suffering.

Remember: The next time your little hut is burning to the ground, it just may be a smoke signal that summons the grace of God!

—Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph

prayer requests

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 ♦ 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

November 26, 2023 † Jesus Christ, King of the Universe 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 ♦ 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	11/27/2023	8:00 a.m.	Neil Rodgers (D)	Dan 1:1-6, 8-20; Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday	11/28/2023	8:00 a.m.	Bud Redfern (D)	Dan 2:31-45; Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday	11/29/2023	12:00 p.m.	Bob Andrew (D)	Dan 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Lk 21:12-19
Thursday	11/30/2023	8:00 a.m.	Diane Giovanini (L)	Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22
Friday	12/01/2023	12:00 p.m.	Amanda Valdez (L)	Dan 7:2-14; Lk 21:29-33
Saturday	12/02/2023	5:00 p.m.	Sami Pedersen (L)	Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37
Sunday	12/03/2023	9:00 a.m.	David Geiman (D)	Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37
Sunday	12/03/2023	12:00 p.m.	Fr. Cornelius Kiely (D)	Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

(L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS revolve around the Last Judgment scene of Jesus Christ coming in glory and power. It was Pope Pius XI who brought the Feast of Christ the King into the liturgy in 1925 to bring Christ as Ruler, and Christian values, back into the lives of Christians, into society, and into politics.

The Feast was a reminder to the totalitarian governments of Mussolini, Hitler, and Stalin that Jesus Christ is the only Sovereign King. Although Emperors and Kings now exist mostly in history books, we still honor Christ as the King of the Universe by enthroning Jesus in our hearts, surrendering our lives to God.

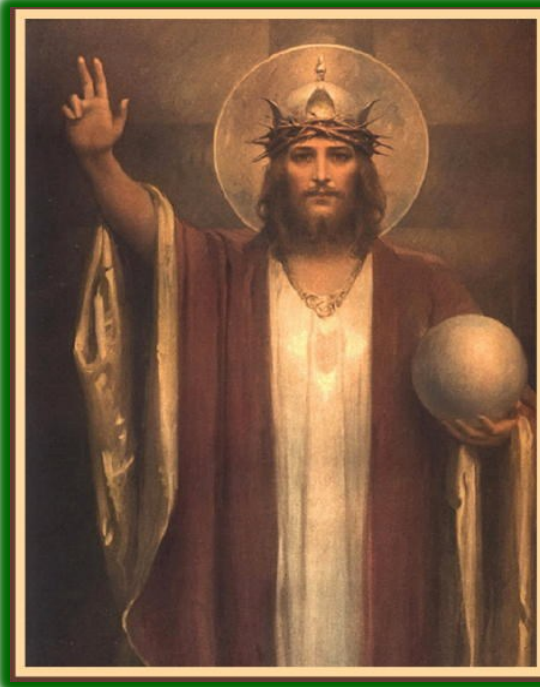
This feast challenges us to see Christ the King in everyone—especially in those whom our society considers the least important—and to treat each person with the same love, mercy, and compassion that Jesus showed.

The first reading, taken from the Prophet Ezekiel, introduces God as the Good Shepherd, reminding us of Christ's claim to be the "Good Shepherd King," leading, feeding, and protecting His sheep.

In the second reading, St. Paul presents Christ as the "All Powerful Ruler King," Who raises the dead and to Whom every form of power and authority must eventually give way.

Today's Gospel describes Christ the King coming in Heavenly glory to judge us, based on how we have shared our love and blessings with others through genuine acts of charity in our lives. Jesus is present to us now, not only as our Good Shepherd leading, feeding, and healing His sheep, but also as dwelling in those for whom we care. In the parable of the separation of the sheep from the goats at the Last Judgment, every person to whom we give ourselves, "whether hungry, thirsty or a stranger, naked, sick or in prison," is revealed to us as having been the risen Jesus. Our reward or punishment depends on how we have recognized and treated this risen Jesus in the needy.

We need to recognize and appreciate Christ's presence within us and surrender our lives to His rule: Since Christ, our King, lives in our hearts with



the Holy Spirit and His Heavenly Father and fills our souls with His grace, we need to learn to surrender our lives to Him, to live in His Holy Presence, and to do God's will by sharing His forgiving love with others around us.

Aware of His presence in the Bible, in the Sacraments, and in the worshipping community, we need to listen and talk to Him.

We need to learn to be servers: Since Christ was a Servant-King, we are invited to be His loyal citizens by rendering humble service to others and by sharing Christ's mercy and forgiveness with others.

We need to use our authority to support the rule of Jesus. This feast is an invitation to all who have power or authority in public or private realms to use it for Jesus by bearing witness to Him in the way we live. Parents are expected to use their God-given authority to train their children in Christian ideals and in the ways of committed Christian living.

We need to accept Jesus Christ as the King of love. Jesus, who came to proclaim to all of us the Good News of God's love and salvation, gave us His new commandment of love: **Love one another as I have loved you** (John 13:34), and He demonstrated that love by dying for us sinners. We accept Jesus as our King of love when we love others as Jesus already loves us—unconditionally, sacrificially, and with *agape* love.

The Solemnity of Christ the King is not just the conclusion of the Church year. It is also a summary of our lives as Christians. On this great Feast, let us resolve to give Christ the central place in our lives and to obey His commandment of love by sharing our blessings with all his needy children. Let us conclude the Church year by asking the Lord to help us serve the King of Kings as He presents Himself in those reaching out to us. **To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His Blood and made us a Kingdom, priests for His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen** (Revelation 1:5b-6). Christ conquers! Christ rules! Christ reigns!

November—Month of the Holy Souls in Purgatory

Advent Penance Service



Our Advent Penance Service will be on **Wednesday, December 6th, at 6 p.m.** There will be five (5) Priests available, and three of them are bilingual.

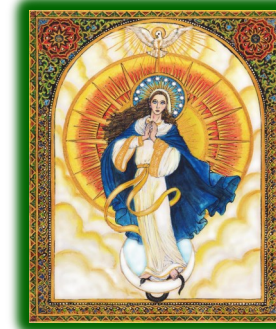
Children who have received Communion and are in our Religious Education classes, including Confirmation students, must be there with their parents.

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Holy Day Of Obligation

This coming Friday, December 8th, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Mass times are as follows: 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.



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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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Religious Retirement Collection

The Religious Retirement Collection is being held the on the weekend of **December 9th and 10th.**

Pope Francis noted, "There is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel." As we approach the annual Religious Retirement Collection, we are all reminded that senior religious never retire from their vows. Instead, the prayer and ministry of older priests are an ongoing witness to the Gospel.

Thank you for your support.

ACTS

It's not too late to join our Bible Study, "Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Advent," by Dr. Brant Pitre.

Everyone is welcome to join us on **Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. in classroom 2.**



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Inviting All Young Adults: Diocesan Lenten Retreat, February 17–18, 2024

Sacrificial Love: The Redemption of Suffering, featuring **Bishop Liam Cary**. Registration fees: \$85/Single Person; \$125/Married Couple. Registration Deadline: **February 11, 2024 at the** Cascade View Retreat Center, in Powell Butte, OR.

For more information and to register go to DioceseofBaker.org. (Supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.)

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4 Stages of Marriage

Is it time for you and your spouse to work on your marriage together? The 4 stages of marriage are:



- 1) Romance
- 2) Disillusionment
- 3) Misery, and
- 4) Awakening

Many marriages experience the first 3 Stages. Marriages that end in divorce never make it to the 4th Stage. Don't give up without learning about the 4th Stage of Awakening.

If your marriage suffers from Disillusionment or Misery, please contact Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i).

Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve their communication skills. Visit us at: helpourmarriage.org for testimonials, confidential information or to register for the **January 26–28, 2024** weekend in Beaverton, OR, or you can also send an email to: portland@retrouvaille.com or call (503) 225-9191.