

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"We're Getting Old" (From Fr. Julian's Blog)

And elderly couple were very concerned that their grown-up children were not being nice to them. The sweetness and kindness they showed to them early in life had somehow disappeared. And so they decided to write their children this letter:

Dear Children,

As you can see, we, your parents are not young anymore, and so we decided to write this letter to ask you to be patient with us, and to try to understand our feelings.

When you see us become forgetful, and not able to follow a conversation with you, be patient with us as we try to follow what you are trying to say.

When our legs do not act as fast as before, please do remember how patient we were in teaching you to walk when you were tiny toddlers.

When you hear us repeat the same things over and over, do not be upset—but remember how often you told us to repeat the same story again and again—which we did happily.

When we don't feel like eating, please do not force us to eat, as we know when we are hungry and need to eat. And when we accidentally spill some food on ourselves, just remember how often we cleaned you up when you were trying

to eat by yourselves—with plenty of spills and minor accidents.

And when you see us so inept in following modern technology, do not make fun of us! But give us a chance to learn and show us how to use so many modern gadgets.

You cannot understand the problem of old age. We hope that when one day you reach our age, you will understand what we are going through.

Remember that in spite of our fragility and weaknesses, we love you, and we hope you can fully acknowledge our predicament, and show us more patience instead of frustration. God bless you all!

Your parents.

—Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph



Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List:

David Leonard ♦ Steve Forrester ♦ Carl Johnson Dolores Koivisto ♦ Anita Marquez

Ben Guyger ♦ Georgia Fitzgerald ♦ Lloyd Rodgers ♦ Pierre Jones

Sammi Pedersen ♦ Jordan Ortega ♦ Chuck Renwick

John Huthmacher ♦ Ed McNamara ♦ Karen Evans

Duncan Osgood ♦ Doni Bachand ♦ Brittany

Julie Bither ♦ Mary Bither ♦ Terri Hintze

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

March 3, 2024 † The 3rd Sunday of Lent

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	03/04/2024	8:00 a.m.	Remedios Mendoza (D)	2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday	03/05/2024	8:00 a.m.	Chelsea Kurtz (L)	Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday	03/06/2024	12:00 p.m.	Karen Evans(L)	Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday	03/07/2024	8:00 a.m.	Fr. Dennis Strachota (D)	Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23
Friday	03/08/2024	12:00 p.m.	Ron Lattin (D)	Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34
Saturday	03/09/2024	5:00 p.m.	Sue Godat (L)	2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21
Sunday	03/10/2024	9:00 a.m.	Dorothy Dumouchelle (D)	2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21
Sunday	03/10/2024	12:00 p.m.	Alicia Gonzalez (D)	2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

(L) Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

As we gather on this third Sunday of Lent, we are invited to reflect on the theme of conversion—the turning of our hearts and minds toward God.

In today's Gospel, we hear the familiar story of Jesus cleansing the temple—a powerful symbol of his call to repentance and renewal.

The scene in the temple serves as a stark reminder of the importance of authenticity in our relationship with God. Jesus overturns the tables of the money changers and drives out those who have turned His Father's house into a marketplace. In doing so, He challenges us to examine our own hearts and to root out anything that obstructs our communion with God.

Lent is a time for us to take stock of our lives—to identify the areas in which we have fallen short of God's will and to make a conscious effort to change. It is a season of repentance and renewal, a time to turn away from sin and to turn toward God with sincerity and humility.

But true conversion is more than just a one-time event—it is an ongoing process of growth and transformation. It requires us to continually examine our lives in the light of God's truth and to make the necessary adjustments to align ourselves more closely with His will.

As we journey through Lent, let us be mindful of the ways in which God is calling us to conversion. Perhaps it is through acts of charity and compassion toward those in need. Or maybe it is through a renewed commitment to prayer and worship, allowing God to speak to us in the silence of our hearts.

Whatever form it may take, conversion requires courage and perseverance. It means stepping out of our comfort zones and trusting in God's grace to



guide us along the way. But the rewards of true conversion are immeasurable—a deepening of our relationship with God, a sense of peace and fulfillment, and the promise of eternal life. May this Lenten season be a time of profound conversion for each of us—a time

of turning away from sin and turning toward God with open hearts and minds. And may we, like the merchants in the temple, be willing to let go of anything that hinders our relationship with God, so—that we may experience the fullness of His love and mercy.

St. Paul reminds us that we are God's temples because the Spirit of God dwells in us. Hence, we have no right to desecrate God's temple by impurity and injustice. We are expected to cleanse our hearts of pride, hatred, jealousy and all evil thoughts, desires, and plans.

Reminiscent of what Jesus did in cleansing the Temple, we, as 21st Century disciples, must, with His grace, cleanse ourselves of attitudes and behaviors that prevent us from seeing and responding to hurt wherever we find it.

Let us welcome Jesus into our hearts and lives during Lent by repentance and the renewal of our lives. We will drive out the wild animals that do not belong to the holy temple of our body by making a whip of cords out of our fasting, penance, and almsgiving during Lent, and by going to Confession to receive God's loving forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Let us pray for the grace to embrace the call to conversion with courage and humility, trusting in the transforming power of God's love.

February—The Month of the Holy Family

Outreach

On **Sunday, March 10th, after the 12 p.m. Mass**, in the Parish Hall Auditorium, we will have speakers from the MOSAIC Community Health—in partnership with Volunteers in Medicine—to offer information to those in need of Oregon's Health Plan assistance. We will also be serving our *Cafe y Pan dulce*.

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Meetings

- March 4th—Youth Group at 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall
- March 19th—Knights of Columbus at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Lenten Schedule



- † Stations of the Cross are every Friday Night at 6 p.m., through March 22nd, with a Soup Supper to follow.
- † Lenten Penance Service is on Wednesday, March 13th, beginning at 6 p.m.
- † Chrism Mass in Baker City is on Thursday, March 21st, at 11 a.m.—Invitations are on the table in the narthex.
- † Palm Sunday, March 24th—Mass is at 9 a.m., and the Spanish Mass is at 12 p.m.
- † Holy Thursday, March 28th—at 6 p.m.
- † Good Friday, March 29th—Way of the Cross at 3 p.m.; Passion Service and Veneration of the Cross at 6 p.m.
- † Holy Saturday, March 30th—Easter Vigil Mass is at 7 p.m.
- † Easter Sunday, March 31st—Mass is at 9 a.m., and Spanish Mass is at 12 p.m.

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Usted puede ayudar a su matrimonio

¿Se siente sola o solo? ¿Están frustrados o enojados entre los dos? ¿Hablar de eso lo hace más difícil la situación? Retrouvaille es para las parejas que desean tener un redescubrimiento en su matrimonio y mejorar su comunicación. Para información confidencial o para registrarse para el fin de semana en **March 15–17** en Pasco, Washington. Llame al (509) 521-3733 ó al (541) 936-2448; ó visite el sitio helpourmarriage.org/es.

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In Need

We are collecting paper bags for both the Ham Dinner and to give to the SVdP Food Bank. If you have any, please turn them into the Parish Office. Also, if you have any receipts from Thriftway or Wagners, please put them in the box in the front of the church. They are only good for a limited time for us to receive credit for our church.

Friday Soup Suppers

Every Friday during Lent our volunteers will provide a Soup Supper after the Stations of the Cross. This year's schedule is:

- March 8—Pro Life
- March 15—Knights of Columbus
- March 22—Religious Education



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Ham Dinner

On **Sunday, March 17th**, St Joseph's Parish celebrates a 75+ year tradition of its **Annual St. Patrick's Day Ham Dinner**. The menu will continue to be hickory-smoked ham, split-pea soup, string beans, baked potatoes, and desert. A special tradition is **Gertrude Reif's** raisin sauce, whose recipe has been kept a secret for all these many years.

This is a Parish and Community-wide event. Please invite your extended family, neighbors, and friends to enjoy the feast. Tickets will be sold at the dinner but also available beforehand. If you would like to purchase tickets early, they are available through the Parish Office or contact **Gary Thompson at: (541) 447-5001**.

Dinner is served from 12 to 5 p.m.. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$8 for children ages 6 to 12, and under age 6 is free. Families \$35 for 2 adults and 2 kids under age 18. At no additional cost, take-out dinners will be available. Pre-orders are taken during the dining time by calling the Parish Office at (541) 447-6475. (We need paper sacks—if you have any to donate, you can drop them off at the Parish Office.)

Volunteers have traditionally donated desserts. Please drop them off on the morning of the dinner to the right of the stage but NO crème pies or any dessert that needs refrigeration.

Volunteers are needed! Please come, help, and enjoy! Call **Gary Thompson** to volunteer. **Setup is at 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 16th. On Sunday, March 17th, we will have 2 shifts: 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m.–5:30 p.m.** We need help in the dining area, dish washing, and dessert area.

The direct benefit of the Ham Dinner is the spirit of community among us as parishioners, the community of Prineville, and Central Oregon. The Breath of the Holy Spirit has kept this tradition alive for 76 years. It is one of many things that makes St. Joseph and Prineville special!

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College Freshman Scholarship

Bishop Cary and The Legacy of Faith Foundation on behalf of the **Canney Family** are looking for a High School Senior with a GPA: 2.0+ requiring financial assistance to attend College or Trade School. Approximate value is \$2,500 per year up to two years. Applications are due **March 31st!**

The candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with a Priest reference. For information and application, contact **Mark French** at Mark@DioceseofBaker.org.