

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"A Burden of My Own" (Author Unknown)

A monarch of long ago had twin sons, and there was some confusion about which one was born first. As they grew to young manhood, the king sought a fair way to designate one of them as crown prince. All who knew the young men thought them to be equal in intelligence, wit, personal charm, health, and physical strength. Being a keenly observant king, though, he thought he detected a trait in one, which was not shared by the other.

Calling the twins to his council chamber one day, he said, "My sons, the day will come when one of you must succeed me as king. The burdens of sovereignty are very heavy. To find out which of you is better able to bear them cheerfully, I am sending you both to a far corner of the kingdom. One of my advisors there will place equal burdens on your shoulders.



My crown will one day go to the one who first returns, bearing his burden like a king should."

In a spirit of friendly competition, the brothers set out together. Soon they overtook an aged woman struggling under a burden that seemed far too heavy for her frail body.

One of the boys suggested that they stop to help her. The other protested: "We have a burden of our own to worry about. Let us be on our way."

So the objector hurried on while the other stayed behind to aid the aged woman.

Along the road, from day to day, he found others who also needed help. A blind man took him miles out of his way, and a lame man slowed him to a cripple's walk. Eventually, he did reach his father's advisor, where he secured his own burden and started home with it safely on his shoulders.

When he arrived at the palace, his brother met him at the gate and greeted him with dismay. He said, "I don't understand. I told our father the burden was too heavy to carry. However, did you do it?"

The future king replied thoughtfully, "I suppose when I helped others carry their burdens, I found the strength to carry my own."

—Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph

Please Pray for Those on Our Prayer List:

David Leonard ♦ Steve Forrester ♦ Carl Johnson ♦ Dolores Koivisto
 Anita Marquez ♦ Ben Guyer ♦ Georgia Fitzgerald ♦ Lloyd Rodgers
 Pierre Jones ♦ Sammi Pedersen ♦ Jordan Ortega ♦ Chuck Renwick
 John Huthmacher ♦ Ed McNamara ♦ Karen Evans ♦ Brittany
 Duncan Osgood ♦ Doni Bachand ♦ Julie Bither ♦ Mary Bither
 Terri Hintze ♦ Donna Bailey ♦ Fred Vandehey ♦ Ralph Lee ♦ Mary Lee

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

April 21, 2024 † 4th Sunday of Easter

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	04/22/2024	8:00 a.m.	Eucharistic Ministers (L)	Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10
Tuesday	04/23/2024	8:00 a.m.	Knights of Columbus (L)	Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday	04/24/2024	4:00 p.m.	Religious Ed Teachers (L)	Acts 12:24–13:5a; Jn 12:44-50
Thursday	04/25/2024	8:00 a.m.	Money Counters/Flower Arrangers (L)	1 Pt 5:5b-14; Mk 16:15-20
Friday	04/26/2024	12:00 p.m.	Maintenance Department (L)	Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:1-6
Saturday	04/27/2024	5:00 p.m.	Lectors/Acolytes (L)	Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8
Sunday	04/28/2024	9:00 a.m.	Dee Wettstein (D)	Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8
Sunday	04/28/2024	12:00 p.m.	Parishioners of St Joseph(D)	Acts 9:26-31; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

(L) Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

THE 4TH SUNDAY of Easter is known as “Good Shepherd Sunday,” and it is the “World Day of Prayer for Vocations.” The Scripture lessons for this day concern the role of the shepherds of God’s flock in the Church. Each year on this Sunday, we reflect on the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd who devotedly and kindly takes care of His flock. The title “pastor” means shepherd. A shepherd leads, feeds, nurtures, comforts, corrects, and protects his flock—responsibilities that belong to every Church leader.

THE GOOD SHEPHERD IN THE NEW TESTAMENT Introducing Himself as the Good Shepherd of His flock, Jesus makes three claims in today’s Gospel:

He knows His sheep, and His sheep hear His voice: Just as the Palestinian shepherds knew each sheep of their flock by name, and the sheep knew their shepherd and his voice, so Jesus knows each one of us, our needs, our merits, and our faults. He loves us as we are, with all our limitations, and He expects us to return His love by keeping His word.

He speaks to us at every Mass, through the Bible, through our pastors, through our parents, through our friends, and through the events of our lives. “God whispers to us in our pleasures, He speaks to us in our consciences, and He shouts to us in our pain!” (C.S. Lewis).

He gives eternal life to us, His sheep, by receiving us into His sheepfold and giving us Faith through Baptism. And then He strengthens that Faith in Confirmation. He supplies food for our souls in the Holy Eucharist and in the Divine words of the Holy Bible. He makes our society holy by the Sacraments of Matrimony and the priesthood (Holy Orders).

He protects his sheep by placing them in the loving hands of his Almighty Father. Without him to guide us and protect us, we are an easy prey for the spiritual wolves of this world, including Satan and his minions.



IN CHAPTER 10 OF JOHN’S GOSPEL, Jesus adds two more roles to those of the Good Shepherd:

He goes in search of stray lambs and heals the sick ones.

Jesus heals the wounds of our souls through the Sacrament of Reconciliation and strengthens us in

illness and old age with the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Jesus dies for his sheep: Just as the shepherds of ancient days protected their sheep from wild animals and thieves by risking their own lives, so Jesus died in expiation for the sins of all people.

Let us become good shepherds and good sheep, good leaders, and good followers. Everyone who is entrusted with the care of others is a shepherd. Hence, pastors, parents, teachers, doctors, nurses, government officials, etc. are all shepherds. We become good shepherds by loving those entrusted to us, praying for them, spending our time and talents for their welfare, and guarding them from physical and spiritual dangers. Parents must be especially careful of their duties, thus giving their children good example through the way they live their Christian lives.

Let us be good sheep in the fold of Jesus, the Good Shepherd: Our local parish is our sheepfold, and our pastors are our shepherds. Jesus is the High Priest, the bishops are the successors of the apostles, the pastors are their helpers, and the parishioners are the sheep. Hence, as the good sheep of the parish, parishioners are expected to a) hear and follow the voice of their shepherds through their homilies, Bible classes, counseling, and advice; and b) receive the spiritual food our pastors provide by regular participation in the Holy Mass, by frequenting the Sacraments and by attending prayer services, renewal programs and missions.

Let us pray for vocations to priestly and religious life so that we may have more good shepherds to lead, feed and protect the Catholic community. Let us remember that the duty of fostering vocations is the concern of the whole believing community, and we discharge that responsibility primarily by living exemplary Christian lives.

April—The Month of the Holy Eucharist

Schedule Change

Mass on Wednesday, April 24th, will be held at 4 p.m. INSTEAD of 12 p.m. This is so that all the Religious Education Students can attend. If you are able to, please come and support our students.

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Hispanic Ministry

Noticia emocionante! Nuestro Ministerio Hispano se complace en anunciar un nuevo grupo de oración centrado en profundizar nuestra conexión espiritual con Dios a través de la oración. El grupo de oración del Ministerio Hispano se reunirá para rezar **el Rosario antes de la Misa de las 12 p.m. todos los Domingos.** Invitamos cordialmente a todos los feligreses a venir **a las 11 a.m.,** y unirse a nosotros en este momento especial de oración. Juntos, elevaremos fervientemente a nuestra comunidad y sus necesidades. ¡Esperamos con entusiasmo compartir este camino espiritual con ustedes!

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Exciting News! Our Hispanic Ministry is thrilled to announce a new prayer group focused on deepening our spiritual connection to God through prayer. The Hispanic Ministry prayer group will gather to pray **the Rosary before the 12 p.m. Mass every Sunday.** We warmly invite all parishioners to come **at 11 a.m.,** and join us for this special time of prayer. Together, we will fervently lift up our community and its needs. We eagerly anticipate sharing this spiritual journey with you!

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Ham Dinner

Thanks to the efforts of over 90 volunteers, the 2024 St. Joseph Ham Dinner was an outstanding success. We served about 250 dinners and took in \$3,043 in gross income. With net expenses of \$1,000, we netted \$2,043 for the Parish. Thanks to an anonymous donation of the pea soup, the raisin sauce, and the rolls, we were able to decrease our expenses.

Parishioners were fabulous in donating deserts, and we had plenty. Once again, we as a Parish came together to enjoy each other’s company, and share this special event with the community.

Plans have already started for next year’s 77th dinner, and suggestions are welcome. Some suggestions received are that we decrease the serving hours to 12 to 4 p.m., with the shifts being 12 to 2 p.m. and 2 to 4 p.m. and alter the date for the dinner either before or after St. Patrick’s Day so we are not competing with the Patty Pint Fund Raiser. Thanks for all the outstanding help!

Chesterton Academy of Mater Dei

With the Blessing of **Bishop Cary,** we are excited to announce Chesterton Academy of Mater Dei—a Joyfully Catholic Classical High School—is coming to Central Oregon in the Fall of 2025. Please join us in praying for this apostolate. Anyone interested in learning more about the Chesterton Academy is invited to an information night on **Thursday, May 2nd, at 6 p.m.,** at St. Thomas Church **OR** on **Monday, May 6th, at 6 p.m.,** at St. Francis Church. If you have any questions, please contact Board Chair **Kevin Smith** at (719) 761-0511 or email: cochesterton@gmail.com. Also visit the Website at: www.chestertonmaterdei.org.

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Religious Education News

1st Holy Communion: The ceremony will be on **Saturday, May 4th, at 5 p.m. Mass.** **Fr. Joseph** will hear Confessions **on the morning of May 4th at 9 a.m.** Parents are welcome. Dress attire: Girls will wear a white dress and boys will wear black slacks, a white shirt and a black tie.

Confirmation: **Bishop Cary** will perform the ceremony on **Wednesday, May 8th, at 7 p.m.** Pictures will be at **6:30 p.m. with Bishop Cary, Fr. Joseph,** and a group photo. **Fr. Joseph** will hear Confessions for candidates **on Tuesday, May 7th, starting at 4 p.m.** All Candidates and their Sponsors must be present. Dress attire: Girls will wear a modest dress. Boys will wear black slacks, a white shirt, and a red tie. All candidates will wear red robes.

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Respect Life

We will be having our annual Baby Bottle Drive beginning on **Mother’s Day, May 12th.** Please take a baby bottle and fill it with cash, checks, etc., and return it to the Parish Office by **Father’s Day, June 16th.** All proceeds will benefit local Pro-Life organizations. Please feel free to donate all year to the Pregnancy Resource Center.

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Yard Sale

Our Youth Group will be having a Yard Sale on **Saturday, May 18th!** As you begin your spring cleaning, please bring your gently used items to the Parish Hall by **May 16th.** Your contributions make a difference! We are raising money to attend the Diocese of Baker Summer Camp. Thank you for your generosity.