

Fr. Joseph's Corner

“The Birdcage Story” (Author Unknown)

A man was on the side of the road with a large birdcage. A boy noticed that the cage was full of birds of many kinds. “Where did you get those birds?” he asked.

“Oh, all over the place,” the man replied. “I lure them with crumbs, pretend I’m their friend, then when they are close, I net them and shove them into my cage.”

“And what are you going to do with them now?” the boy asked.

The man grinned, “I’m going to prod them with sticks, and get them really mad so they fight and kill each other. Those that survive, I will kill. None will escape.”

The boy looked steadily at the man. What made him do such things? He looked into the cruel, hard eyes. Then he looked at the birds, defenseless, without hope. “Can I buy those birds?” the boy asked.

The man hid a smile, aware that he could be on to a good thing if he played his cards right. “Well,” he said hesitantly, “the cage is pretty expensive, and I spent a lot of time collecting these birds. I’ll tell you what I’ll do. I’ll let you have the lot, birds, cage and all for 10 pounds and that jacket you’re wearing.”

The boy paused, 10 pounds was all he had, and the jacket was new and very special. In fact, it was his prized possession. Slowly, he took out the 10 pounds and handed it over. Then even more slowly, he took off his jacket, gave it one last look, and then handed that over, too.

And then (well, you’ve guessed it), he opened the door and let the birds go free.

The Enemy of the World, Satan, was on the side of life’s road with a very large cage. The man coming toward him noticed that it was crammed full of people of every kind, young, old, and from every race and nation. “Where did you get these people?” the man asked.

“Oh, from all over the world,” Satan replied. “I lure them with drink, drugs, lust, lies, anger, hate, love of money, and all manner of things. I pretend I’m their friend, out to give them a good time, and then when I’ve hooked them, into the cage they go.”

“And what are you going to do with them now?” asked the man.

Satan grinned. “I’m going to prod them, provoke them, get them to hate and destroy each other; I’ll stir up racial hatred, defiance of law and order; I’ll make people bored, lonely, dissatisfied, confused. and restless. It’s easy. People will always listen to what I offer them and (what’s better) blame God for the outcome!”

“And then what?” the man asked. “Those who do not destroy themselves, I will destroy. None will escape me.”

The man stepped forward. “Can I buy these people from you?” he asked.

Satan snarled, “Yes, but it will cost you your life.”

So, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, paid for your release, your freedom from Satan’s trap, with His own life, on the cross at Calvary. The door is open, and anyone, whom Satan has deceived and caged, can be set free.

—*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 ♦ Chuck Renwick ♦ Reba McDermott
 Stella Kirker ♦ John Huthmacher ♦ Ed McNamara ♦ Brittany
 Duncan Osgood ♦ Doni Bachand ♦ Julie Bither ♦ Mary Bither
 Terri Hintze ♦ Fred Vandehey ♦ Ralph Lee ♦ Mary Lee ♦ Jeanne Hackett

St. Joseph Catholic Church

150 E First St., P.O. Box 1315, Prineville OR 97754
 August 18, 2024 † 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year B

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

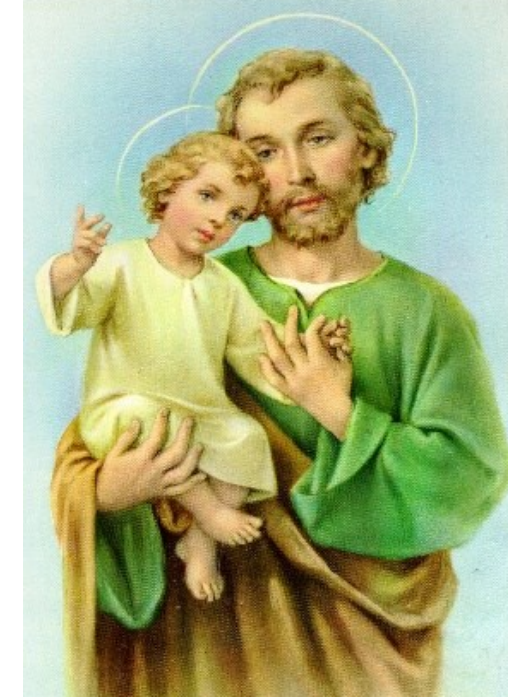
Pastor: fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com / joekunel55@gmail.com

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	08/19/2024	8:00 a.m.	Ken Dalton (L)	Ez 24:15-23; Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday	08/20/2024	8:00 a.m.	Bernie Jones (L)	Ez 28:1-10; Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday	08/21/2024	12:00 p.m.	Cookie Benton (L)	Ez 34:1-11; Mt 20:1-16
Thursday	08/22/2024	8:00 a.m.	The Tocher Family (L)	Ez 36:23-28; Mt 22:1-14
Friday	08/23/2024	12:00 p.m.	Marie Smith (D)	Ez 37:1-14; Mt 22:34-40
Saturday	08/24/2024	5:00 p.m.	Emberlee Giovanini (L)	Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69
Sunday	08/25/2024	10:00 a.m.	Jody Streetman (D)	Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69

(L) Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA had a rule that when a newcomer arrived to join her Order, the Missionaries of Charity, the very next day the newcomer had to go to the Home of the Dying.

One day a girl came from outside India to join the Order. Mother Teresa said to her: "You saw with what love and care the priest touched Jesus in the Host during Mass. Now go to the Home for the Dying and do the same, because it is the same Jesus you will find there in the broken bodies of our poor."

Three hours later the newcomer came back and, with a big smile, said to her, "Mother, I have been touching the body of Christ for three hours."

"How? What did you do?" Mother Teresa asked her.

"When I arrived there," she replied, "they brought in a man who had fallen into a drain and had been there for some time. He was covered with dirt and had several wounds. I washed him and cleaned his wounds. As I did so, I knew I was touching the body of Christ."

To be able to make this kind of connection, we need the help of the Lord himself. It is, above all, in the Eucharist that He gives us this help.

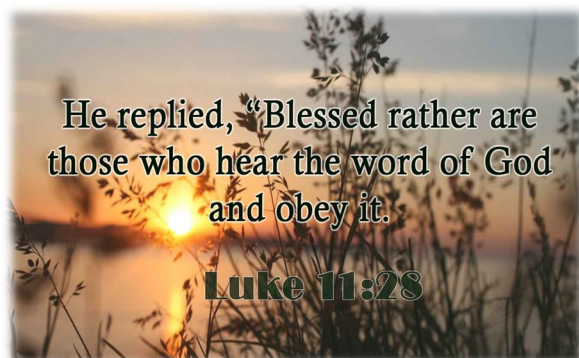
Today's selection, the fourth of five excerpts from this discourse, read on successive Sundays, shows the shocked reaction of some people to Jesus' blunt statement that the Life-giving bread which He is going to give them is His own body and blood.

Life-giving bread from Heaven: "I, myself, am the living Bread come down from Heaven."

"Come down from Heaven" refers to the Incarnation and announces Jesus' Divine origins; without the Son's becoming a human being, there would be neither Sacrament nor Salvation.

Jesus reminds His listeners that this was not the first time in the history of salvation that God had provided His people with food. The people knew about the experience of the Israelites in the wilderness.

They now must realize how that experience differed from Jesus' feeding His followers with the Holy Eucharist.



He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it."

Luke 11:28

The Eucharist is the eternal sacrifice of Jesus providing life to those who eat His Body and drink His Blood. Thus, the Holy Mass is the Sacramental act which transforms our lives into the Divine Life. In each Mass, Jesus transforms us into other Christs—ritually, sacramentally, and existentially—thus keeping

His promise: "I will be with you till the end of the world."

The Bread that we eat in the Eucharist is the Body of the Risen Lord; the Wine that we drink in the Eucharist is the Blood of the Risen Lord. When Jesus spoke of His Flesh and Blood as the Food and Drink of eternal life, He was offering Himself to the multitude as the real Source of Life.

To eat the Flesh of Jesus and to drink His Blood is to become totally identified with His very Person, with His deepest thoughts, with His vision of life, with His values, and with His mission to build the Kingdom of God. In other words, Jesus is here calling us to follow Him, to be with Him—sharing totally and unconditionally His mission and destiny. Thus, the Eucharist is more than a memorial of Jesus' death (see 1 Cor 11:23-25). Rather, it is the continuation of Jesus' life after His Resurrection (Luke 24:13-35).

What should we do? We need to allow our body to be broken and our blood shed for others as Jesus did: When we receive Jesus in Holy Communion, we accept a great challenge. We accept the triumphs and the tragedies, joys and the pains necessary to build up the Kingdom of God wherever we have been called to serve.

We need to keep the hunger and thirst for God alive in our hearts: Every human being is blessed with an insatiable longing for God. We want God as our Father to hold us gently in His arms, keeping us safe throughout the dangers we face. But often we use substitutes as an escape from that need: fast living, fast food, fast cars, needless luxuries, unrestricted sexual fulfillment. We demand the right to do whatever we want to do whenever we want. But unless we keep the hunger for God strong in our hearts, we will eventually realize the emptiness of our lives without God.

August—The Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

ACTS Bible Study

We are starting a new series, "Holy Is His Name," by Scott Hahn, beginning on **Wednesday, August 21st, at 1:30 p.m.**, in the Parish Hall, Rm 2. Everyone is welcome!

+++

Annual Parish Picnic



On **Sunday, August 25th**, St. Joseph Parish will celebrate a bilingual Mass at 10 a.m., immediately followed by the traditional Potluck Picnic on the lawn, east of the church. There will be hamburgers, hot dogs and carne asada, supplied by those fabulous Knights of Columbus chefs. We are asking everyone to bring their favorite picnic side dish or dessert. Game and outdoor activities for children of all ages will be set up on the lawn adjacent to the Parish Hall. This year we extend a special welcome to all Crook County Catholics from Prineville, Powell Butte, and all surrounding areas.

Mark your calendars for **AUGUST 25TH**—and join us for Mass—followed by good food and fun!

+++

Religious Education News

REGISTRATION BEGINS:

† **Thursday and Friday, September 5th/6th**

† **Thursday and Friday evening, 3–6 p.m.**

† **And after the Masses on Saturday and Sunday, September 7th and 8th.**



Please come to register your child at the Parish Hall.

Classes will begin on **Wednesday, September 11th, from 3:15–5 p.m. in Room 1 for Classes 1–5.**

Confirmation Classes will be from 6–7:30 pm.

Confirmation will be \$80 for a two-year course. This is a one-time registration. All others will pay \$40. Cash or check will be accepted. We cannot take cards at this time. Thank you and if you have any questions, please contact **Barb Dalton** at barblikes2read@outlook.com or call (541) 410-3720.

+++

RCIA

Classes will begin on **Monday, September 9th, at 6 p.m., in Classroom 4.** Stop at the Parish Office for a registration form, call **Jim Friese** at (541) 991-2814 or email him at kkpeaches2@msn.com to register or for information.

Ministry Fair

There will be a Ministry Fair on **Saturday, September 14th, at 6 p.m., and on Sunday, September 15th, from 10 to 11:30 a.m.** Please stop by the Parish Hall after Mass that weekend if you have been wondering how you can volunteer in our parish. All Ministries will be represented.



+++

Women's and Men's Retreat

The St. Benedict Lodge & Retreat Center has its annual Women's Retreat from **September 6–8** in McKenzie Bridge, with the theme: "Woman: Heart of the Home."

The Men's Retreat is from **September 20–22**, with the theme: "Giving All that You Can: Self-Control, Self-Possession, and Empowering Faith."

The cost for either retreat is \$175 PP for dorm rooms. Cabins are extra. To register, send a \$50 deposit to: St. Benedict Lodge, 56630 North Bank Rd., McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413 or call (541) 822-3572..

+++

St. Vincent de Paul Volunteers Needed

Urgent need for volunteers who like to drive: **Rodd**, our regular food pickup volunteer, is taking a 3-month leave of absence for cancer treatment. 1) A local food pickup volunteer is needed with own vehicle to pick up surplus food from 3 Prineville grocery stores each morning, starting at 7:30 a.m. Must be able to pick up 40 pounds. 2) Out-of-town food pickup volunteers needed: A driver and assistant needed to pick up food in Bend and Redmond 3 days a week, Sunday through Tuesday, 3 hours per day. The assistant must be capable of lifting 40 pounds.

If interested, please call **Charlie** at (458) 231-7184.

+++

Diocese of Baker Job Openings

The Diocese of Baker is blessed to be made up of a committed core of individuals who are eager to serve all our parishes and parishioners. If you feel called to be part of this team, the diocese has three exciting, full-time career opportunities available today. Check the diocesan website at dioceseofbaker.org for more information.

+++

A Message from Pro-Life

For fathers—especially those who are very young—that through the intercession of St. Joseph they assume the great responsibility that God has given to them.