

Fr. Joseph's Corner "Puppy Love"

A pet shop owner received a litter of puppies, and he was ready to sell them to their "forever" families.

A young girl walked by the shop and noticed a sign saying, "Puppies for Sale," and, of course, she was

very eager to go inside to see them. She went into the shop and asked the owner, "How much do the puppies cost?"

The owner replied, "They are all around \$50." The girl emptied her pocket change and told the store owner that she only had about \$2, but she still wanted to look at them. The shop owner then whistled for the puppies, and they came running down the hall of his shop. There were five tiny "fur-balls," followed by one that limped behind the rest.

The girl immediately singled out the lame puppy and asked the store owner what was wrong with him. The owner explained that the puppy was born with a deformity—he was missing a hip socket—and that he would walk with a limp for the rest of his life.

The girl got excited, saying, "Oh! I want that puppy!" The owner said, "You don't want to buy that puppy. But if you really want him, you can have him for free."



The girl became upset. She looked at the shop owner and said, "I don't want to have him for free

That puppy is worth just as much as the others!

I'll give you the change I have now, and then I'll give you a dollar a month

until I have paid for the puppy entirely."

The owner continued, "This dog is never going to be able to run and play like all of the other dogs. I think you're going to regret this decision."

But, to his surprise, the girl reached down and rolled up her pant leg to reveal a crippled leg that was supported by a large metal brace. She looked up at the owner and softly replied, "Well, I'm not much of a runner either, and this puppy needs someone who understands."



Don't make assumptions about other people's wants, needs, or abilities. Each one of us has our own weaknesses—whether it's physical or mental.

The trick is to not allow your weaknesses to slow you down. Instead, find others in the world who will support you. Try to surround yourself with people who will challenge you to reach your potential.

—*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
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
September 15, 2024 † 24th 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	09/16/2024	8:00 a.m.	Leslie Johnson & Grant Hintze (D)	1 Cor 11:17-26, 33; Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday	09/17/2024	8:00 a.m.	Robert Graham (D)	1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a; Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday	09/18/2024	12:00 p.m.	Charlea Giovanini (L)	1 Cor 12:31-13:13; Lk 7:31-35
Thursday	09/19/2024	8:00 a.m.	Amelia Caraveo (D)	1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 7:36-50
Friday	09/20/2024	12:00 p.m.	Karen Geiman (L)	1 Cor 15:12-20; Lk 8:1-3
Saturday	09/21/2024	5:00 p.m.	David Whitney Kurtz (D)	Wis 2:12, 17-20; Jas 3:16-4:3; Mk 9:30-37
Sunday	09/22/2024	10:00 a.m.	Mike Carroll (L)	Wis 2:12, 17-20; Jas 3:16-4:3; Mk 9:30-37

(L) Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

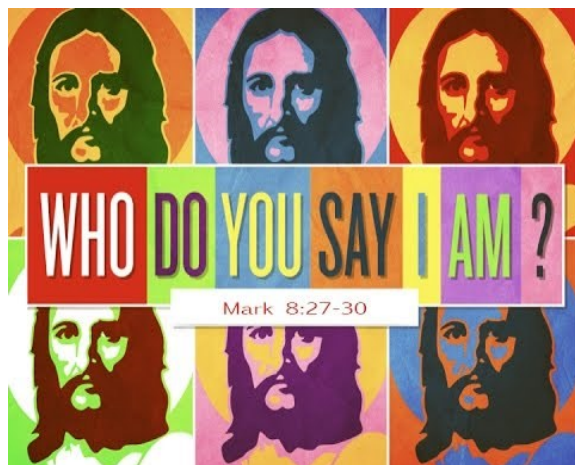
The first reading is from the Prophet Isaiah, often referred to as part of the "Suffering Servant" songs. The Servant is a figure who obediently endures suffering and persecution, trusting in God to deliver and vindicate him. Isaiah writes, "The Lord God opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, I have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me. . . ."

This passage reminds us that suffering is sometimes an unavoidable part of our faith journey. The Servant does not resist but places complete trust in God, knowing that God is his strength. How many of us resist suffering, try to avoid it, or even question God when we encounter it? Isaiah shows us a model of faithful endurance—remaining steadfast even when faced with opposition.

The second reading from the Letter of James challenges us to examine the authenticity of our faith. James is direct: "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone says he has faith but does not have works?" Faith is not a private or abstract concept—it must manifest in our actions. Genuine faith transforms how we live and how we treat others.

James emphasizes the inseparable connection between faith and good works. It's a call to discipleship: to embody our faith through acts of charity, justice, and love. In today's world, it's easy to profess belief but more difficult to live it out. James asks us to align our faith with concrete actions, particularly in service to others.

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks his disciples a crucial question: "Who do people say that I am?" After hearing their responses, He then makes it personal: "But who do you say that I am?" Peter responds with great insight, declaring that Jesus



is the Messiah. However, when Jesus begins to explain that being the Messiah means suffering, rejection, and death, Peter rebukes him.

Jesus' response to Peter is striking: "Get behind me, Satan!"

Peter misunderstood what kind of Messiah Jesus came to be. He wanted a triumphant leader, not one who would suffer and die. Jesus uses this moment to teach that following Him involves the cross. He tells the disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

This Gospel passage is a sobering reminder that being a follower of Christ is not about avoiding suffering but embracing it. We are called to carry our crosses, just as Christ carried His. It is a call to self-denial, to surrender our own desires and ambitions to follow Jesus' way of sacrificial love.

The readings today challenge us to reflect on the cost of discipleship. Isaiah, the Psalmist, James, and Jesus all point toward a faith that is lived out in the real world, often in the midst of hardship.

To follow Jesus is to embrace the cross—not just any cross, but the one that leads to true life. Suffering is not meaningless in the Christian life; it is transformative when borne with faith. Our faith must be more than words; it must be seen in our actions, especially in how we serve others.

As we continue in our own faith journeys, let us ask ourselves the question that Jesus posed to His disciples: "Who do you say that I am?" If we profess that Jesus is the Christ, then we must be willing to follow Him, no matter the cost, trusting in His promise of resurrection and new life.

Amen.

September—The Month of the Sorrows of Mary

Meetings

- ◆ EXECUTIVE AND PASTORAL COUNCIL
Tuesday, September 17th, at 4 p.m.
- ◆ KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Tuesday, September 17th, at 7 p.m.

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40th Jubilee Celebration



In honor of Fr. Joseph's 40th Ordination Anniversary, we will be having a Jubilee Celebration on **Sunday, September 22nd**. **Bishop Cary** will be here for a bilingual Mass at 10 a.m., followed by a Potluck Luncheon (please bring a salad). We hope everyone can come and celebrate **Fr. Joseph!**

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Spanish Couples Retreat

The Hispanic Ministry at St. Thomas Church is hosting a Couples Retreat in Spanish on **Saturday and Sunday, September 28th and 29th**.

For more information, send an email to **Fr. Caleb** at: parochial-vicar@stthomasredmond.com.

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Schedule Changes

- There will not be Mass from **Monday, September 30th, through Friday, October 4th**. **Fr. Joseph** will be attending the Annual Clergy Retreat.
- **Fr. Joseph** will be on vacation starting on **Monday, October 14th, to Wednesday, November 20th**. Confession and Mass will be resuming on **Saturday, November 23rd**.
- **Fr. Unger** will be filling in on all weekend Masses while **Fr. Joseph** is gone.

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Job Openings

The Diocese of Baker has three exciting, full-time career opportunities available. Please check the diocesan website at dioceseofbaker.org for all the details.

St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, Jesus says, "If a man wishes to come after me, he must deny his very self, take up his cross, and follow in my steps." The cross of Jesus and the crosses of His members can evangelize us: the sick, who bear illness with courage; the grieving, who hope against hope; the dying, who clearly trust in the resurrection; the suffering of our poor brothers and sisters who are hungry and homeless—but who still trust in God's love.

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Relic of St. Jude Thaddeus

Known as "The Apostle of the Impossible," St. Jude is revered for his unwavering dedication and steadfast faith. Millions have experienced his intercession in times of adversity and need.

The "Arm of St. Jude" will be at Our Lady of Angels Church in Hermiston on **Tuesday, October 1st**.

- **Veneration of the relic begins at 2 p.m.**,
- **Mass in honor of St. Jude is at 7 p.m.**,
- **The Veneration will end at 10 p.m.**

Go to: www.theApostleoftheImpossible.com for complete details. *(Please see the insert in this bulletin.)*

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Pro-Life Conference

Join us for the Diocese of Baker Pro-Life Conference on **Saturday, October 12th, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.**, at St. Francis Church in Bend. The cost is \$25

per adult (scholarships are available), and teens and children are FREE. Bring the whole family!

Continental breakfast and B-B-Q lunch will be provided. Childcare is available at no charge. (Live interpretation in Spanish will also be available.)

For more information and/or to register, please go to: dioceseofbaker.org or call **Rosa** at (541) 388-4004.

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Christmas Bazaar

St. Joseph Annual Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon will be on **Saturday, November 9th, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** We are asking for handmade items: crafts, handiwork, woodwork, baked goods, candies, jams, etc. All donations are greatly appreciated.

For questions, please contact **Nancy Redfern** at (541) 508-9872 or email: nncyrdfrn@gmail.com.

