

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"Walking on Water"

Once there was a boy who lived with his family on a farm. They had a beautiful dog that would go down to the pond for hours every day in the spring and summer with the boy to practice retrieving various items. The boy wanted to prepare his dog for any scenario that may come up during duck season because he wanted his dog to be the best hunting dog in the whole county. The boy and his dog had vigorous training sessions every day until the dog was so obedient, he wouldn't do anything unless he was told to do so by the boy.



ask the neighbor if he would hunt with him the next morning. The neighbor agreed, and he met up with the boy the following morning at his regular spot by the pond. The pair patiently waited for a group of ducks to fly overhead. Soon enough, they heard them coming. The boy told the neighbor to go ahead and take a shot, which the neighbor did, killing one duck. Just as the day before, the boy signaled to his dog to go fetch the duck. Miraculously, the dog walked on the water again to retrieve the duck!

The boy was bursting with pride and could hardly contain himself when he asked his neighbor, "Did you see that? What do you think?" The neighbor responded, "Well, I wasn't going to say anything, but your dog doesn't even know how to swim!"

The boy sat in disbelief as his neighbor pointed out a potential flaw of the dog rather than recognizing the fact that what he had just done was a miracle.

As duck season came around with the fall and winter months, the boy and his dog were eager to be at their regular spot down at the pond near their house. Only a few minutes passed before the two heard the first group of ducks flying overhead. The boy slowly raised his gun and shot three times before killing a duck, which landed in the center of the pond. When the boy signaled his dog to retrieve the duck, the dog charged through the duck blind and the bushes toward the pond.

However, instead of swimming like he had practiced so many times before, the dog walked on the water's surface, retrieved the duck, and returned it to the boy! The boy was astonished. His dog had an amazing ability to walk on water—it was like magic!

The boy knew no one would ever believe this amazing thing that he had just witnessed. He had to get someone else down there to see this incredible phenomenon. The boy went to the nearby house to

People will often downplay others' abilities or their achievements because they are unable to accomplish the same thing themselves. Don't let this bring you down. Just move on—and keep working on improving yourself. Maintaining a positive mindset is a key part of being successful. Furthermore, be conscious of instances in which you may be tempted not to give credit where it is deserved. Pointing out other people's shortcomings does not make you a superior person.

—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 22, 2024 † 25th 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	09/23/2024	8:00 a.m.	Dennis Gerke (D)	Prv 3:27-34; Lk 8:16
Tuesday	09/24/2024	8:00 a.m.	Tom Arndt (D)	Prv 21:1-6, 10, 10-13; Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday	09/25/2024	12:00 p.m.	Lu Streetman (D)	Prv 30:5-9; Lk 9:1-6
Thursday	09/26/2024	8:00 a.m.	Todd Holeman (D)	Eccl 1:2-11; Lk 9:7-9
Friday	09/27/2024	12:00 p.m.	Garilynn Tocher (L)	Eccl 3:1-11; Lk 9:18-22
Saturday	09/28/2024	5:00 p.m.	James Stuart MacDonald (L)	Nm 11:25-29; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48
Sunday	09/29/2024	8:00 a.m.	Kathleen Ferguson (L)	Nm 11:25-29; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48
Sunday	09/29/2024	12:00 a.m.	Rev. Simon Coughlan (D)	Nm 11:25-29; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

(L) Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

The readings for the 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time in Year B invite us to reflect on humility, service, and the human tendency toward ambition and competition. The theme centers on the call to true discipleship, grounded in humility and service to others.



Today's readings invite us to become great in the sight of God by doing God's will, as Jesus did, surrendering our lives in the service of others. Jesus, in today's Gospel, gives us a glimpse of the path proposed by the first and second readings—namely, loving him in others by embracing the vulnerable in our midst: the defenseless children, the despairing poor, the terrified, the mentally ill, the marginalized, the disabled, the refugees of war. Jesus also teaches his apostles that child-like humility and loving, selfless service are what makes one great in the eyes of God.

In this Gospel passage, Jesus predicts His passion and death for the second time, but the disciples fail to grasp its meaning. Instead, they argue about who among them is the greatest. Jesus, aware of their conversation, brings a child into their midst and teaches them a profound lesson: "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."

The child in this context symbolizes vulnerability, innocence, and lack of status. To welcome a child is to welcome the least, the one without power or influence. Jesus redefines greatness—not as the world sees it, in terms of power, wealth, or status—but as humble service to others, especially to the most vulnerable.

Jesus says that people who serve humbly and lovingly are the greatest. True greatness consists in loving service of one's fellow men and is never self-centered. It lies in the ability to see and respond to the needs of others, and it presupposes compassion and sympathy. The two conditions of true greatness are humility and loving service. We

are all supposed to be serving in love, whatever our position or role in society, the family or the Church may be, because true greatness lies in being the loving servant or slave of all. We must become great through loving, humble, self-giving service. Greatness, in Jesus' view, is found in our willingness to accept, welcome, and serve with love those who are considered unacceptable and undeserving by reason of class, color, religion, poverty, or culture. We must welcome people in the loving way a child welcomes them before he is taught discrimination.

If we are to be truly great, we must be ready to accept four challenges: (a) to put ourselves last, (b) to be the servant of all, (c) to receive the most insignificant human beings with love, and (d) to expect nothing in return.

By setting a child before them, Jesus asked His disciples to be like the child—loving, innocent and humble—suggesting the importance of these virtues and attitudes. A child represents the most powerless member of any society, a person who has no power, no influence, a person who can be controlled, abused, neglected, or spoiled and rendered selfish by others. By introducing the example of a child, Jesus also shows us that, when serving others, we must be careful to serve the least important. This means that the Christian must show hospitality to those who have no social status: the outcast, the sinner, the sick, and the feeble. In other words, the Christian must serve all of God's children with love, regardless of whether they are friends or foes. Why? Because such people carry Jesus in our midst and, hence, they must be lovingly welcomed, respected, and helped.

In this passage, Jesus also tells us that we must care for the unwanted, neglected, abused, and ignored with love, because then we really love and serve Jesus and His heavenly Father.

September—The Month of the Sorrows of Mary

St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel, Jesus called the Twelve, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all."

Taking a child, Jesus placed it in their midst, and putting His arms around it, He said to them, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me."

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St. Padre Pio's Feast Day— Monday, September 23rd



"Prayer is the best weapon we have; it is the key to God's heart. You must speak to Jesus not only with your lips, but with your heart. In fact, on certain occasions, you should only speak to Him with your heart."

—Padre Pio, *Padre Pio: In My Own Words*

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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, email **Fr. Caleb** at: parochial-vicar@stthomasredmond.com.

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Schedule Change

There will not be Mass from **Monday, September 30th, through Friday, October 4th.** Fr. Joseph will be attending the Annual Clergy Assembly at St. Thomas Church in Redmond.

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Vacation Time

Fr. Joseph will finally be on vacation starting on **Monday, October 14th, through Wednesday, November 20th.** Fr. Unger will be filling in on all weekend Masses while **Fr. Joseph** is gone.

Confession and Mass will resume on **Saturday, November 23rd.**

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.

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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, go to: dioceseofbaker.org or call **Rosa** at (541) 388-4004.

Tuesday, November 5th—
Fr. Joseph's 40th Priestly Ordination Anniversary!

Christmas Bazaar

St. Joseph's 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 to: ncyrdfn@gmail.com.

