

## Fr. Joseph's Corner

### "You Reap What You Sow"

The man slowly looked up. This was a woman clearly accustomed to the finer things of life. Her coat was new. She looked like she had never missed a meal in her life. His first thought was that she wanted to make fun of him, like so many others had done before.

"Leave me alone," he growled. . . . To his amazement, the woman continued standing. She was smiling—her even white teeth displayed in dazzling rows.

"Are you hungry?" she asked.

"No," he answered sarcastically. "I've just come from dining with the President. Now go away."

The woman's smile became even broader.

Suddenly the man felt a gentle hand under his arm. "What are you doing, lady?" the man asked angrily. "I said to leave me alone."

Just then a policeman came up. "Is there any problem, ma'am?" he asked.

"No, officer," the woman answered. "I'm just trying to get this man to his feet. Will you help me?"

The officer scratched his head. "That's old Jack. He's been a fixture around here for a couple of years. What do you want with him?"

"See that cafeteria over there?" she asked. "I'm going to get him something to eat and get him out of the cold for a while."

"Are you crazy, lady?" the homeless man resisted. "I don't want to go in there!" Then he felt strong hands grab his other arm and lift him up. "Let me go, officer. I didn't do anything."

"This is a good deal for you, Jack," the officer answered. "Don't blow it."

Finally, and with some difficulty, the woman and the police officer got Jack into the cafeteria and sat him at a table in a remote corner. It was the middle of the morning, so most of the breakfast crowd had already left, and the lunch bunch had not yet arrived.

The manager strode across the cafeteria and stood by his table. "What's going on here, officer?" he asked. "What is all this? Is this man in trouble?"

"This lady brought this man in here to be fed," the policeman answered.

"Not in here!" the manager replied angrily. "Having a person like that here is bad for business."

Old Jack smiled a toothless grin. "See, lady? I told you so. Now if you'll just let me go. I didn't want to come here in the first place."

The woman turned to the cafeteria manager and smiled. "Sir, are you familiar with Eddy and Associates? The banking firm down the street?"

"Of course I am," the manager answered impatiently. "They hold their weekly meetings in one of my banquet rooms."

"And do you make a goodly amount of money providing food at these weekly meetings?"

"What business is that of yours?"

"I, sir, am Penelope Eddy, President and CEO of the company."

"Oh!"

The woman smiled again. "I thought that might make a difference." She glanced at the cop who was busy stifling a laugh. "Would you like to join us in a cup of coffee and a meal, officer?"

"No, thanks, ma'am," the officer replied. "I'm on duty."

"Then, perhaps, a cup of coffee to go?"

"Yes, ma'am. That would be very nice."

The cafeteria manager turned on his heel. "I'll get your coffee for you right away, officer."

The officer watched him walk away and said. "You certainly put him in his place."

"That was not my intent. . . ." she said. "Believe it or not, I have a reason for all this." And she sat down at the table across from her amazed dinner guest. She stared at him intently.

"Jack, do you remember me?" she asked.

Old Jack searched her face with his old, rheumy eyes. "I think so—I mean you do look familiar."

"I'm a little older perhaps," she said. "Maybe I've even filled out more than in my younger days when you worked here, and I came through that very door, cold and hungry."

"Ma'am?" the officer said questioningly. He couldn't believe that such a magnificently turned out woman could ever have been hungry.

"I was just out of college," the woman began. "I had come to the city looking for a job, but I couldn't find anything. Finally, I was down to my last few cents and had been kicked out of my apartment. I walked the streets for days. It was February, and I was cold and nearly starving. I saw this place and walked in on the off chance that I could get something to eat."

Jack's face lit up with a smile. "Now I remember," he said. "I was behind the serving counter. You came up and asked me if you could work for something to eat. I said that it was against company policy."

"I know," the woman continued. "Then you made me the biggest roast beef sandwich that I had ever seen, gave me a cup of coffee, and told me to go over to a corner table and enjoy it. I was afraid that you would get into trouble. Then, when I looked over and saw you put the price of my food in the cash register, I knew then that everything would be all right."

"So, you started your own business?" Old Jack asked.

"I got a job that very afternoon. I worked my way up. Eventually, I started my own business that—with the help of God—prospered." She opened her purse and pulled out a business card. "When you are finished here, I want you to pay a visit to a Mr. Lyons. He's the personnel director of my company. I'll go talk to him now, and I'm certain he'll find something for you to do around the office." She smiled then and said, "I think he might even find the funds to give you a little advance so that you can buy some clothes and get a place to live until you get on your feet. If you ever need anything, my door is always open to you."

There were tears in the old man's eyes. "How can I ever thank you?" he asked.

"Don't thank me," the woman answered. "To God goes the glory. He led me to you."

Outside the cafeteria, the officer and the woman paused at the entrance before going their separate ways. "Thank you for all your help, officer," she said.

"On the contrary, Ms. Eddy," he answered. "Thank you! I saw a miracle today—something that I will never forget—and thank you for the coffee."

*Have a wonderful day, may God bless you always, and don't forget that when you cast your bread upon the waters, you never know how it will be returned to you. God is so big that He can cover the whole world with His Love, and so small He can curl up inside your heart. When God leads you to the edge of the cliff, trust Him fully and let go. Only one of two things will happen: Either He'll catch you when you fall, or He'll teach you how to fly!*

—Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph

## St. Joseph Catholic Church

150 E First St., P.O. Box 1315, Prineville OR 97754  
October 13, 2024 † 28th 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](mailto:stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com)

Pastor: [fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com](mailto:fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com) / [joekunel55@gmail.com](mailto: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	10/14/2024	8:00 a.m.	Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1; Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday	10/15/2024	8:00 a.m.	Gal 5:1-6; Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday	10/16/2024	12:00 p.m.	Gal 5:18-25; Lk 11:42-46
Thursday	10/17/2024	8:00 a.m.	Eph 1:1-10; Lk 11:47-54
Friday	10/18/2024	12:00 p.m.	2 Tm 4:10-17b; Lk 10:1-9
Saturday	10/19/2024	5:00 p.m.	Is 53:10-11; Heb 4:14-16; Mk 10:35-45
Sunday	10/20/2024	9:00 a.m.	Is 53:10-11; Heb 4:14-16; Mk 10:35-45
Sunday	10/20/2024	12:00 p.m.	Is 53:10-11; Heb 4:14-16; Mk 10:35-45

Elind Edgerly (L)  
Juvenal Robles (D)  
Rev Josph Reineg (D)  
(L) Living ♦ (D) = Deceased



## Today's Homily

**THE READINGS FOR** this Sunday invite us to reflect on the radical call to discipleship, the challenge of wealth, and the ultimate pursuit of eternal life in God's kingdom. We are asked to reconsider what holds value in our lives and what we might need to let go of in order to follow Christ fully.

In today's Gospel, we hear the story of the rich young man who comes to Jesus asking, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" He already lives a righteous life, keeping the commandments. However, when Jesus invites him to sell his possessions, give to the poor, and follow Him, the man walks away sad because he is very wealthy. Jesus then says, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And He compares this difficulty to a camel passing through the eye of a needle.

This Gospel can make us uncomfortable because it challenges the security that wealth and material possessions often bring. But it's not just about money—it's about our attachments. We may not all be wealthy like the young man, but we all have things in our lives that we cling to, whether they be material goods, status, control, or even relationships. These attachments can keep us from fully following Jesus.

Jesus is calling us to radical discipleship. He is asking us to examine our hearts and discern what prevents us from giving ourselves completely to God. The rich young man was a good and moral person, yet he was unable to take the final step of surrendering his wealth for the sake of the kingdom. His attachment to his possessions was stronger than his desire for eternal life.

Jesus' teaching on wealth is often misunderstood. He does not condemn wealth itself, but He warns about the way wealth can become a barrier between us and God. Possessions can easily take the place of God in our lives, leading us to trust in material security rather than in divine providence.

In our modern world, the pursuit of wealth and success is often prioritized. We live in a culture that encour-



ages accumulation, comfort, and security. But Jesus is inviting us to a different way of living—a life of radical trust in God, where we value relationships, love, and service above material gain.

When the disciples hear Jesus' teaching, they are astonished and ask, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus replies, "For human beings it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God." This is a reminder that while the call to discipleship is demanding, it is not something we achieve on our own. It is by God's grace that we can respond to this call.

The rich young man walked away sad because he could not let go of his wealth. But Jesus'

invitation remains open to all of us. He is always calling us to deeper discipleship, to a life of freedom from attachments, and to trust in the promise of eternal life. If we find the call difficult, we must remember that we are not alone. God's grace will help us take the next step.

Jesus reassures His disciples that those who have left everything for His sake will receive a hundredfold now, in this life, and will inherit eternal life. This is not just about material blessings but about the deep joy, peace, and fulfillment that come from living a life in union with God.

When we are willing to surrender what we hold most dear, we open ourselves to receiving something infinitely greater—the treasure of eternal life and a deep relationship with God. This does not mean that following Jesus will be easy. Jesus promises that there will be persecutions and trials along the way, but He also promises His presence and the ultimate reward of eternal life.

Today's Gospel is a challenge to each of us. Jesus asks us, "What are you willing to give up to follow me?" It's not just about wealth; it's about anything that holds us back from fully committing to a life of discipleship. Let us pray for the wisdom to discern what we need to let go of and the courage to trust in God's grace.

As we journey through life, may we value wisdom, love, and service above all else, knowing that God is always faithful, and with Him, all things are possible. Amen.

## October—The Month of the Holy Rosary

### Youth Group

Our Youth Group Bible Study will meet on **Monday, October 14th, from 6 to 7:30 pm.**, in the parish basement. We'll be finishing our study of the "Old World." All youth are welcome to join us for faith-filled discussion and fellowship. We look forward to seeing you there!

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### Schedule Change

Fr. Joseph will 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.**

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### "Saints Carnival"

We are now accepting donations of **CANDY** for the Saints Carnival for our Religious Ed students on **Wednesday, October 30th.** Thank you!

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### Un-Holy Humor



### 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 ♦ Roy Beyer



### All Saints Day

On **Friday, November 1st, Mass** will be at 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. in observance of **All Saints Day.**

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### Annual Christmas Bazaar

The Annual Christmas Bazaar will be on **Saturday, November 9th.** It's time to start thinking about donating your hand-made items, crafts, handiwork (woodwork, flower art, knitted and crocheted items, paintings, etc.), baked goodies, candies, jams and jelly, etc. We will also be serving a lunch of "Pulled Pork with Sides and Dessert," all prepared by our Ladies of the Parish. If you would like to donate, call or text **Nancy** at (541) 508-9872.

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### St Joseph's Thanksgiving Dinner

Fr. Joseph is hosting the Second Annual Thanksgiving Dinner for our parishioners on **Thursday, November 28th.** If you aren't going away—if you aren't having a large family gathering, if you are alone—you are welcome. We don't want anyone to be alone this Thanksgiving. There is no charge; however, we do need to know by **Tuesday, November 19th,** if you can attend so that we prepare enough food.

Please call or email **Darlene** in the Parish Office at (541) 447-6475 / [stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com](mailto:stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com).

**COME CELEBRATE WITH OUR FAMILY!**