

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"The Old Telephone on the Wall"

When I was a young boy, my father had one of the first telephones in our neighborhood. I remember the polished, old case fastened to the wall, and the shiny receiver that hung on the side of the box. I was too little to reach the telephone, but I used to listen with fascination when my mother talked to it.

Then I discovered that somewhere inside the wonderful device lived an amazing person. Her name was "Information Please," and there was nothing she did not know. "Information Please" could supply anyone's number and the correct time.

My personal experience with the genie-in-a-bottle came one day while my mother was visiting a neighbor. Amusing myself at the tool bench in the basement, I whacked my finger with a hammer. The pain was terrible, but there seemed no point in crying because there was no one home to give me any sympathy.

I walked around the house sucking my throbbing finger and arrived at the stairway. The telephone! Quickly, I ran for the footstool in the parlor, dragged it to the landing, climbed up, unhooked the receiver, and held it to my ear.

"Information, please," I said into the mouthpiece just above my head. A click or two and a small clear voice spoke into my ear: "Information."

"I hurt my finger!" I wailed into the phone, the tears coming readily enough now that I had an audience. "Isn't your mother home?" came the question. "No," I blubbered. "Are you bleeding?" the voice asked. "No," I replied. "I hit my finger with a hammer, and it hurts!"

Then she asked, "Can you open the icebox?" I said that I could. "Then chip off a bit of ice, and hold it to your finger," she said.

After that, I called "Information Please" for everything. I asked her for help with my geography—she told me where Philadelphia was. She helped me with my math. She told me the chipmunk that I had caught in the park the day before would eat fruit and nuts.

Then, there was the time Petey, our pet canary, died. I called, "Information Please," and told her the sad story. She listened, and then said things grown-ups say to soothe a child. But I was not consoled. I asked her, "Why is it that birds could sing so beautifully, only to end up as a heap of feathers on the bottom of a cage?" She must have sensed my deep concern and said quietly, "Wayne, always remember that there are other worlds to sing in." Somehow, I felt better.

Another day I was on the telephone—"Information Please!"

"Information," said the now familiar voice. "How do I spell fix?" I asked.

All this took place in a small town in the Pacific Northwest. But then when I was nine years old, we moved across the country to Boston. I missed my friend very much.

"Information Please" belonged in that old wooden box back home, and I somehow never thought of trying the shiny new phone that sat on the table in the hall. As I grew into my teens, the memories of those childhood conversations never really left me.

Often, in moments of doubt or anxiety, I would recall the serene sense of security I had then. I appreciated now how patient, understanding, and kind she was to have spent her time on a little boy.

A few years later, on my way out West to college by plane, I had an hour or so between planes in Seattle. Without thinking, I dialed my hometown operator and said, "Information Please."

Miraculously, I heard the small, clear voice I knew so well! "Information."

I hadn't planned this, but I heard myself saying, "Could you please tell me how to spell fix?" There was a long pause. Then came the soft-spoken answer, "I guess your finger has healed by now."

I laughed, "So it's really you! I wonder if you have any idea how much you meant to me during that time?" I asked.

"I wonder if you know how much your calls meant to me?" she said. "I never had children, and I looked forward to your calls."

I told her how often I had thought of her over the years, and I asked if I could call her again whenever I came out West. "Please do," she said. "Just ask for Sally."

Three months later I was back in Seattle. A different voice answered, "Information," so I asked for Sally.

"Are you a friend?" she asked. "Yes, an old friend," I said.

"I'm sorry to have to tell you this," she said. "Sally had only been working part time for the last few years because she was sick. She died five weeks ago." But before I could hang up, she asked, "Is your name Wayne?"

"Yes," I answered.

"Well, Sally left a message for you. She wrote it down in case you called. I'll read it to you."

The note said, "Tell him there are other worlds to sing in. He'll know what I mean."

I thanked her and hung up. I knew what Sally meant.



Never underestimate the impression that you may make on others. So, whose life have you touched today?

—Prayerful wishes, Fr. Joseph

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

November 10, 2024 † 32nd 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 GENACLE 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	11/11/2024	8:00 a.m.
Tuesday	11/12/2024	8:00 a.m.
Wednesday	11/13/2024	12:00 p.m.
Thursday	11/14/2024	8:00 a.m.
Friday	11/15/2024	12:00 p.m.
Saturday	11/16/2024	5:00 p.m.
Sunday	11/17/2024	9:00 a.m.
Sunday	11/17/2024	12:00 p.m.

Elizabeth Rowan MacDonald (L)
Eduardo & Cecelia Ortiz (D)
Rev. George French (D)

(L) Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Timothy 1:1-9; Luke 17:1-6
Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 17:7-10
Timothy 3:1-7; Luke 17:11-19
Philemon 7-20; Luke 17:20-25
2 John 4-9; Luke 17:26-37
Daniel 12:1-3; Hebrews 10:11-14, 18; Mark 13:24-32
Daniel 12:1-3; Hebrews 10:11-14, 18; Mark 13:24-32
Daniel 12:1-3; Hebrews 10:11-14, 18; Mark 13:24-32

Today's Homily*

TODAY'S READINGS remind me of two things which, of course, enhances for me Jesus' message by telling us this story.

First, whenever someone mentions a poor old woman

who gave everything, as the widow in today's readings did, I think of the beautiful, poor old woman who, when she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, asked the committee to cancel the elegant banquet and donate the money to the poor. Mother Theresa spent her life giving everything to the "least of His brethren."

Do you give money from your surplus? Don't most of us? Aren't we among the number of well-to-do people in today's Gospel? People Jesus doesn't condemn or, for that matter, say anything about? He chooses, rather, to zero in with admiration on a person whose faith is so great that she gives all she has to God, knowing He will provide.

How can we get to be the people noticed and looked upon with admiration? Individually, what prevents us from giving all of our time, talent, and treasure to God's work? Is it fear of taking the risks needed? Is it fear of giving up control of our lives and letting God take over?

Are we afraid to confront the hard issues of our time? Do we agonize over poverty, and abortion, and self-indulgence in our daily prayers? Or, do we say "pretty pink prayers" to baby Jesus, while forgetting the slaughter of holy innocence that engulfs our world?

When we hear Jesus tell us that he who scandalizes a little child should have a millstone placed around his neck and be thrown in the sea, do we wonder what that same Jesus would say about killing the unborn?

When we pray for peace and justice? Do we struggle with the billions spent on weapons and warfare while

Beware of the Scribes & The Poor Widow's Offering.

Mark 12:38-44

national medical coverage becomes third-world level? Do we pray hard? Or do we hardly pray?

When will all of us stop dabbling in religion, confining it in pretty, warm, temple buildings? When will we carry it out into a world strangling on self-indulgence?

When will we stop worrying about profits and start listening to prophets—the voices that have been raised in righteous anger against profiteering, multi-national corporations that sew poverty and despair everywhere but in their own posh communities? Think of the living conditions that produce your cup of coffee or daily banana.

What evils do all of us see in our world that Jesus would have confronted?

Let us change our inner world by confronting them. Be not afraid of being thought of as a rebel.

What was Jesus? He held nothing back; He made no deals; He spoke out in righteous anger. And when His society killed Him, He forgave them and loved them.

Because He knows what the widows know—what Mother Theresa knows. He knew what all of us know deep down inside—that the only important thing is to turn over our wills to God—to stand forth among our peers, unafraid as people anointed by God for eternity. If we truly believe that eternity is where we're headed, we should travel, unafraid to admit that that is where we want to go.

How much is the fare? How about two little coins more than it's convenient to give?

half the world starves? Do we pray about what the poor and homeless will do without medical care while politicians play football with billions in pork-barrel spending, and our

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



November—Month of the Souls in Purgatory

Upcoming Youth Bible Study: The Patriarchs

Join us on **Monday, November 11th, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the church basement** as we begin exploring the period of The Patriarchs! We will dive into the lives of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph to uncover the foundations of our faith. Don't miss this opportunity to deepen your understanding and connect with others. See you there!

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Coats 4 Kids

The Knights of Columbus will be giving out brand new winter "Coats 4 Kids" on **Saturday, November 16th, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in the Parish Hall**. Sizes available for kids range from Toddlers through High School. This is all possible due to your generous contributions through the Coats 4 Kids Program. Thank you!

—*Jim Friese, Grand Knight*

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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 are not going away, if you're not having a large family gathering, or if you are alone, **you are welcome!** We don't want anyone to be alone this Thanksgiving. There is no charge; however, we need to know by **Tuesday, November 19th**, if you can attend so that we prepare enough food.

Please call **Darlene** at the Parish Office at: (541) 447-6475 or email her at: stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com. **Come celebrate with our family!**

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Saturday, December 14th, is the "Our Lady of Guadalupe" celebration. **It will begin at 6 a.m. for *Manañitas***.

The Rosary will be after that, followed by Coffee and Bread in the church basement. **Mass will be at 10 a.m.** The celebration begins in the Parish Hall after Mass.



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Reminder

Please turn in your Wagner's and Erickson's receipts every Sunday.

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Online Giving



The wait is over!!! We are now set up for online giving. You can make a one-time donation or set up for a recurring donation. After texting, or scanning the QR Code at left, follow the prompts and enter in your information. Forms of payment accepted are: VISA, MasterCard, Discover, and Apple Pay. If you would like help getting set up or, if you have any questions, please come in to the Parish Office.

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Form/ced66cf1-ca36-4cd3-b546-a6bea4292a81>

or text: **GIVE** to (541) 366-6550.

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Holy Humor

What was Moses' wife, Zippora, known as when she'd throw dinner parties?

"The Hostess With the Moses"