

## Fr. Joseph's Corner

### "Paid in Full"

A young man was getting ready to graduate from college. For many months he had admired a beautiful sports car in a dealer's showroom, and knowing his father could well afford it, he told him that was all he wanted.

As Graduation Day approached, the young man awaited signs that his father had purchased the car.

Finally, on the morning of his graduation, his father called him into his private study. His father told him how proud he was to have such a fine son, and told him how much he loved him.

He handed his son a beautifully wrapped gift box. Curious, and somewhat disappointed, the young man opened the box and found a lovely, leather-bound Bible, with the young man's name embossed in gold.

Angry, he raised his voice to his father and said, "With all your money, you give me a Bible?" and stormed out of the house.

Many years passed and the young man was very successful in business. He had a beautiful home and wonderful family, but he realized his father was very old, and thought perhaps he should go to him. He had not seen him since that graduation day.

Before he could make arrangements, he received a telegram telling him that his father had passed away, and he willed all of his possessions to his son. He needed to go home immediately and take care of things. When he arrived at his father's house, a sudden feeling of sadness and regret filled his heart. He began to search through his father's important papers and saw the still gift-wrapped Bible, just as he had left it years ago. With tears, he opened the Bible and began to turn the pages. His father had carefully underlined a verse, Matt.7:11:

"And if ye, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Heavenly Father which is in Heaven, give to those who ask Him?"

As he read those words, a car key dropped from the back of the Bible. It had a tag with the dealer's name, the same dealer who had the sports car he had desired. On the tag was the date of his graduation, and the words "PAID IN FULL."

*How many times do we miss God's blessings because we can't see past our own desires?*

—*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 ♦ Pierre Jones ♦ Sammi Pedersen ♦ Chuck Renwick ♦ Reba McDermott  
John Huthmacher ♦ Ed McNamara ♦ Brittany Duncan Osgood ♦ Julie Bither ♦ Mary Bither  
Doni Bachand ♦ Lyn Rodgers ♦ Fred Vandehey ♦ Ralph Lee ♦ Mary Lee ♦ Jeanne Hackett  
Peggy Holtz ♦ Michael Kuenzi ♦ Nancy MacDonald ♦ Mary Ellen Marquez  
Charlie McDermott ♦ Susan McDermott ♦ Barbara Gadotti ♦ Barbara Hopla  
Gilbert Marquez ♦ David Pedersen ♦ Jim MacDonald

## St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

May 11, 2025 † 4th Sunday of Easter ♦ Good Shepherd Sunday ♦ Mother's Day

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

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	05/12/2025	8:00 a.m.	Jim MacDonald (L)	Acts 11:13-14, 43-52; Jn 10:1-10
Tuesday	05/13/2025	8:00 a.m.	Kim Hendrickson (L)	Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday	05/14/2025	12:00 p.m.	Susan McDermott (L)	Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17
Thursday	05/15/2025	8:00 a.m.	Susan McClintock (D)	Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20
Friday	05/16/2025	12:00 p.m.	Sami Pedersen (L)	Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6
Saturday	05/17/2025	5:00 p.m.	All St Joseph Parishioners (L)	Acts 14:21-27; Rv 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35
Sunday	05/18/2025	9:00 a.m.	Willis Pedersen (D)	Acts 14:21-27; Rv 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35
Sunday	05/18/2025	12:00 p.m.	Guadalupe Villagomez (D)	Acts 14:21-27; Rv 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35
			Jose Bricia Toledo (D)	

(L) Living ♦ (D) = Deceased



## Today's Homily

**THE 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER** is known as Good Shepherd Sunday. It is also the “World Day of Prayer for Vocations.” Each year on this Sunday, we reflect on the image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd who devotedly and kindly takes care of his flock.

The priest in charge of a parish is called pastor because pastor means shepherd of Christ's sheep. As a shepherd, he leads, feeds, nurtures, comforts, corrects, and protects Christ's sheep in the parish.

Introducing himself as the good shepherd of his flock, Jesus makes three claims in today's gospel. I would like to share with you some of the qualities of this good shepherd, and the things he does for us.

1) He knows his sheep, and his sheep hear his voice: Just as the Palestinian shepherds knew each sheep of their flock by name, and the sheep knew their shepherd and his voice, even so Jesus knows each one of us, our needs, our merits and our faults. He loves us as we are, with all our limitations, and he expects us to receive and return his love by keeping his words. He speaks to us at every Mass, through the Bible, through our pastors, through our parents, family and friends, and through the events of our lives. “God whispers to us in our pleasures, he speaks to us in our consciences, and he SHOUTS to us in our pain!” (C. S. Lewis).

2) He gives eternal life to his sheep by receiv-ing us into his sheepfold through Baptism. He strengthens our faith by giving us his Holy Spirit in Confirmation. He supplies food for our souls by the Holy Eucharist and by the divine words of the holy Bible. He makes our society holy by the sacraments of matrimony and the priesthood.

3) He protects his sheep by placing them in the loving hands of his mighty Father. Without him to guide us



and protect us, we are easy prey for the spiritual wolves of this world: and includes Satan, as well as the seven deadly sins of pride, avarice, envy, gluttony, anger, lust and sloth.

He goes in search of stray lambs and heals the sick ones. Jesus heals the wounds of our souls by the sacrament of Reconciliation and strengthens us in illness and

old age by the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

4) Jesus dies for his sheep: Just as the shepherds of ancient days protected their sheep from wild animals and thieves by risking their own lives, so Jesus died in expiation for the sins of all people. What does Jesus want us to do?

Let us become good shepherds: Everyone who is entrusted with the care of others is a shepherd. Hence pastors, parents, teachers, doctors, nurses, government officials and politicians are all shepherds. We become good shepherds by loving those entrusted to us, praying for them, spending our time and talents for their welfare, and guarding them from physical and spiritual dangers.

Parents must be especially careful of their duties as shepherds by becoming role models for their children by leading exemplary lives. As sheep we are weak, often defenseless, and reliant on others. This would be incredibly bad news if we were being sent out into the world alone, or if we chose to try to it all on our own.

But we are never alone, because Jesus is our Good Shepherd. As sheep we are weak, but Jesus our Shepherd is strong. As sheep we are defenseless, but Jesus our Shepherd is our protection. As sheep we cannot succeed on our own, but Jesus is with us as the Good Shepherd to give us the guidance and strength to succeed in this life and reach the pastures of eternal life.

## May—The Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary

### The 1980s

**Bishop Thomas Connolly** continued as Bishop through the '80s. **Father Phelan** continued as Pastor until mid-1982. **Fr. Charles Dreisbach** became Pastor in August of 1982 and stayed until June 1986. **Fr. Gerald Condon** came in June 1986 and left in June of 1989 and included a leave of absence to Ireland from June 1987 to December 1987. In July 1989, **Fr. Robert Simard** was appointed Pastor and stayed until 1999. He passed away in January 2002.

The diocese recognized two of our Parishioners, **Helen Fagan** and **Kathleen Drewelow**, with the Papal Medal *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice*. **Fr. Phelan** was recognized as Monsignor in 1980. And in July 1980, a commercial dishwasher was installed in the Parish Hall. In March 1983, an elevator lift was installed to assist the elderly with access to the church. In February, a new organ was purchased and in 1982, the front steps had heaters installed in them. In March 1984, new tile roofs were installed on the Rectory and the Parish Hall, and that same year, the sidewalks were repaired. In Spring 1985, the pews were refinished, and in August, **Sr. Barbara Ann** became the Religious Education Director and continued in that capacity until June 1988. In February 1986, the Sanctuary was painted and protective coverings were installed over the stained-glass windows. Also, new cabinets were installed in the Parish Hall. In 1987, a new Parish Directory was published., and in 1988, Parish Hall guidelines were approved by the Parish Council.

The Diocese DeSales Adult Education Program was initiated in 1981. Parishioners from 90-year-old **Annie Hendricks** to recent high school graduates participated. Retreats and Day of the Son celebrations were held, and our high school students enjoyed them.

In 1989, **John Solitz** established St. Vincent de Paul of Crook County and became its 1st President. It operated from the church basement with consent of the pastor and support of the Parishioners.

### Summer Camp

#### REGISTER NOW FOR DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMPS:

- **Youth Camp: June 18–22**, current 4–8 graders.
- **Youth Camp Leaders: June 18–22**, current 9–12th-graders
- **Quo Vadis: June 23–26**, current 8–12 grade young men.

All youth camps are at Lake Creek Youth Camp near John Day. Two Family Camp Locations to choose from: **Cove Christian Camp** near LaGrande, **July 26–29**, or **Camp White Branch** between Redmond and Eugene (near McKenzie Bridge), **July 31–August 3**. Registration is open for all camps. Go to Diocese website at [DioceseofBaker.org](http://DioceseofBaker.org).

#### SEEKING HELP WITH ONE OR BOTH YOUTH CAMPS:

**Summer Catholic Youth Camp, June 18–22**, is seeking 1 RV to borrow for the priest; 12–15 adults—10 chaperones (21+), 1–2-Nurses/EMTs; and 1 Musician; 2–5-YA (18–20)  
**Quo Vadis, June 23–26**, is seeking 2–3 RVs to borrow for clergy; 5–11 adults—4 male chaperones (21+), 1–2-Nurses/EMTs, and 1–5-YA (18–20)



First Communion last Sunday, May 4, 2025.

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### World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Today, the Church throughout the world prays for vocations. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life?

- ✠ Pray for your pastor and other priests who have ministered to you this week.
- ✠ Pray for the clergy and young men preparing to attend this year's Quo Vadis Days Camp, June 23-26 at Lake Creek Youth Camp (SE of John Day).
- ✠ Encourage your sons, grandsons, and other young men to consider attending Quo Vadis Days Camp.
- ✠ Pray for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call.

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### Respect Life



We will be having our annual Baby Bottle Drive beginning **today—Mother's Day**. Please take a baby bottle and fill it with cash, checks, etc. and return it to the Parish Office by **Father's Day June 15**. There is also a fund on our Online Giving set up for you to donate there.

All proceeds will benefit our Respect Life Ministry to be a voice for life. We are raising money for the Pro-life Conference that will be held at St. Thomas Church in October.

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### Deadline

If you would like to add something to our Parish Bulletin or Announcements, please submit it in writing either by email or drop it off at the Parish Office no later than the preceding **Monday at 11 a.m.**

Happy Mother's Day!