

Fr. Joseph's Corner

"The Beggar's Rags" (Author Unknown)

A beggar lived near the king's palace. One day he saw a proclamation posted outside the palace gate. The king was giving a great dinner, and anyone dressed in royal garments was invited to the party.

The beggar looked at the rags he was wearing and sighed. Surely only kings and their families wore royal robes, he thought. But slowly an idea crept into his mind. The audacity of it made him tremble. Would he dare? The beggar made his way back to the palace. He approached the guard at the gate and said, "Please, sire, I would like to speak with the king."

"Wait here," the guard replied, and in a few minutes, he was back. "His majesty will see you," the guard said and led the beggar to the king.

"You wish to see me?" asked the king. "Yes, your majesty. I want so much to attend the banquet, but I have no royal robes to wear. Please, sir, if I may be so bold, may I have one of your old garments so that I, too, may come to the banquet?" The beggar shook so hard that he could not see the faint smile that was on the king's face.

"You have been wise in coming to me," the king said. He called his son, the young prince. "Take this man to your room and array him in some of your clothes." The prince did as he was told and soon the beggar was standing before a mirror, clothed in garments that he had never dared hoped for.

"You are now eligible to attend the king's banquet tomorrow night," said the prince. "But—even more important—you will never need any other clothes again. These garments will last forever!"

The beggar cried, "Oh, thank you, sire!" But as he started to leave, he looked back at his pile of dirty rags on the floor and hesitated. What if the prince was wrong? What if he would need his old clothes again? So, he quickly gathered them up.

The banquet was far greater than he had ever imagined, but he could not enjoy himself as he should because he had made a small bundle of his old rags, and it kept falling off his lap. The food was being passed quickly, and the beggar missed some of the greatest delicacies.

Time proved that the prince was right. The clothes did last forever. Still, the poor beggar grew fonder and fonder of his old rags. As time passed, people seemed to forget the royal robes he was wearing. They only saw the little bundle of filthy rags he clung to wherever he went. They even spoke of him as "the old man with the rags."

One day as he lay dying, the king visited him. The beggar saw the sad look on the king's face when he looked at the small bundle of rags by the bed. Suddenly the beggar remembered the prince's words, and he realized that his bundle of rags had cost him a lifetime of true royalty. He wept bitterly at his folly. And the king wept with him!

—Prayerful Wishes, Fr. Joseph

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE ON OUR PRAYER LIST:

David Leonard ♦ Steve Forrester ♦ Carl Johnson ♦ Dolores Koivisto ♦ Anita Marquez ♦ Ben Guyer
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 ♦ Mary Ellen Marquez ♦ Charlie McDermott ♦ Susan McDermott
Barbara Gadotti ♦ Barbara Hopla ♦ Gilbert Marquez ♦ David Pedersen

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

June 1, 2025 † The Ascension of the Lord

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

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	06/02/2025	8:00 a.m.	Maria Lopez (D)	Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday	06/03/2025	8:00 a.m.	Anne Clark (D)	Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11a
Wednesday	06/04/2025	11:00 a.m.	Jim MacDonald (D)	Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11b-19
Thursday	06/05/2025	8:00 a.m.	Lorraine Popish (D)	Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26
Friday	06/06/2025	12:00 p.m.	Hattie Penhollow (L)	Acts 25:13b-21; Jn 21:15-19
Saturday	06/07/2025	5:00 p.m.	Janet Andrew (D)	Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23
Sunday	06/08/2025	9:00 a.m.	For St. Joseph's Parishioners (L)	Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23
Sunday	06/08/2025	12:00 p.m.	Martin Munoz (D)	Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

(L) Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

TODAY WE ARE celebrating the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. This Feast commemorates the elevation of Christ into Heaven by his own power in the presence of His disciples on the fortieth day after His glorious Resurrection.

Jesus, after His resurrection spent forty days with His disciples, instructing them and encouraging them as they prepared for the mission.

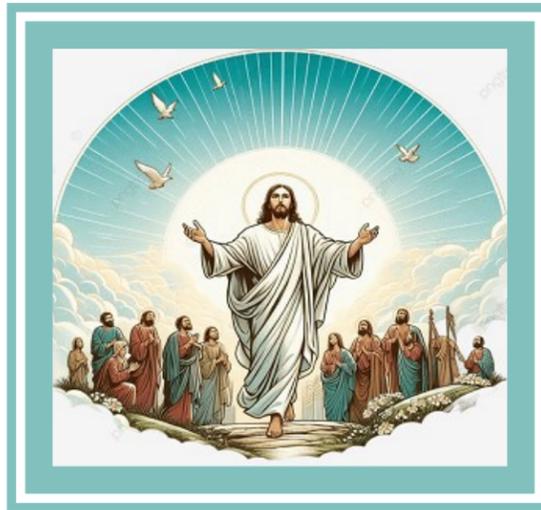
The Ascension of Jesus into Heaven completed His earthly work of our redemption. Through His numerous apparitions to hundreds of people, between the day of his glorious Resurrection and the day of his Ascension, Jesus proved two things.

First of all, he proved that he was the promised Messiah. Secondly, he proved that through Him who overcame death, persons who persevere in their living faith in Jesus shall also overcome death and inherit the Kingdom of God.

Today's Gospel tells us that, with His return to the Father, Jesus completed His mission on earth. But just before His Ascension, He entrusted to His disciples the mission of preaching and teaching the Good News, and evangelizing the whole world by bearing witness to Him through their lives.

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:19-20).

These are the last words of Jesus as recorded differently in the Acts and in Matthew and Mark. All of them are in agreement that:



(a) Jesus gave His disciples a mission—a task to engage them until He returns in glory; and (b) He assured them of divine assistance in the carrying out of this mission. To be a Christian is to be a proclaimer and an evangelizer. There is a difference between preaching and proclaiming. We preach with words but we proclaim with our lives.

As St Francis of Assisi once said, “Preach the Gospel at all times. Use words if necessary.” We have a Mission which is entrusted to us by our Lord Jesus.

Every baptized Catholic must obey the call of Christ to be His witness in a world that too often seems indifferent to Christ—a world that regards our faith as an option—an extra, sort of like gardening or playing baseball.

But everyone, regardless of their beliefs, down deep has a spiritual hunger. They want someone to reassure them that there is something beyond our life on this earth. They want to know that there is a happy ending, despite all of our wars, famines, and illness—and most of all—death. This is our opportunity to bring Christ and His good news to them that there is hope, both on this earth and beyond the grave.

Remember, we must bring Jesus to others. We have no choice if we consider ourselves faithful Catholics. We must live as people who are absolutely convinced that life does have meaning; that this world, with all of its problems, is still God's world; and that the most powerful force in the universe is not hatred but love, not death but life.

This is what Jesus came to tell us. This is the mission Jesus is giving to us, and this is what we have to tell everyone though our lives.

June—The Month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Respect Life

The Respect Life ministry would like to invite EVERYONE to their first meeting this year, if you are passionate about Life, want to get involved in pro-life work, if you're looking for fellowship and friendship with like-minded individuals, please join us for pizza, drinks and dessert on **Monday, June 9th, at 6 pm., in the Parish Hall.** We look forward to celebrating Life with you!

Any questions or for more information, please call **Ari at (541) 675-7962.** Together we can be the voice for the voiceless.

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June: The Sacred Heart of Jesus

One of the most beloved feast days in June is the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, which falls on the **third Friday after Pentecost, June 27th.** This day is a time to reflect on Jesus' unconditional love and mercy for all humanity.

It is a day of prayer, contemplation, and devotion to the Sacred Heart, symbolizing the love and compassion that Christ has for each one of us.

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Faith Forward

Keeping Young Catholics Connected
Graduating Seniors, whether you are headed to college or the military, join your Catholic faith community on campus or at your future base today. Please visit: www.newmanconnection.org/faith-forward to learn more!

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St. Joseph's 75th Jubilee

Keep in mind that our 75th Jubilee Celebration will be on **Sunday, September 14th.** You are most welcome to submit your ideas of the ways that we can celebrate this momentous occasion.

2025 Christmas Bazaar

Our Annual Christmas Bazaar will be held on **November 8th this year.** It's time to start your craft projects and to decide what to donate. We appreciate all who contribute to this fundraiser.

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Register Now for Diocesan Summer Camps:

Youth Camp: June 18–22, current 4th–8th grade. Registration ends June 10th.

Youth Camp Leaders: current 9th–12th grade (June 18–22).

Quo Vadis: June 23–26, current 8th–12th grade. Registration ends June 17th

Family Camp West Is Now FULL.

Family Camp East (Near La Grande): Limited space available (July 26–29).

Registration and Camp Locations information is on the Diocesan website: DioceseofBaker.org.



Seeking Help for Both Youth Camps:

Summer Youth Camp, June 18–22 and Quo Vadis, June 23–26:

- 2 RVs to borrow for: SYC priest; nurse—both camps
- 5–7 Adult Chaperones (21+) for SYC; 2–4 Adult Men (21+) for QV
- 1–2-Nurses/EMTs for each camp
- Musician – SYC
- YA (18–20), welcome at both camps

Please email or call **Marie Becker** for more information or to help:

Marie@DioceseofBaker.org / (541) 388-4004