

## Fr. Joseph's Corner

### “A Day in God's Court” (Author Unknown)

After living a “decent” life, my time on earth came to an end. The first thing I remember is sitting on a bench in a waiting room of what I thought to be a courthouse. The doors finally opened, and I was instructed to come in and have a seat by the defense table.

As I looked around I saw the “prosecutor”—he was a villainous looking gent who snarled as he stared at me. He definitely was the most evil-looking guy I had ever seen.

I sat down and looked to my left, and there sat my “lawyer,” a kind and gentle-looking man whose appearance seemed very familiar to me. Then the corner door flew open, and there appeared the judge in full, flowing robes. He commanded an awesome presence as he moved across the room, and I couldn't take my eyes off him. He took his seat behind the bench and said, “Let us begin.”

The prosecutor rose and said, “My name is Satan, and I am here to show you why this man belongs in hell.” He proceeded to tell of lies that I told, things that I had stolen, and when I had cheated on others in the past. Satan told of other horrible perversions that were once in my life. The more he spoke, the further down in my seat I sank. I was so embarrassed that I couldn't look at anyone, even my own lawyer, as the prosecutor told of sins that even I had completely forgotten about.

As upset as I was at this Satan guy for telling all these things about me, I was equally upset at my representative who sat there silently, not offering any form of defense at all. I knew I had been guilty of those things, but I had done some good in my life, too. Couldn't that at least equal out part of the harm I'd done? Satan finished with a fury and said, “This man belongs in hell! He is guilty of all that I have charged, and there is not a person who can prove otherwise. Justice will finally be served this day.”

When it was his turn, my lawyer first asked if he might approach the bench. The judge allowed this—over the strong objection of Satan—and beckoned him to come

forward. As he got up and started walking, I was able to see him now in his full splendor and majesty. I realized why he seemed so familiar. This was Jesus representing me—my Lord and Savior!

He stopped at the bench and softly said to the judge, “Hi, Dad.” Then He turned to address the court: “Satan was correct in saying that this man has sinned. I won't deny any of these allegations. And, yes, the wages of sin should be death, and this man deserves to be punished.”

Then Jesus took a very deep breath, turned to His Father, and with His arms outstretched, He proclaimed to the court: “However, I died on the cross so that this person might have eternal life, and he has accepted me as his Savior, so he is mine.”

My Lord continued, “His name is written in the *Book of Life*, and no one can snatch him away from me. Satan still does not yet understand that this man is not to be given justice—but, rather, mercy.”

As Jesus sat down, He quietly paused, turned to look at His Father, and went on, “There is nothing else that needs to be done—I've done it all.”

The Judge lifted His mighty hand and slammed down the gavel as He bellowed the following words: “This man is free—the penalty for him has already been paid in full. CASE DISMISSED!”

As my Lord led me away, I could hear Satan ranting and raving, exclaiming: “I won't give up! I'll win the next one!”

I asked Jesus, as He gave me my instructions for where to go next, “Have you ever lost a case?” Jesus lovingly smiled and said, “Everyone who has come to me and asked me to represent them has received the same verdict as you did: PAID IN FULL.”

Oh what a blessing! There is no greater commandment than to love your neighbor as yourself!

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

## St. Joseph Catholic Church

150 E First St., P.O. Box 1315, Prineville OR 97754  
July 6, 2025 † The 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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	07/07/2025	8:00 a.m.	Sami Pedersen (D)	Gn 28:10-22a; Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday	07/08/2025	8:00 a.m.	Jennie Koivisto (D)	Gn 32:23-33; Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday	07/09/2025	12:00 p.m.	Colleen Budde (L)	Gn 41:55-57, 42:5-7a, 17-24a; Mt 10:1-7
Thursday	07/10/2025	8:00 a.m.	Father Joseph (L)	Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29, 45:1-5; Mt 10:7-15
Friday	07/11/2025	12:00 p.m.	Ron Lattin (D)	Gn 46:1-7, 28-30; Mt 10:16-23
Saturday	07/12/2025	5:00 p.m.	St Joseph Parishioners (L)	Dt 30:10-14; Col 1:15-20; Lk 10:25-37
Sunday	07/13/2025	9:00 a.m.	Clark Hay (D)	Dt 30:10-14; Col 1:15-20; Lk 10:25-37
Sunday	07/13/2025	12:00 p.m.	Reynaldo Villagomez (D)	Dt 30:10-14; Col 1:15-20; Lk 10:25-37

(L) Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

## Today's Homily

**TODAY'S SCRIPTURES** ARE about announcing the Good News. They remind us that announcing the Good News of the Kingdom by words, deeds and life is not the task of only a few. Rather, it is a task for all baptized Christians.

**In the first reading**, Isaiah announces the good news to the returned Babylonian exiles that the ruined and desolate Jerusalem will take care of them "as a mother comforts her baby son." Isaiah assures the returned Jews that they will live in the certainty of Yahweh's promises of love, protection, prosperity, and salvation.

**In today's second reading**, Paul removes the confusion created by the Judaizers in the minds of the new Gentile Christians of Galatia. He clearly conveys the good news that it is Jesus' death on the cross which brings one's salvation, and not Jewish heritage or the practice of Torah laws.

Paul reminds us that the mission of each member of the Church is to bear witness to the saving power of the cross of Christ through a life of sacrificial, self-giving service.

**In today's Gospel**, Luke describes the fulfillment of the prophetic promise made by Isaiah in Jesus' commissioning of 72 disciples to preach the Gospel or the good news of God's love and salvation in towns and villages in preparation for his own visit. Jesus gives the paired disciples "travel tips" for their missionary journey. They must be walking witnesses of God's providence, relying on the hospitality of others,



living very simple lives, preaching the Good News and healing the sick.

Today's Gospel reminds us that we, the 1.5 billion Christians in the world today, have the mission of the 72—to preach the Gospel of Christ to the rest of the world's 4.5 billion non-Christians.

We need to continue the proclamation of the Gospel: Just as Jesus, in today's Gospel, gave instructions to the 72 missionaries, He also gives each one of us a mission to carry out.

As faithful Christians, we should attract others to the Faith by leading exemplary lives, just as a rose silently attracts people by its beauty and fragrance. This is our job and our responsibility. We must not miss the current opportunities to be apostles through our words and deeds in everyday life.

We need to avoid giving the counter-witness of practicing the "supermarket Catholicism" of our politicians who publicly proclaim their "Catholicism" and yet support abortion, gay marriage, human cloning, and experimentation with human embryos. Nor should we be "armchair Catholics," "cafeteria Catholics" or "Sunday Catholics" who bear counter-witness to Christ through our lives.

Let us start proclaiming the Gospel in our families by leading exemplary Christian lives in which spouses love and respect each other, raise their children in the spirit of obedience and service, discipline them with forgiving love, and teach them through persistent example to pray, love and help others by sharing their blessings.

## July—The Month of the Precious Blood of Jesus



### Fr. Joseph Is Turning 70!

Fr. Joseph's birthday is Thursday, July 10th. So we are hosting a Birthday Party **OPEN HOUSE** on **Sunday, July 13th, from 1 to 4 p.m.** to celebrate this momentous occasion! We hope everyone stops by to wish Fr. Joseph a very happy birthday and stays for lunch and cake!

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### Second Collection

Next weekend, July 12th/13th, there will be a second collection taken. At the **Saturday, 5 p.m. Mass, and the 9 a.m. Mass**, the collection will go toward our major plumbing project in the fall. All of the plumbing in the rectory must be replaced.

At the **Sunday, 12 p.m. Mass**, the second collection will go toward the Bishop's Annual Appeal.

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### Acolyte Installation

On **Sunday, July 20th**, Bishop Liam Cary will be here for the Rite of Installation of 5 new Acolytes: **Timmy Regan** at the 9 a.m. Mass; and **Guadalupe Villagomez, Juan Nuñez Vargas, Elias Villagomez, and Jose A. Sanchez** at the 12 p.m. Mass.

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### Grocery Receipts

If you have receipts from Erickson's Thriftway or Wagner's IGA, you can turn them in, and we will receive a rebate. They must be returned within the month. There is a box located in the Narthex.

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### Thank You!

Thank You to **Barb Dalton** and some of the Confirmation kids! They have scrubbed and washed all the chairs and tables in the Parish Hall. What a great crew! We appreciate you!

### St. Vincent de Paul, Crook County

You might ask what's happening at the SVdP Pantry: Everyone working at the pantry is a volunteer. We would love to have you join us. Would you be willing to offer a small amount of your time to help our neighbors in need? Here are a few examples of volunteer opportunities:

- food pickup from donor grocery stores
- truck unloaders
- food sorters
- food box packers
- parking lot assistance
- limited office duties

Please call me if you have questions or would like to jump in.

—God Bless, **Rita McLean Malone**, President  
St. Vincent de Paul Crook County / 503-504-3414

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### 4 Stages of Marriage

**(1) Romance, (2) Disillusionment, (3) Misery, and (4) Awakening**

Many marriages experience the first three Stages. Marriages that end in divorce never make it to the 4th Stage of Awakening. Don't give up without learning about the 4th Stage of Awakening. If your marriage suffers from disillusionment or misery, contact Retrouvaille. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve communication.

Visit <https://helpourmarriage.org/> for testimonials, confidential information or to register for the **Friday, August 22nd, to Sunday, August 24th**, Retreat in Canby, Oregon, or email [portland@retrouvaille.org](mailto:portland@retrouvaille.org) or call (503) 225-9191.

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### The New High School in Bend

Chesterton Academy of Mater Dei, Central Oregon's first-ever Catholic High School, is opening its doors this fall. Thanks to an incredibly generous recent donation, **tuition has been reduced** to \$2,400 for the entire school year—only \$200 a month! We are currently accepting freshmen, sophomores, and juniors. For more information, visit <https://chestertonmaterdei.org/>.

