

## Fr. Joseph's Corner "St. Gertrude"

In the spirit (pun intended) of the season, it's fitting to focus on one of the patrons of the departed. St. Gertrude was a powerful advocate for the faithfully departed.

Gertrude of Helfta was born on January 6, 1256, in Eisleben, Thuringia. When she was 5 years old, she was sent to the Cistercian monastic school in Saxony called Helfta. She became skilled in philosophy, literature, singing, and miniature painting, but felt that something was still missing. Soon, she fell deeply and passionately in love with Christ and the idea of living fully with and in Him. She decided to enter the novitiate and took the veil.

Around age 24, she was only halfheartedly living as a nun, easily losing focus on what truly mattered. An inner crisis arose and took over her. She felt lost, lonely, and depressed. All of her carefully laid plans began to fall apart.

Early in 1281, she encountered Jesus through a young man who told her, "I have come to comfort you and bring salvation." She later reflected on that day, writing, "Jesus, my Redeemer, you have lowered my indomitable head to your gentle yoke, preparing the medicine suited to my weakness." From that moment on, her life was lived in deep conformity and union with Christ.

Her focus shifted solely to studying Scripture, the writings of the Church Fathers, and theological works. As a result, she wanted to share what she was learning with others. She started writing short treatises and works for her fellow sisters. These became spiritual treasures for those fortunate enough to read them. Many souls were uplifted by these works as a result.

Gertrude had many mystical experiences where Jesus revealed His infinite love and urged her to share it with the faithful. He was especially insistent that she spread His mes-



sage to those suffering and to sinners. She would write down these mystical experiences to accomplish that goal.

Her demeanor was always joyful, and her face was constantly smiling. She radiated humility and loved everyone she met. She was the attraction that drew others to Jesus.

By 1298, her health was declining. She offered all her sufferings in love and unity with Christ's sufferings for the benefit and salvation of all souls. In recounting her conversion experience near her death, Gertrude says, "Until the age of 25, I was a blind and insane woman . . . but you, Jesus, deigned to grant me the priceless familiarity of your friendship by opening to me in every way that most noble casket of your divinity, which is

your divine Heart, and offering me in great abundance all your treasures contained in it."

Finally, sometime in late 1301 or early 1302, Gertrude succumbed to her infirmities. She would forever be united with the eternal Bridegroom in ecstasy. She had a deep devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Gertrude is the only female saint with the title "the Great" in recognition of her theological insight and depth. Her feast day is November 16th.

Based on her experiences and conversations with Jesus, Gertrude composed the following prayer. It is believed that each time this prayer is devoutly recited, 1,000 souls will be released from purgatory. One thousand! Please pray this every day, especially during this special month.

*Eternal Father,*

*I offer You the Most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, for those in my own home and within my family. Amen.*

—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 ♦ Chuck Renwick ♦ 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  
Barbara Hopla ♦ Gilbert Marquez ♦ Sam LeFevre and the LeFevre family ♦ Joanie Holland ♦ Kerry Loving

## St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

November 2, 2025 † All Souls 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**

**OCIA ♦ Jim Friese / OCIA (Spanish) ♦ Yurizet Villasana**

**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 / READINGS FOR THE WEEK

*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	11/03/2025			Rom 11:29-36; Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday	11/04/2025			Rom 12:5-16; Lk 14:15-24
Wednesday	11/05/2025			Rom 13:8-10; Lk 14:25-33
Thursday	11/06/2025			Rom 14:7-12; Lk 15:1-10
Friday	11/07/2025			Rom 15:14-21; Lk 16:1-8
Saturday	11/08/2025	5:00 pm	St Joseph Parishioners (L)	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12: 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22
Sunday	11/09/2025	9:00 am	Ron Lattin (D)	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12: 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22
Sunday	11/09/2025	12:00 pm	Maria Valdovinos (D)	Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12: 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22

(L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

## Today's Homily



### Feast of All Souls

**Eternal Father,**  
I offer Thee the most precious blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Grant them eternal rest, Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them, as with Your saints in eternity, because You are merciful. May they Rest In Peace Amen.

Holy Souls in Purgatory,  
May angels lead you into Paradise; may the martyrs receive you at your coming and lead you to the holy city of Jerusalem. May a choir of angels receive you, and with Lazarus, who once was poor, may you have eternal rest.

Pray for us. Amen.

**Feast Day**  
**November 2**

**TODAY'S PRAYER IS** at the heart of observing All Souls Day. We not only pray for the dead but also to them, recognizing their ongoing presence in our lives as part of the communion of saints. This relationship encourages us to seek their intercession and guidance. Praying for the deceased is a deep act of love and solidarity, strengthening our bond with them even after death.

We pray for our departed brothers and sisters. We pray that they may rest in peace. We pray that they may experience the fullness of peace. We pray that they may want nothing more. We pray that they may take their place at the eternal banquet of love, a place prepared for them by God before the beginning of time.

On this Feast of All Souls, we pray for all the loved ones we have lost.

But prayer is a conversation. Prayer is an experience of mutuality. Prayer is never a one-way street. Therefore, we not only pray for the dead; we also pray to them, for they are not merely "the dead," but are now counted among the saints.

We pray to them for their help and support. We pray to them for guidance and strength. We pray to them for patience. We pray to them for reconciliation and healing.

Somedays, we may pray to them for the ability just to put one foot in front of the other.

So, we not only pray for the dead, but also to the dead. We ask them to pray for us. Just as death no longer has power over them, we pray that the effects of sin and death will not have power over us during our remaining time on earth. We ask them to pray that when we also pass from this world to the next, we will join them at that eternal banquet of love.

As we gather to commemorate All Souls Day in 2025, let us reflect on the lives of our departed loved ones, pray for their eternal peace, and embrace the hope of resurrection.

May we find comfort in the promise of eternal life and the assurance that our prayers can aid those who have passed, drawing us closer to the divine love that unites us all.

## November—The Month of the Souls in Purgatory

### Raffles

A Nativity was donated for a raffle to raise money for books during the Advent season. The set is Lenox "The Nativity"

This is a bisque bone China set from the 1980s. The Nativity will be displayed in the Parish Hall until the drawing takes place at the Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, **November 8th**. Tickets are \$4 or 3 for \$10.

The Hispanic Ministry is also holding a raffle for a 7-quart Crockpot. There is also a chance to win a 50-inch VIZIO Smart TV. Tickets for both items cost \$10. The drawing for both the TV and the Crockpot will take place on **November 23rd**. You can buy tickets for all raffle items at the Parish Office.

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### Annual Christmas Bazaar



Come and see what everyone is talking about! In addition to the top-rated crafts, there will be plenty of goodies to enjoy. Be sure to stop by on **Saturday, November 8th, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**, and stay for lunch for just \$10, which includes an enchilada, a tamale, chips &

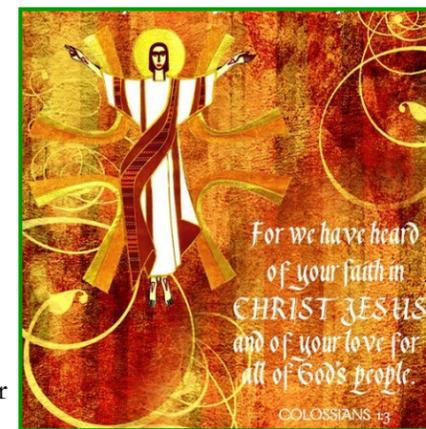
salsa, and a homemade dessert. **Lunch is served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Please price and bring your donated items to the **Parish Hall on Friday, November 7th, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

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### Father Joseph's Ordination Anniversary

On **Saturday, November 16th**, there will be a **Bilingual Mass at 11 a.m.** Immediately afterward, we will have lunch to celebrate **Father Joseph's 41st Anniversary**. Please join us in the Parish Hall as we honor our Pastor.



### Liturgical Meeting

There will be a liturgical meeting on **Tuesday, November 18, at 4 p.m.**, in the Parish Hall.

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### Acolyte Installation

On **Sunday, November 23rd**, there will be a **bilingual Mass at 10 a.m.** **Bishop Hennen** will be here for the Rite of Installation. We have **five new Acolytes** being installed.

We will have a potluck lunch afterward, so please bring your favorite salad, hot dish, or dessert.

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### 3rd Annual St Joseph's Thanksgiving

Father Joseph is hosting our Third Annual Thanksgiving Dinner for our parishioners on **Thursday, November 27th**. If you aren't traveling, having a large family gathering, or are alone, you are welcome to join. We don't want anyone to spend Thanksgiving alone.



There is **no charge**, but we need to know by **November 18th** if you plan to attend so we can prepare enough food. Please call **Darlene** in the Parish Office at: (541) 447-6475 or send an email to her at: [stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com](mailto:stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com).

Celebrate with your parish family!

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### Advent Penance Service

Our Advent Penance Service is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 17th, at 6 p.m.**

All students who have received Communion are expected to attend the Advent Penance Service with their parents.

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### Holy Humor

The "Low Self-Esteem" Group will meet on **Thursday, December 18th at 7 p.m.** Please use the back door.