

Fr. Joseph's Corner "St. Therese of Lisieux"

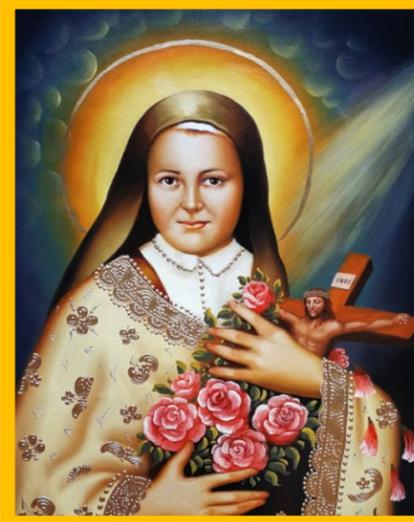
Generations of Catholics have admired this young saint, called the "Little Flower," and found in her short life more inspiration for their own lives than in volumes by theologians. Yet Therese died at age 24, after living as a cloistered Carmelite for less than 10 years.

She never went on missions, founded a religious order, or performed great works. The only book of hers, published after her death, was a brief edited version of her journal called *Story of a Soul*. But within 28 years of her death, public demand was so great that she was canonized.

Therese was born in France in 1873, the pampered daughter of a mother who wanted to be a saint and a father who wanted to be a monk. They married but decided to be celibate until a priest told them that wasn't how God wanted marriage to work! They must have followed his advice very well because they had 9 children. The 5 children who lived were all daughters. When her other sisters, Marie and Leonie, left to join religious orders (the Carmelites and Poor Clares, respectively), Therese was left with her last sister, Celine, and her father. She wanted to enter the Carmelite convent to join Pauline and Marie, but how could she convince others she could handle the rigors of Carmelite life?

When the superior of the Carmelite convent refused to take Therese because she was so young, the formerly shy little girl went to the Bishop. When the Bishop also said no, she decided to go over his head.

Her father and sister took her on a pilgrimage to Rome to try to get her mind off this crazy idea. Therese loved it. It was the one time when being little worked to her advantage! Because she was young and small, she could run everywhere, and touch relics and tombs without being yelled at.



Finally, they went for an audience with the Pope. They had been forbidden to speak to him, but that didn't stop Therese. As soon as she got near him, she begged him to let her enter the Carmelite convent. She had to be carried out by two of the guards!

But the Vicar General, who had seen her courage, was impressed, and soon Therese was admitted to the Carmelite convent where her sisters Pauline and Marie had already joined. She knew that, as a Carmelite nun, she would never be able to perform great deeds.

Therese took every chance to sacrifice, no matter how small it seemed. She smiled at the sisters she didn't like. She ate everything she was given without complaining—often the worst leftovers.

When Pauline was elected prioress, she asked Therese for the ultimate sacrifice: to remain a novice in order to allay the fears of the others that the three sisters would push everyone else around. This meant she would never be a fully professed nun.

After their father's death, Celine also entered the convent, and now four sisters were together again. In this small convent, they made up one-fifth of the population. Despite being a permanent novice, she was put in charge of the other novices.

Then, in 1896, she coughed up blood. She kept working without telling anyone until she became so sick a year later that everyone knew. She died on September 30, 1897, at the age of 24. After her death, Pauline compiled Therese's memoirs and sent 2,000 copies to other convents. Within two years, the Martin family had to move because her notoriety was so great, and by 1925, she was canonized.

—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
October 19, 2025 † 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year C

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

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	10/20/2025			Rom 4:20-25; Lk 12:13-21
Tuesday	10/21/2025			Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19; Lk 12:35-38
Wednesday	10/22/2025			Rom 6:12-18; Lk 12:39-48
Thursday	10/23/2025			Rom 6:19-23; Lk 12:49-53
Friday	10/24/2025			Rom 7:18-25a; Lk 12:54-59
Saturday	10/25/2025	5:00 p.m.	Aaron Kurtz (L)	Sir 35:12-14, 16-18; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18; Lk 18:9-14
Sunday	10/26/2025	9:00 a.m.	Jackie Bailey (L)	Sir 35:12-14, 16-18; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18; Lk 18:9-14
Sunday	10/26/2025	12:00 p.m.	St. Joseph Parishioners (L)	Sir 35:12-14, 16-18; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18; Lk 18:9-14

(L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

THE PASTOR DELIVERED an unusually long sermon on prayer that Sunday, based on the parable of the Poor Widow and the Corrupt Judge.

Later, at the door, as the pastor was shaking hands with his parishioners, one man said: "Father, your sermon was simply wonderful—so invigorating, inspiring, and refreshing."

The pastor, of course, broke out in a big smile, only to be shocked by the man's next words: "I felt like a new man when I woke up after you finished your sermon!"

Today's readings mainly focus on prayer—perseverance in prayer, within living faith, consistency in prayer, and trust in God as we pray. They also discuss the Trustworthiness and Justice of God, the kind of Justice that reaches out to the poor and weak, enabling them to fight against injustice.

In the first reading, Moses, after sending Joshua to fight against Amalek, is described as tirelessly interceding with unwavering dedication for the victory of Israel's army. Both Moses and the widow in today's Gospel story teach us how to pray with trusting faith and perseverance.

By introducing the parable of the unjust judge and the persistent widow in today's Gospel, Jesus emphasizes the "necessity of praying always and not losing heart." Constancy in prayer is Faith in action.

In today's Gospel, Jesus presents the widow as a model of the trust and tenacity with which His disciples are to pray. The widow was asking for something that God would certainly want for



her—justice. Thus, we need to combine formal prayers with active prayer.

It is best to start our prayers by reading from the Bible, especially the Psalms and the Gospels.

Formal, memorized, and liturgical prayers are also

essential for a meaningful prayer life. And personal prayer is very important as well. Talking to God in our own words; i.e., praising Him, thanking Him, and presenting our needs, to Him, transforms our whole life into prayer.

We should improve our prayer life by pausing during our work to bring ourselves into God's presence several times a day, and by offering all that we are, have, and do to Him.

Together with formal and memorized prayers, this kind of prayer life helps us to pray always and to pray with consistency and trusting perseverance. But we should not expect to get everything we pray for. This parable does not imply that God gives a blank check, guaranteeing whatever we want, whenever we want it, and in the form we ask for. We often forget that a loving father sometimes has to refuse a child's request because he knows that what the child asks for would hurt more than help (e.g., a knife).

God is like that. He knows what to give, when to give it, and how to give it. Only God sees the whole picture of time, and therefore, only God knows what is truly good for us in the long run.

That is why Jesus said we must never be discouraged in prayer. Instead, we should leave the answer to God's decision, saying, "Thy will be done." Sincere and persistent prayer prepares us to accept His will.

October—The Month of the Holy Rosary

Schedule Change

While **Fr. Joseph** is on vacation, there will be no weekday Masses from **Monday, October 6th, through Wednesday, November 12th.**

Fr. Joe Reeves will cover all the weekend Masses and Saturday confessions during this time.

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Saints Carnival



Candy donations are now being accepted until **October 23rd** for the Saints Carnival, which is for our Religious Ed students on **October 29th.** Thank you!

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All Souls Day

All Souls Day envelopes will be in the Narthex to turn in on **November 1st and 2nd.** Please fill out an envelope for your Mass intention for your loved ones.



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Annual Christmas Bazaar



Have you heard about . . .

- ◆ Nancy's Pepper Jam,
- ◆ Diane's Cinnamon Rolls
- ◆ Cathy's Aprons, and
- ◆ Amy's Cards?

This is your chance to enjoy these and other wonderful crafts and treats firsthand. While you're there, plan to stay for lunch (or take it to go) for just \$10, which includes an enchilada, a tamale, chips & salsa, and a homemade dessert.

Save the date for **Saturday, November 8th, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with lunch served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Raffles

A Nativity was donated for a raffle to raise money for books during the Advent season. The set is a Lenox "The Nativity," a bisque, bone China set from the 1980s. It 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. Raffle tickets cost \$10. In addition, there is a chance to win a 50-inch VIZIO Smart TV. Tickets are \$20 each.

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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3rd Annual St Joseph's Thanksgiving



Fr. Joseph is hosting our 3rd Annual Thanksgiving Dinner for our parishioners on **November 27th.** If you aren't

going away, have a large family gathering, or are alone, you are welcome. We don't want anyone to be alone on Thanksgiving. **There's no charge, but we do need to know by November 18th** if you can attend so we can prepare enough food. Please contact **Darlene** at the Parish Office: (541) 447-6475 or stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com.

Celebrate with your parish family!

SAVE THE DATES

There's so much to celebrate in the coming months!

- ◆ October 29—Saints Carnival
- ◆ November 8—Christmas Bazaar
- ◆ November 16—Party for Fr. Joseph's 41st Ordination Anniversary
- ◆ November 23—Acolyte Installation and Potluck with Bishop Thomas Hennen
- ◆ November 27—3rd Annual Thanksgiving Dinner