

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

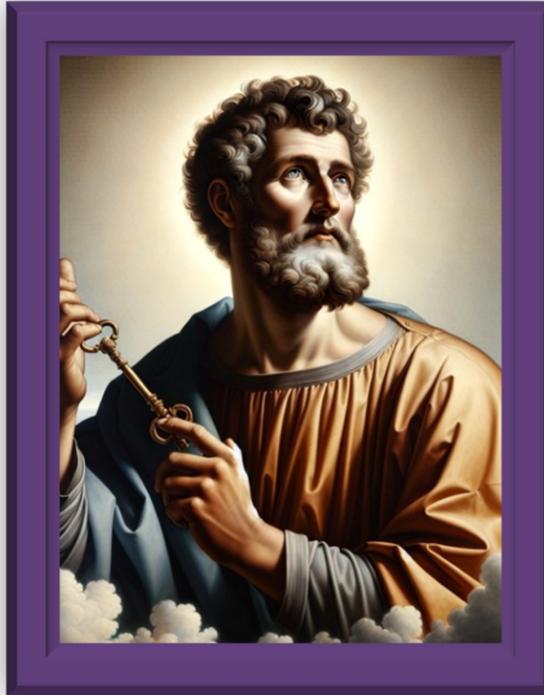
St. Peter, also called Simon Peter, was among Jesus's Twelve Apostles and is acknowledged as the first pope and a key founder of Christianity, which we have just received, all around us by our Spirit-filled lives.

St. Peter was originally named Simon bar Jonah and was born in Bethsaida, a fishing village on the Sea of Galilee. He was a fisherman, working with his brother, Andrew.

Jesus chose him as a disciple and named him "Peter," meaning "rock" in Greek, to signify the important role he would have in establishing the Church.

Peter is often depicted as the leader of the apostles and played a crucial role in the early Christian community. He is known for his boldness and leadership, being the first to proclaim Jesus as the Messiah.

After Jesus's resurrection, Peter became a prominent figure in spreading the Gospel and performing miracles, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles.



Tradition holds that Peter was martyred in Rome under Emperor Nero at around AD 64.

He is said to have been crucified upside down because he felt unworthy to die in the same manner as Jesus.

St. Peter's significance extends well beyond his life. He is considered the first pope, establishing a line of papal succession in the Roman Catholic Church.

His teachings and leadership laid the groundwork for the Church's development, and he is often depicted in

art holding the keys to heaven, symbolizing his role in the Church.

St. Peter's life and contributions continue to inspire Christians around the world, reminding them of the importance of faith, leadership, and the call to serve others in the name of Christ.

Peter's main feast day is June 29th, but he is also commemorated on February 22nd, and November 18th. He is honored as the Patron Saint of popes, fishermen, and netmakers.

—*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 ♦ Chuck Renwick ♦ 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 ♦ Tara Lamb  
Julian Gomez ♦ Vanessa Ortega ♦ Mary Ellen Schiedler ♦ Carolyn Ausborn

## St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

March 1, 2026 † 2nd Sunday of Lent

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 fellowship 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](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	03/02/2026	8:00 am	Keaton & Kinley Kurtz (L)	Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday	03/03/2026	8:00 am	Maurice Gerke (D)	Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday	03/04/2026	12:00 pm	Joan Gerke (D)	Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28
Thursday	03/05/2026	8:00 am	Darren Holliday (D)	Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31
Friday	03/06/2026	12:00 pm	Gloria Wilcox (D)	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday	03/07/2026	5:00 pm	Rafael Villagomez (D)	Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42
Sunday	03/08/2026	9:00 am	St Joseph Parishioners (L)	Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42
Sunday	03/08/2026	12:00 pm	Eustolia Lopez Ortiz (D)	Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42

(L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

## Today's Homily—Second Sunday of Lent

**THE COMMON THEME** of today's readings is metamorphosis or transformation. The readings invite us to work, with the assistance of the Holy Spirit, to transform and renew our lives during Lent, so that we may radiate the glory and grace of the transfigured Lord.

**The first reading** describes the transformation of a pagan patriarch into a believer in the one God. His name will be transformed from Abram to Abraham and his small family into a great nation. All Abram has to do is to obey the Lord God's command, and he does so.

**The second reading**, taken from St. Paul's second letter to Timothy, explains the type of Lenten transformation expected of us. We are transformed when we recognize the hand of a loving, providing, and disciplining God behind all our hardships, pain, and suffering, and try our best to grow in holiness by cooperating with the grace of God given to us through Jesus and His Gospel.

**In the Transfiguration story in today's Gospel**, Jesus is revealed as a glorious figure, superior to Moses and Elijah. The primary purpose of Jesus' Transfiguration was to allow Jesus to consult His Heavenly Father in order to ascertain His plan for His Son's suffering, death, and Resurrection. The secondary aim was to make his chosen disciples aware of Jesus' Divine glory, so that they might discard their worldly ambitions and their dreams of Him as a conquering political Messiah, and that they might be strengthened in their time of trial.

On the mountain, Jesus is identified out of the cloud by the Heavenly Voice (God the Father), as "My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased!"

On Jesus, the Holy Spirit would also descend as a dove, confirming for John (Jesus' Precursor and Baptizer), the identity of his cousin, Jesus of Nazareth, as the Promised Messiah, as John publicly proclaimed.

Thus, the Transfiguration narrative is a Christophany; that is, a manifestation or revelation of who Jesus really is.

Describing Jesus' Transfiguration, the Gospel gives us a glimpse of the Heavenly glory awaiting those who



do God's will by putting their trusting faith in Him, as today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 33) encourages us to do.

The Transubstantiation in the Holy Mass is the source of our strength. In each Holy Mass, our offering of bread and wine becomes the Body and Blood of Jesus under the appearances of bread and wine.

Hence, just as the Transfiguration of Jesus strengthened the Apostles in their time of trial, each Holy Mass should be our source of

Heavenly strength for resisting evil when the evil one incites us to disobey the will of God—and to choose to serve ourselves as gods, turning our backs on God, rejecting His Love, Grace and Salvation—and then yielding ourselves more completely to the evil one's ways and lies.

The Holy Mass, then, is the best defense against the barrages of temptations because it provides us with an inexhaustible source of grace for renewing our lives during Lent and of strengthened protection against temptations at repeated attacks of the evil one.

In addition, it should be a source of daily transformation of both our minds and hearts, enabling us to see Jesus in every one of our brothers and sisters with whom we come in contact each day.

Each Sacrament that we receive transforms us. Baptism, for example, transforms us into sons and daughters of God and heirs of heaven. Confirmation makes us the temples of the Holy Spirit. By the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God brings the sinner back to the path of holiness. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, received in Faith, gains for the recipient complete spiritual healing, forgiveness for all our sins, and whatever kind of physical healing God knows will be best for us at that time.

It is a message of hope and encouragement. In moments of doubt, pain, suffering, disappointment, and despair, we need mountain-top experiences to reach out to God and listen to His consoling words:

**"This is my beloved son/daughter in whom I am well pleased."**

Our Lenten penance will lead us to Easter joy.

## March—The Month of St. Joseph



### Lenten Schedule

- ◆ Stations of the Cross, Friday Nights at 6 p.m., from February 20th, through March 27th
- ◆ Lenten Penance, Wednesday, March 18th, at 6 p.m.
- ◆ Chrism Mass in Baker City, Thursday, March 26th, at 11 a.m.
- ◆ Palm Sunday, March 29th, Mass at 9 a.m.; Spanish Mass at 12 p.m.
- ◆ Holy Thursday, April 2nd, at 6 p.m.
- ◆ Good Friday, April 3rd, Stations of the Cross at 3 p.m., Passion Service and Veneration of the Cross at 6 p.m.
- ◆ Holy Saturday, April 4th, Easter Vigil Mass at 7 p.m.
- ◆ Easter Sunday, April 5th, Mass at 9 a.m.; Spanish Mass at 12 p.m.

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### Soup Supper Schedule

Fridays in the Parish Hall, after Stations of the Cross, there will be a soup supper hosted by the following:



- March 6th — Acolytes
- March 13th — Prolife
- March 20th — Religious Education
- March 27th — Knights of Columbus

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### Annual Ham Dinner

Please join us on March 22nd this year for our traditional Ham Dinner in the Parish Hall, served from Noon to 4 p.m. Ticket prices are as follows: Adults are \$20, and children ages 6–12 are \$12. A family pass for two adults and two children is \$65, and both are sold at the door. Take-out meals are \$20 each.

This year, we are offering **pre-sale tickets at a reduced rate** of \$18 for adults and \$10 for children, or a family pass for two adults and two children for \$55.

**Tickets may be purchased at the Parish Office after March 1st.**

### Book Club

Our next book club selection is "Jesus, the Master Psychologist," by Ray Guarendi. Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 10th, at 6 p.m., in Classroom 4.**

Please come prepared to discuss and share your insights on this book. We'll also select the books for the upcoming months at this meeting. We're excited to see everyone for an engaging and respectful discussion.

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### Easter Egg Hunt

Join us for an Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, March 28th, at 11 a.m. on the Parish lawn.** Bring the kids to participate in the egg hunt and enjoy egg-dyeing in the Parish Hall.

We look forward to everyone coming together to enjoy the day.

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### College Freshman Scholarship

**Bishop Hennen** and The Legacy of Faith Foundation, on behalf of the **Canney Family**, are seeking a High School Senior with a GPA of 2.0 or higher who requires financial assistance to attend college or trade school.

The approximate value is \$2,500 per year for up to two years. Applications are due by **Tuesday, March 31st!**

The candidate must be a practicing Catholic in good standing with a Priest's reference.

For more information and application, go to the website: [legacyoffaithccf.org/resources](http://legacyoffaithccf.org/resources) (under the CANNEY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP banner) or send an email to **Mark French** at: [Mark@DioceseofBaker.org](mailto:Mark@DioceseofBaker.org).

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### Message from Bishop Hennen

**Bishop Hennen** has begun a feasibility study throughout the tri-county area to assess the possibility of a new Catholic High School in Central Oregon. It would serve students from Deschutes, Crook, and Jefferson counties. Please scan the QR Code to see the website for the proposed Catholic High School, Xavier Prep.

In the coming weeks, we will conduct surveys and focus groups, which will help complete the study. It is important that we get as many responses as possible, and the Bishop asks for your participation. Please share this with other families! Thank you!

