

Fr. Joseph's Corner "St. Isadore, the Farmer"

Isidore was born in Madrid around 1070 or 1082 to poor, devout parents and was christened Isidore after their patron, St. Isidore of Seville. Isidore spent his life as a hired hand for the wealthy Madrilenian landowner Juan de Vargas on a farm near the city.

Isidore married Maria Torribia, known in Spain as Santa María de la Cabeza; she has never been canonized. Isidore and Maria had one son. On one occasion, their son fell into a deep well, and at the parents' prayers, the water of the well is said to have risen miraculously to the level of the ground, bringing the child with it. In thanksgiving, Isidore and Maria then vowed sexual abstinence and lived in separate houses. Their son later died in his youth. Isidore died on May 15, 1130 at his birthplace near Madrid, although the only official source records his death in 1172.

In the morning, before going to work, Isidore would usually attend Mass at one of the churches in Madrid. One day, his fellow farm workers complained to their master that Isidore was always late for work in the morning.

Upon investigation, the master found Isidore at prayer while an angel was plowing for him. On another occasion, his master saw an angel plowing on either side of him, so that Isidore's work was equal to that of three of his fellow field workers. Isidore is also said to have brought his master's deceased daughter back to life and to have caused a fountain of fresh water to burst from the dry earth to quench his master's thirst.

One snowy day, on his way to the mill with wheat to be ground, he passed a flock of wood pigeons scratching in vain for food on the hard, frosty ground. Taking pity on the poor animals, he poured half of his sack of precious wheat onto the ground for the birds, despite the witnesses'



mockery. When he reached the mill, however, the bag was full, and the wheat, when it was ground, produced twice the expected amount of flour.

Isidore's wife, Maria, always kept a pot of stew on the hearth in their humble home because Isidore often brought home anyone hungry. One day, he brought home more hungry people than usual. After she served many of them, Maria told him there was no more stew left in the pot, but he insisted that she check the pot again, and she was able to spoon out enough stew to feed them all.

The number of miracles attributed to him has been counted as 438. The only source of hagiography on him is a 14th-century codex called *Códice de Juan Diácono*, which relates five of his miracles: 1) The pigeons and the grain, 2) The angels plowing, 3) The saving of his donkey through prayer from a wolf attack, 4) The account of his wife's pot of food, and 5) A similar account of his feeding the brotherhood.

The codex also attests to the incorruptible state of his body, stating it was exhumed 40 years after his death.

His feast day is celebrated on May 15th in the Catholic Church.

St. Isidore is widely venerated as the patron saint of farmers, of peasants, of day laborers, and of agriculture in general, as well as of bricklayers.

The story of St. Isidore is a reminder of the dignity of work and of how ordinary life can lead to holiness.

"Legends about angel helpers and mysterious oxen indicate that his work was not neglected, and his duties did not go unfulfilled." St. Isidore's life demonstrates that: "If you have your spiritual self in order, your earthly commitments will fall into order also."

—Prayerful Wishes, Fr. Joseph

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

April 19, 2026 † 3rd Sunday of Easter—Year A

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

Pastor: fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com / 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 GENACLE 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	04/20/2026	8:00 a.m.	Augustus Minjares (D)	Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday	04/21/2026	8:00 a.m.	Reynaldo Perez Reyes (D)	Acts 7:51-8:1a; Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday	04/22/2026	4:00 p.m.	Ruth Ralls (D)	Acts 8:1b-8; Jn 6:35-40
Thursday	04/23/2026	8:00 a.m.	Mike McCabe (D)	Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51
Friday	04/24/2026	12:00 p.m.	Leigh Overton (L)	Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59
Saturday	04/25/2026	5:00 p.m.	Mark Luckey (L)	Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10
Sunday	04/26/2026	9:00 a.m.	Mike McCabe (D)	Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10
Sunday	04/26/2026	12:00 p.m.	St. Joseph Parishioners (L)	Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Pt 2:20b-25; Jn 10:1-10

(L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

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 ♦ Peggy Holtz ♦ Michael Kuenzi ♦ Mary Ellen Marquez ♦ Barbara Hopla
Gilbert Marquez ♦ Sam LeFevre and the LeFevre family ♦ Joanie Holland ♦ Tara Lamb
Julian Gomez ♦ Vanessa Ortega ♦ Mary Ellen Schiedler ♦ Carolyn Ausborn

Today's Homily—Gospel of Luke 24:13-35

TODAY'S GOSPEL PRESENTS one of the most beautiful and human stories in all of Scripture—the journey of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus.

They are walking away from Jerusalem. That detail is important. Jerusalem is the place of hope, the place where they had placed all their trust

in Jesus. But now, after His crucifixion, they are leaving. They are disappointed, confused, even broken.

They say it clearly: “We were hoping . . .” Not *we hope*, but *we were hoping*. Their hope is in the past.

And if we are honest, we have all walked that same road at some point in our lives.

We walk the road of disappointment when prayers seem unanswered.

We walk the road of confusion when life does not turn out the way we expected. We walk the road of sorrow when we experience loss, failure, or suffering.

Like those disciples, we sometimes walk away—not necessarily physically, but spiritually. We drift. We lose clarity. We lose hope.

But the Gospel tells us something very powerful: Jesus comes and walks with them—even when they are walking in the wrong direction.

They do not recognize Him. Their eyes are prevented from seeing. Why? Because they are overwhelmed—by grief, by doubt, by their own expectations of how God should act.

And yet, Jesus does not abandon them. Instead, He listens.

“What are you discussing as you walk along?”

He invites them to speak, to pour out their hearts. God is never afraid of our questions, our doubts, or even our disappointments.

Then Jesus begins to explain the Scriptures. He helps them understand that suffering was not the end, but part of God's plan. That the cross was not a failure, but the path to glory. And slowly, something begins to change. They later say, “Were not our hearts burning within us?”

That is the first sign of resurrection: a heart that begins to burn again with hope.



My dear friends, this is what happens every time we truly listen to the Word of God.

The Word is not just information, it is transformation. It rekindles faith. It awakens hope. But the story does not end there.

When they reach Emmaus, Jesus makes as if to go on.

He does not force Himself. He is waiting for an invitation. And then they say those beautiful words: “Stay with us.”

That simple invitation changes everything.

He enters their home, sits at the table, takes bread, blesses it, breaks it, and gives it to them. And in that moment—the breaking of the bread—their eyes are opened. They recognize Him. This is not just a story of the past. This is *our* story, every Sunday at Mass.

First, Jesus walks with us in the Word.

Then, He reveals Himself in the breaking of the bread—the Eucharist.

Sometimes we do not recognize Him right away. Sometimes our faith feels weak, our hearts heavy.

But He is there—speaking, guiding, feeding us.

And once they recognize Him, what happens? They do not stay in Emmaus. Even though it is night, even though the road is long, they immediately return to Jerusalem. The same road they walked in sadness, they now walk with joy. That is the power of encountering the risen Christ: it turns us around.

From despair to hope. From confusion to clarity. From fear to mission.

They become witnesses.

MY DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS, the message for us today is simple but profound: If you feel like you are walking away—Jesus is already walking with you.

If your hope feels lost—He is ready to rekindle it. If your eyes are clouded—He will open them. If your heart is heavy—He will make it burn again.

But like the disciples, we must do our part: We must listen to His Word.

We must invite Him to stay.

April—The Month of the Blessed Sacrament

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH, is the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**. Everyone is invited to join in a **Holy Hour from 3 to 4 p.m.** to pray for the clergy and religious serving our Diocese, and to pray for an increase of religious and priestly vocations in our diocese and the world.

If you cannot attend in person, please join us spiritually from wherever you are.

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1st Holy Communion



The ceremony will be on **SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH**, at the **9 a.m. Mass**.

Fr. Joseph will hear confessions on the morning of **APRIL 25TH, AT 9 A.M.** Parents are welcome.

Dress Code: Girls will wear white dresses, and boys will wear black slacks, a white shirt, and black ties.

Everyone is welcome to a Reception in the Parish Hall to celebrate these students after Mass.

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Pastoral Council

There will be a **Pastoral Council meeting on TUESDAY, APRIL 28TH**, at 4 p.m., in the Parish Hall.

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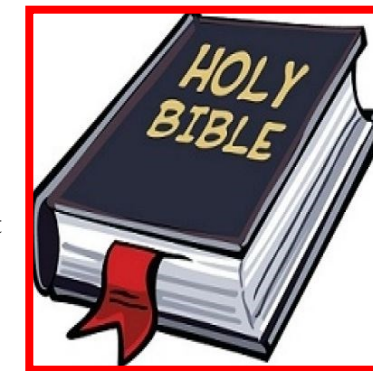
Religious Education News

We have many upcoming changes in our department—**several volunteer teaching positions need to be filled**.

There are some requirements you must meet before you can take the position. You will need to watch a video and pass a background check.

The classes are being held on **Wednesdays from 3 to 5 p.m.**

Please inquire at the Parish Hall after 3 p.m. or call **Barb Dalton** at (541) 410-3720.



—Thank you!

Día de los Niños (Kids' Day)

We are excited to invite you to a **Día de los Niños (Kids' Day) celebration on APRIL 30TH, FROM 5:30 TO 7 P.M. at Barnes Butte Elementary School**.

This event brings families together for an evening of fun, culture, and connection.

Families can also visit community resource booths and learn more about the support and services available to them. Activities include Folkloric Dancing, Piñatas, Lotería, Prizes, Snacks, and Soccer: Kids vs. Parents.

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50+ Wedding Anniversary



St. Joseph Church is honoring couples who have been married for 50 years or more.

On **Sunday, MAY 3RD, AFTER THE 11 A.M. BILINGUAL MASS**, there will be a luncheon and celebration. If you were married in 1976 or earlier—or if you need more details, please contact **Nancy Redfern** at (541) 508-9872.

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Worldwide Marriage Encounter

“I have come so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.” Live your married lives “more abundantly” by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience from **FRIDAY, MAY 1ST, THROUGH SUNDAY, MAY 3RD, in Beaverton, OR**.

To apply for your WWME Experience or to search for other dates, go to rediscoverthepark.org.

For information about WWME, call (503) 704-0836, or send an email to: reservations@rediscoverthepark.org.

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Ham Dinner

With sincere gratitude, we thank our Annual Ham Dinner Committee and volunteers for sharing your time and talents. Your service reflects the spirit of generosity and fellowship that strengthens our parish. The net proceeds and donations resulted in **\$3,682.54** in income for St. Joseph Parish.

—May God bless you for all you do, Roy Beyer