

Fr. Joseph's Corner "St. Joseph the Worker"

St. Joseph, the beloved spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the earthly father of Jesus, is celebrated twice each year by the Catholic Church—first on March 19th for the feast of St. Joseph, husband of Mary, and again on May 1st for the feast of St. Joseph the Worker. While the saint's March feast dates to the 10th Century, his May feast wasn't instituted until 1955. Pope Pius XII established the feast of St. Joseph the Worker on May 1, 1955, to coincide with International Workers Day, also known as May Day—a secular celebration of labor and workers' rights. He chose the date specifically to ensure that workers did not lose the Christian understanding of work.



In his address to the Catholic Association of Italian Workers on that day in 1955, Pius XII said: "There could not be a better protector to help you penetrate the spirit of the Gospel into your life. . . . From the Heart of the Man—God, Savior of the world, this spirit flows into you and into all men; but, certainly, no worker has ever been as perfectly and deeply penetrated by it as the putative Father of Jesus, who lived with Him in the closest intimacy and commonality of family and work."

He added: "So, if you want to be close to Christ, we also repeat to you today, *Ite ad Ioseph!* ("Go to Joseph!")"

The Catholic Church has long emphasized the dignity of human work. By working, we fulfill the commands in the Book of Genesis to care for the earth and be productive in our labors.

In his encyclical, *Laborem Exercens*, Pope John Paul II wrote that, "The Church considers it her task always to

call attention to the dignity and rights of those who work, to condemn situations in which that dignity and those rights are violated, and to help guide [social] changes to ensure authentic progress for man and society."

St. Joseph is considered a role model in this, as he worked tirelessly to protect and provide for his family while striving to listen to and obey God.

Even before this feast was instituted, many popes had begun promoting devotion to St. Joseph the Worker. One of them was Pope Leo XIII, who addressed the subject in his 1889 encyclical, *Quamquam Pluries*. He wrote: "Joseph became the guardian, the administrator,

and the legal defender of the divine house whose chief he was. And during the whole course of his life, he fulfilled those charges and those duties. He set himself to protect with a mighty love and a daily solicitude his spouse and the Divine Infant; regularly by his work he earned what was necessary for the one and the other for nourishment and clothing; he guarded from death the Child threatened by a monarch's jealousy, and found for Him a refuge; in the miseries of the journey and in the bitterness's of exile he was ever the companion, the assistance, and the upholder of the Virgin and of Jesus."

In addition to being the patron of the Universal Church and of workers in general, St. Joseph is also the patron saint of several professions, including craftsmen, carpenters, accountants, attorneys, bursars, cabinetmakers, cemetery workers, civil engineers, confectioners, educators, furniture makers, wheelwrights, and lawyers.

—*Prayerful Wishes, Fr. Joseph*

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

May 3, 2026 † 5th Sunday of Easter

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](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 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	05/04/2026	8:00 a.m.	Diana Johnson (L)	Acts 14:5-18; Jn 14:1-12
Tuesday	05/05/2026	8:00 a.m.	Sami Pedersen (D)	Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday	05/06/2026	12:00 p.m.	Stephen Dalton (L)	Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8
Thursday	05/07/2026	8:00 a.m.	George Colovos (D)	Acts 15:7-21; Jn 15:9-11
Friday	05/08/2026	12:00 p.m.	Rodolfo Perez Reyes (D)	Acts 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17
Saturday	05/09/2026	5:00 p.m.	Ron Lattin (D)	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Pt 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21
Sunday	05/10/2026	9:00 a.m.	Kathie Leonard (D)	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Pt 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21
Sunday	05/10/2026	12:00 p.m.	Parishioners of St Joseph (L)	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Pt 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21

(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—John 14:1-12

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,

Today, on this Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A, the Gospel gives us beautiful and comforting words from Jesus: “Do not let your hearts be troubled.”

These words were spoken at the Last Supper, just before Jesus would suffer and die. The disciples were confused, afraid, and uncertain about the future. Yet Jesus speaks peace to them. And He speaks the same peace to us today.

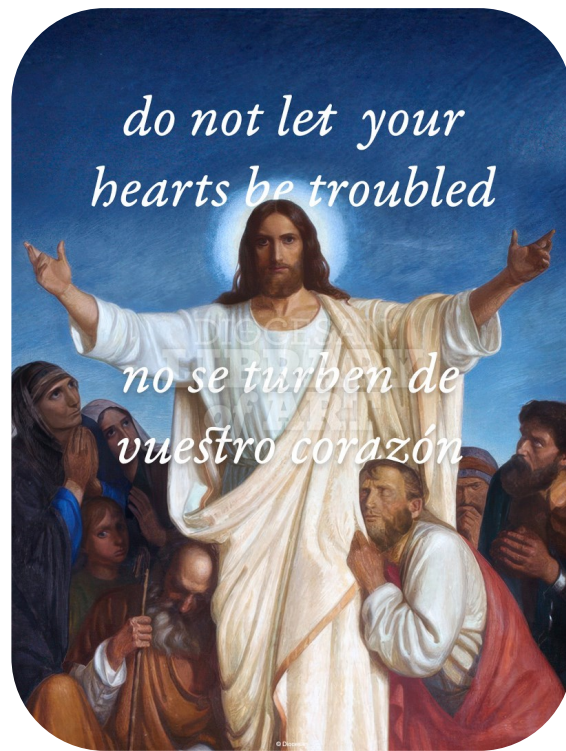
How often our hearts are troubled, too. We worry about family, health, finances, the future of our children, the troubles of the world, even the burdens we carry silently inside. Jesus knows this. That is why He says: Do not let your hearts be troubled. Have faith in God; have faith also in me.

Notice that Jesus does not say there will be no troubles. He does not promise a life without crosses. Instead, He promises His presence in the middle of our troubles. Faith does not remove every storm, but it gives us an anchor during the storm.

Then Jesus says something very beautiful: “In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.” These words remind us that heaven is our true home. This world is not the end of the story. We are pilgrims on a journey. Sometimes we become too attached to this world, as if this life is everything. But Jesus reminds us that He has gone ahead to prepare a place for us.

What a comforting truth! Every act of love, every prayer, every sacrifice, every tear offered to God is leading us toward that eternal home. For those grieving the loss of loved ones, these words bring hope.

For those tired of life’s burdens, these words bring strength. Our destination is not darkness, but the Father’s house.



Then Thomas asks a question many of us would ask: “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?”

Jesus answers with one of the most important statements in the Gospel: “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.”

Jesus does not simply show the way. He *is* the way. To follow Jesus is to walk the right path. In a world with many voices, many confusions, many false promises, Jesus remains the true way.

He *is* the truth. Truth today is often treated as opinion. But truth is not just an idea—it is a person—Jesus Christ. If we stay

close to Him, we will not lose ourselves.

He *is* the life. Many people exist, but few truly live. Real life comes when Christ lives in us—through prayer, through the Eucharist, through love, through forgiveness.

So today the message is clear: When your heart is troubled—trust Jesus. When you feel lost—follow Jesus. When you are confused—listen to Jesus. When you feel empty—receive the life of Jesus. When you see someone in need—serve them in the name of Jesus.

Perhaps some of us today feel anxious about the future. Perhaps some carry grief. Perhaps some feel distant from God. Hear again the voice of Christ: “Do not let your hearts be troubled.”

He has not abandoned you. He is preparing a place for you. He walks beside you now. And He leads you home.

As we continue this Mass, we come to the altar where Jesus gives Himself to us in the Eucharist. The One who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life comes to strengthen us.

Let us ask for the grace this week to trust Him more deeply, to follow Him more faithfully, and to serve Him more generously.

May—The Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1st Holy Communion



Congratulations!

Seven wonderful children took on **Fr. Joseph’s** challenge to attend Mass every week throughout the school year, and as a result, they’ve earned \$100!

- ★ VICTOR GOMEZ ★
- ★ JULIAN GOMEZ ★
- ★ DAMIAN AMBRIZ ★
- ★ BRISEYDA REYES ★
- ★ ANNELISE SANCHEZ ★
- ★ MAGGIE SANCHEZ ★
- ★ XIMENA TOLEDO ★

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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.

Classes are 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!

Bishop’s Annual Appeal (BAA)

This week marks the launch of the BAA: “A Future of Hope.” Your generosity makes vital diocesan and parish programs possible for our community. By supporting the BAA, you help build vibrant families, a faith-filled community, and a stronger parish now and for the future. For details, visit dioceseofbaker.org/bishops-annual-appeal.

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Pro Life News

The Pregnancy Resource Center of Central Oregon (PRCCO) is in need of volunteers at its Redmond, Bend, Prineville, and Madras offices! Volunteer Opportunities: Receptionist, Client Advocate, Boutique, Cleaning, Fatherhood Coach, and more! Visit www.prcco.org to find out more information.

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Seasonal Job Opening

A seasonal, part-time, groundskeeping assistant position is open at the Diocese of Baker Retreat Center in Powell Butte. This is a great summer position for a young college student! Duties include mowing, trimming, and irrigation.

Please contact **Joe Graziano** at (503) 887-2939 or send an email to him at: joe@dioceseofbaker.org.