

Fr. Joseph's Corner "St. Justin"

ST. JUSTIN, MARTYR, also known as Justin the Philosopher, was a prominent figure in the early Christian Church. He was born around 100 in Nablus, Palestine.

Raised in a pagan family, he studied at various philosophical schools and became known for his keen intellect and philosophical insights.

At the age of 30, Justin underwent a profound conversion to Christianity. It is said that this conversion occurred through his encounter with Scripture and his witnessing of the incredible faith and heroism of the Christian martyrs. Inspired by their example, Justin decided to dedicate his life to defending and explaining the Christian faith. With his philosophical and oratorical skills, he embarked on a mission to debate pagans about Christian beliefs. He aimed to demonstrate the rationality and truth of Christianity, hoping to convert skeptics and challenge the prevailing pagan ideologies of the time.

His eloquence and persuasive arguments made him one of the first great Christian apologists. To advance his mission, Justin established a school of public debate in Rome, Italy. The school served as a forum for intellectuals and seekers to discuss Christianity, its teachings, and its relationship to philosophy and other belief systems.

Justin sought to present Christianity as a philosophy that not only encompassed the deepest truths of



existence but also addressed the ultimate questions of human life.

As Justin's influence grew, and his public debates attracted attention, he became known as an advocate for reason and faith. However, his initiatives also drew the attention of the authorities, who viewed his Christian teachings as a threat. Justin's fearless articulation of the Christian message eventually led to his arrest.

In 165, Justin was brought before the Roman authorities. Despite his eloquent defense, he was condemned to death for refusing to renounce his Christian faith.

The unholy instruments of his martyrdom were a sword and an ax, symbolizing his courage and integrity in the face of persecution. He was beheaded for his unwavering commitment to Christ.

After his martyrdom, Justin's relics were enshrined in the Capuchin church in Rome, Italy. His feast day is celebrated annually on June 1st. Recognized as a profound thinker, Justin was canonized.

Today, St. Justin is venerated as a patron of apologists, lecturers, orators, philosophers, and Catholic teachers. His life and writings continue to inspire and guide those who seek to defend and articulate the truths of the Christian faith. His legacy as one of the first great Christian apologists remains an invaluable contribution to the Church's intellectual and spiritual development.

—*Prayerful Wishes, Fr. Joseph*

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

June 7, 2026 † Corpus Christi Sunday

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	06/08/2026	8:00 a.m.	—No Mass—	1 Kgs 17:1-6; Mt 5:1-12
Tuesday	06/09/2026	8:00 a.m.	—No Mass—	1 Kgs 17:7-16; Mt 5:13-16
Wednesday	06/10/2026	4:00 p.m.	—No Mass—	1 Kgs 18:20-39; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday	06/11/2026	8:00 a.m.	—No Mass—	Acts 11:21b, 13:1-3; Mt 5:20-26
Friday	06/12/2026	12:00 p.m.	—No Mass—	Dt 7:6-11; 1 Jn 4:7-16; Mt 11:25-30
Saturday	06/13/2026	5:00 p.m.	Clint Giovanini (D)	Ex 19:2-6a; Rom 5:6-11; Mt 9:36-10:8
Sunday	06/14/2026	9:00 a.m.	St Joseph Parishioners (L)	Ex 19:2-6a; Rom 5:6-11; Mt 9:36-10:8
Sunday	06/14/2026	12:00 p.m.	Gilberto Lopez-Sanchez (D)	Ex 19:2-6a; Rom 5:6-11; Mt 9:36-10:8

(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 ♦ Barbara Hopla ♦ Sam LeFevre and the LeFevre family
Joanie Holland ♦ Tara Lamb ♦ Mary Ellen Schiedler ♦ Carolyn Ausborn ♦ Kerry Loving

Today's Homily—The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.

It is easy to imagine the wheels turning in the minds of that first audience: “Wait, what? Did he just say what I think he said?”

And then, just to make sure he was being clear, Jesus says: ***Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.***

It is possible that our familiarity with this passage can lead us to gloss over what a bold statement this must have seemed to his original hearers—and still to many today. Eat a man's flesh; drink his blood? How can this *man* say this?

First, Jesus can say this and do this because He is no ordinary man. From an ordinary man, these words would indeed seem crazy. But as Peter confesses a few verses later in this same chapter, and as we today echo: ***We have come to believe and are convinced that You [Jesus] are the Holy One of God.***

At every Mass, we profess that Jesus is the Son of God, the Word made flesh. He is the one through whom all things came into being and in whom all things exist. In Him, the second person of the Holy Trinity dwelt among us; through Him, our human nature was redeemed, recon-



ciled to the Father, and freed from the slavery of sin and death. He is the risen one who now stands before the throne of God, interceding on our behalf.

And He is the one who gives us His flesh and blood on the altar for us to partake and become

one with Him, and through Him, one with each other.

But the words flesh and blood are vivid, and it is understandable if we sometimes find ourselves a bit confused about what Jesus meant.

We know Jesus didn't mean we should become cannibals or vampires. We also know that He didn't mean that the bread was just a symbol meant to remind us of Him in some vague way.

Just as we have come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, we have come to believe—to know—that the same risen Christ is truly and substantially present in the consecrated bread and wine.

The words flesh and blood, together with soul and divinity, speak to the fullness of who Christ is, the fullness of who it is we receive—**The King of kings and Lord of lords**, who humbled Himself to take on human flesh, who humbles Himself to come to us in the simple gifts of bread and wine—becoming one with us. What a gift!

As we celebrate this great Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, let us receive this sacrament with gratitude and faith.

June—The Month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2026 CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

Schedule Change

Father Joseph is currently on vacation. During this time, there will be NO WEEKDAY MASSES. **Father Joe Reeves** will cover all weekend Masses.

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Book Club

Our meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 9th, at 6 p.m., in Room #4 in the Parish Hall.** Everyone is welcome to join us for an insightful discussion.

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Kermes

We will host a Food Festival on **Sunday, July 26th.** We look forward to everyone coming together to make this fundraiser a success. Stay tuned for more information about the first planning meeting. There will be many opportunities to get involved. It's not too soon to start thinking about what food items you can make to sell..

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Religious Education

Sacramental certificates will be available in the Narthex after each weekend Mass and in the parish office Monday through Thursday.

Save the Date

Join us on **Saturday, August 15th, in the Parish Hall** as we celebrate a special birthday for our cherished **Bob Leonard!**

Register Now for Diocesan Summer Camps

QUO VADIS DISCERNMENT CAMP: June 23rd to June 26th—9th–12th grade men (2026–27); 18–20 yrs welcome (18+ must be compliant with child safety policies)

BELOVED CAMP: July 20th to July 23rd—7th–12th grade women (2026–27); 16–20 yrs can apply as youth leaders (18+ must be compliant with child safety policies)

SEEKING HELP FOR BOTH CAMPS: Adult Chaperones (21+); Nurses/EMTs; Musicians. Please visit the diocese website at: dioceseofbaker.org for more information or to register.

Scholarships are available to all who would like to attend a camp at the Powell Butte Retreat Center.

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USCCB Regional Workshop

You are invited to join **Dominic Lombardi and Dr. Maria Parker** of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) on **Saturday, September 19th, at Our Lady of the Angels in Hermiston** for a Bilingual **Listen, Teach, Send Regional Workshop.** Sessions will be available in both Spanish and English. We look forward to seeing you for a beautiful day of prayer, reflection, and collaboration rooted in Christ with family, youth, and young adult ministry leaders from around the diocese and across Region 12. Please visit the dioceseofbaker.org for more information about the event, lodging options, and to register.