

Father Joseph's Corner

"St. James the Greater, Apostle"

Nothing is known of St. James the Greater's early life, although it has been established that he was the son of Zebedee and Salome and the brother of John the disciple.

The title, "the Greater," was added to St. James' name to help distinguish him from the Apostle James "the Less," who is believed to have been shorter than James "the Greater."

St. James the Greater was one of Jesus' first disciples. James was fishing with his father and John the Apostle when Jesus came to the shores of the Sea of Galilee and called to the fishermen, who had caught nothing that day, to dip their nets in the water once again.

When the fishermen followed Jesus' instructions, they found their nets full, and after emptying the fish on board, the boats nearly sank from their weight.

Later, James was one of only three called by Jesus to witness his Transfiguration, and when he and his brother wanted to call fire upon a Samaritan town, both were rebuked by Jesus.

Following Christ's Ascension, James spread the Gospel across Israel and the Roman kingdom as well. He traveled and spread the Word for nearly 40 years in Spain.

It is said that one day, as he prayed, The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him and asked him to build her a church, which he did.



Later, James returned to Jerusalem but was martyred for his faith by King Herod, who decapitated him.

St. James the Greater is known as the first apostle to die.

As he was not allowed to be buried following his martyrdom, his remains were taken to Compostela, Spain, by some of his followers, who buried him.

In the 9th Century, his remains were discovered and moved to a tomb in Santiago de Compostela. Today, his remains can still be found in the Cathedral of Santiago.

Because Santiago de Compostela is the most frequently visited place that pilgrims migrate to after

Rome and Jerusalem, Pope Leo XIII declared it a shrine.

James' courage and fidelity to Christ, even unto death, serve as an enduring example of zeal, faith, and perseverance. Pilgrims and believers honor his life by following the Camino de Santiago, reflecting on his witness to Christ, and on his role in the early Church. This journey has been a major pilgrimage route for more than a thousand years, reflecting both spiritual devotion and cultural heritage.

His feast day is July 25th.

St. James is the patron saint of pilgrims, soldiers, veterinarians, pharmacists, and of Spain.

—*Prayerful Wishes, Father 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 ♦ Peggy Holtz
Michael Kuenzi ♦ Barbara Hopla ♦ Sam LeFevre and the LeFevre family ♦ Joanie Holland ♦ Tara Lamb
Mary Ellen Schiedler ♦ Carolyn Ausborn ♦ Kerry Loving ♦ Robert Marquez ♦ Perla Marquez
Douglas Booster ♦ Emily Ruiz

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

July 12, 2026 † 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 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	07/13/2026	8:00 a.m.	Katie Fuller (D)	Is 1:10-17; Mt 10:34-11:1
Tuesday	07/14/2026	8:00 a.m.	Donna Maxine Doughtie (D)	Is 7:1-9; Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday	07/15/2026	12:00 p.m.	Dorice Ordway (D)	Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Mt 11:25-27
Thursday	07/16/2026	8:00 a.m.	Anne MacDonald (D)	Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Mt 11:28-30
Friday	07/17/2026	12:00 p.m.	Englin Rose Edgerly (L)	Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Mt 12:1-8
Saturday	07/18/2026	5:00 p.m.	Molly Mannenbuch (D)	Wis 12:13, 16-19; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43
Sunday	07/19/2026	9:00 a.m.	St. Joseph Parishioners (L)	Wis 12:13, 16-19; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43
Sunday	07/19/2026	12:00 p.m.	Nemoria Sanchez (D)	Wis 12:13, 16-19; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43

(L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

IN THE FIRST READING, Isaiah consoles the Jewish slaves in Babylon, assuring them that, like the rain and snow that water the earth, so seeds may sprout and grow.

God's word will accomplish His purpose—in this case by returning the exiles to their homes in peace, as God has promised.

IN THE SECOND READING, St. Paul reminds us that, just as seeds must fall into the earth and die to produce an abundant crop, the pain and suffering God permits in our lives work in us for our redemption.

Paul urges us to wait for our eternal reward while we continue to sow the word of God diligently and to suffer for the Lord, as he did.

TODAY'S GOSPEL teaches us that the word of the Lord is the seed, and our hearts and minds are the soil. The seed's good spiritual yield in one's life depends on how fully one willingly accepts and responds to the word of the Lord. The yield from a positive response will be abundant beyond all imagination.

The parable tells us to do our part by preparing fertile soil in our hearts, where the word of God can germinate, grow, and yield 30-, 60-, or 100-fold. We need to keep our spiritual soil free from weeds, and to keep it fertile, and well-prepared for the word of God:

First, we need to keep our hearts open to the word of God instead of closing it with pride, prejudice, fear, or laziness.

AMEN.

The Parable of the Sower

Matthew 13:1–23



Second, we also need to ask God's special grace to remove all types of blocks that harden our hearts, such as laziness, anxiety, worries, hatred, jealousy, prejudice, and the burden of unrepented or unconfessed sins—any of which can prevent the word of God from influencing and transforming our lives.

Third, we have to remove from our hearts the “weeds,” such as evil habits and addictions, evil tendencies, hatred, jealousy, fear, and greed.

Fourth, we should not allow the trials and tribulations of this world (the cares of this world, our ambitions, or our desires for worldly success and happiness) to choke out the messages that God gives through His word.

Lastly, we have to keep the soil of our hearts fertile through our prayer life, by repenting daily of our sins, receiving the sacrament of reconciliation when necessary, and receiving the spiritual food of the Holy Eucharist by participating in the Holy Mass.

When we receive Jesus, the Word of God, and the Source of the Word of God [Holy Scripture and Sacred Tradition], in Holy Communion, we need to ask Him to transform our lives so that we may see Jesus in all of us (for we are all brothers and sisters in Him) and share with each other Jesus' unconditional love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness.

July—The Month of the Precious Blood of Jesus

Book Club

The book club is excited to gather on **Tuesday, July 14th, at 6 p.m.** to chat about Brother Lawrence's *The Practice of the Presence of God*. We'll also have the fun of selecting our next read together. We warmly welcome everyone to join us!



Kermes/Food Festival

Our first Food Festival is on **Sunday, July 26th**. We look forward to everyone coming together to make this fundraiser a success. If you would like to donate a food item to sell or to volunteer, please contact **Darlene** in the Parish Office, or **Ruby** at (541) 350-8833 or **Yurizet** at (509) 910-6798.

- ◆ We're eager to avoid duplicate dishes, so if there's something you'd love to make, just reach out to us; we'd be happy to reserve it for you!
- ◆ We are trying to get a variety of food items to sell. Do you have a favorite? Maybe a family dish or a sweet treat?
- ◆ The next meeting will be on **Thursday, July 16th, at 6:30 p.m. in classroom 4.**

Celebraremos nuestro primer Festival de Comida el domingo, 26 de julio. Esperamos que todos nos unamos para que esta recaudación sea un éxito. Si desea donar un alimento para vender o ser voluntario, por favor contacte con Darlene en la oficina parroquial o con Ruby al (541) 350-8833 o con Yurizet al (509) 910-6798.

- ◆ Queremos evitar platos duplicados, así que si hay algo que os gustaría preparar, solo contactad con nosotros; ¡Estaremos encantados de reservarla para ti!
- ◆ Estamos intentando conseguir una variedad de alimentos para vender. ¿Tienes alguna favorita? ¿Quizá un plato familiar o un capricho?
- ◆ La próxima reunión será el **jueves 15 de julio a las 18:30 en el aula 4.**

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend is from **Friday, July 31st, to Sunday, August 2nd, in Beaverton**. To apply or to search for other dates, go to rediscoverthespark.org. For information, call (503) 704-0836 or email reservations@rediscoverthespark.org.

★★★ Retrouvaille

Thinking about Separation or Divorce? Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend heading for divorce? Do you feel helpless? Retrouvaille is designed to help troubled marriages regain their health. It helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust, and commitment that originally brought them together. The program is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples who have already separated or divorced. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve communication.

Visit www.helpourmarriage.org for testimonials and further information. To register for the Friday, **August 21st, through Sunday, August 23rd**, program in Canby, OR, please call (800) 470-2230, or (503) 225-9191, or email oregon@helpourmarriage.org.

★★★ USCCB Regional Workshop

Join **Dominic Lombardi** and **Dr. Maria Parker** of the USCCB at Our Lady of the Angels in Hermiston on **Saturday, September 19th**, for a Bilingual *Listen, Teach, Send* Regional Workshop. Sessions will be in both Spanish and English. We look forward to 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.

Visit the DioceseofBaker.org for more information about the event, lodging options, and/or to register.

★★★ Holy Humor

Ladies! Don't forget the rummage sale. Get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands!



Welcome
Home
FATHER JOSEPH!