

Father Joseph's Corner

"St. Ignatius of Loyola"

Born Inigo Lopez de Loyola in 1491, the man known as Ignatius of Loyola entered the world in Loiola, Spain. At the time, the name of the village was spelled "Loyola" hence the discrepancy. Inigio was the youngest of 13 children. Despite the misfortune of losing his mother, he remained a member of the local aristocracy and was raised accordingly. At the age of 16, he began a brief period of employment with Juan Velazquez, the treasurer of Castile.

By the time he was 18, he became a soldier and fought for Antonio Manrique de Lara, the Duke of Najera and Viceroy of Navarre. He had a talent for emerging unscathed, despite participating in many battles. His talent earned him promotions, and soon he commanded his own troops.

In 1521, while defending the town of Pamplona against French attack, Ignatius was struck by a cannonball in the legs. One leg was merely broken, but the other was badly mangled. To save his life and possibly his legs, doctors performed several surgeries. After suffering for a month, his doctors warned him to prepare for death. On June 29, 1521, on the feast of Saints Peter and Paul, Ignatius began to improve. As soon as he was healthy enough to bear it, part of one leg was amputated, which, while painful, sped his recovery.

During this time of bodily improvement, Ignatius began to read whatever books he could find. Most of the books he obtained were about the lives of the saints and Christ. These stories had a profound impact on him, and he became more devout. Ignatius discerned God's call and began a new way of life, following God rather than men. By the spring of 1522, Ignatius had recovered enough to leave his bed. On March 25, 1522, he entered the Benedictine Monastery, Santa Maria de Montserrat.

Ignatius realized he needed a complete education if he wanted to convert people. Returning to Barcelona, he studied



and often engaged others in lengthy conversations about spiritual matters.

While at school in Paris, Ignatius roomed with Peter Faber and Francis Xavier. Faber was French, and Xavier was Basque. The men became friends, and Ignatius led them in his spiritual exercises. Other men soon joined their exercises and became followers of Ignatius. The group began to refer to themselves as "Friends in the Lord," an apt description.

The circle of friends shared Ignatius' dream of traveling to the Holy Land, but conflict between Venice and the Turks made the journey impossible. After being denied the chance to travel there, the group decided to visit Rome. There, they resolved to present themselves to the Pope and to serve at his pleasure.

Pope Paul III received the group and approved them as an official religious order in 1540. Ignatius accepted the role of their first leader. They called themselves the Society of Jesus. Some who did not appreciate their efforts dubbed them "Jesuits" to disparage them. Although the name stuck, the label lost its negative connotation through their good work.

The Society of Jesus soon found its niche in education. Before Ignatius died in 1556, his order had established 35 schools and boasted 1,000 members. The order was responsible for much of the work to stop the spread of the Protestant Reformation. The Society advocated the use of reason to persuade others and to combat heresy.

Today, the Society of Jesus is known for its work in educating youth around the world. Several universities have been founded in the name of Ignatius and in the traditional Jesuit spirit. The Jesuits also carry out many other important works around the globe.

Ignatius passed away on July 31, 1556, at the age of 64. He was beatified by Pope Paul V on July 27, 1609, and canonized on March 12, 1622. His feast day is July 31st. He is the patron saint of the Society of Jesus, soldiers, and education.

—*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 26, 2026 † 17th 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](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	07/27/2026	—No Mass—		Jer 13:1-11; Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday	07/28/2026	8:00 a.m.	B.J. Barrus (D)	Jer 14:17-22; Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday	07/29/2026	12:00 p.m.	Patricia Carroll (D)	Jer 15:10, 16-21; Jn 11:19-27
Thursday	07/30/2026	8:00 a.m.	Sophie Schoenstein (D)	Jer 18:1-6; Mt 13:47-53
Friday	07/31/2026	12:00 p.m.	Theresa Davis (L)	Jer 26:1-9; Mt 13:54-58
Saturday	08/01/2026	5:00 p.m.	Mary Medak (D)	Is 55:1-3; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21
Sunday	08/02/2026	9:00 a.m.	Meghan LiveFree (L)	Is 55:1-3; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21
Sunday	08/02/2026	12:00 p.m.	Parishioners of St. Joseph (L)	Is 55:1-3; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21

(L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

TODAY'S READINGS teach us that Faith in Jesus as our God and Savior, and sacrificing everything in life to do the will of God, are equivalent to discovering and possessing the most valuable treasure or the pearl of great price. In other words, keeping a personal relationship with Jesus, remaining in a state of grace, and sharing His view of life are the most beautiful and the most precious things in the world.

The first reading tells us how the young King Solomon opted for the great treasure of accepting God to rule his life by doing His will. That is why he requested of God the gift of prudence, “an understanding heart to distinguish right from wrong,” so that he might govern God’s people properly. The Lord God was pleased with Solomon’s request and granted him “a wise and discerning heart” which enabled him to surpass everyone in wisdom.

In the second reading, Paul teaches that “all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to His purpose.” This is true of all who accept a close relationship with God as their greatest treasure.

In the Gospel, using three mini parables and one concluding simile, Jesus teaches us that God’s Kingdom, is something of extraordinary value, like a hidden treasure or a costly pearl. Possessing that treasure demands from us a total commitment if we are to preserve it. The Kingdom of God is God’s reign in our hearts, in our lives, in our homes, in our society, and in our world. Only those who develop a searching mind and a heart willing to give up everything for the great treasure of God’s Kingdom will be rewarded.

Through the first and second parables of the treasure and pearl, Jesus teaches us that identifying God’s will and living according to the Gospel (both with His grace), are the most precious and worthwhile things in life.

*The Parable of the Weeds,
the Mustard Seed
and the Yeast*
Matthew 13:24—43



Through Jesus and His Gospel, we come to know and understand the real meaning of life, the will of God for us each day, and the most important things we must do to secure our eternal salvation. We should live every moment in view of our precious goal. Most of the time, we are chasing false treasures such as money, social status, or worldly pleasures. Thus, the really valuable “pearl” of sharing in God’s life through Jesus here on earth and later in Heaven, is never found.

Let us always remember that Heaven is within the reach of all of us who try to do the will of God, following the ordinary vocations of life and enjoying this world’s joys and pleasures within the framework of God’s Commandments. When we do this, we are already living in the Kingdom of Heaven while we are still on earth.

We need to take all precautions to keep our greatest treasure safe: We will be able to keep safe the treasure of our personal relationship with Jesus:

- ◇ by accepting Him every day as our God and Savior,
- ◇ by allowing God to have total control over our lives through our loving obedience to His will,
- ◇ by asking Him daily for the strengthening and guidance of His Holy Spirit,
- ◇ by talking to Him daily in prayer,
- ◇ by listening to Him in our meditative reading of the Bible,
- ◇ by getting reconciled to Him and others every day, asking pardon and forgiveness for our sins,
- ◇ by offering Him our lives on the altar during the Holy Mass, and
- ◇ by allowing Him to nourish our souls frequently, by receiving Jesus in Holy Communion.

July—The Month of the Precious Blood of Jesus

Schedule Change

THERE WILL NOT BE MASS ON MONDAY, JULY 27TH.

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Book Club



Our upcoming book club pick is “The First Phone Call from Heaven” by Mitch Albom. We’re excited to gather on **Tuesday, August 11th, at 6 p.m., in classroom #4.** Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

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Religious Education News

Registration will take place in the Narthex AFTER ALL WEEKEND MASSES ON AUGUST 15TH & 16TH AND AUGUST 22ND & 23RD. There will be no registration during classes. Please keep referring to the bulletin for updates.

—Thank you, Barb Dalton,
Director of Religious Education,
(541) 410-3720



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Retrouvaille

MARRIAGE SAVING—THE POST-SESSION PHASE

The post-weekend phase of Retrouvaille is as crucial to the healing of a troubled marriage as the initial weekend experience. During the post-weekend sessions, the weekend technique is further developed and combined with additional tools to explore other areas of the marriage relationship. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve communication.

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Visit helpourmarriage.org for testimonials and further information. To register for **August 21st–23rd in Canby, OR**, call (800) 470-2230, or (503) 225-9191, or email to: oregon@helpourmarriage.org. Limited space—call early!

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Looking for Daycare

If you or anyone you would recommend works in daycare or as a nanny, please contact the Parish Office.

Grocery Receipts

If you have receipts from Erickson’s Thriftway or Wagner’s IGA, you can turn them in, and we will receive a rebate. They must be returned within the month. A box is located in the Narthex.

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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 DioceseofBaker.org for more information, lodging options, and/or to register.

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Christmas in July

We’re excited to share that the annual Christmas Bazaar is happening on **Saturday, November 14th!** It’s a perfect chance for us to be creative and come up with special items to make and donate for this fantastic fundraising event. Homemade gifts, crafts, candies, pastries, and similar treats tend to be big hits!

Plus, there will be a delightful luncheon featuring tasty food.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to **Nancy Redfern** at (541) 508-9872. Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

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Formed.org

There’s so much exciting programming this summer! To join us on Formed, just visit Formed.org/signup, enter our ZIP code (97754), and choose St. Joseph Catholic Church. And guess what? You can also enjoy Formed through their app. It’s a wonderful way to stay connected and enjoy uplifting content anywhere you go!

