

# Father Joseph's Corner

## "St. Bartholomew—1st Century—One of the 12 Apostles"

All that is known of St. Bartholomew with certainty is that he is mentioned in the synoptic gospels and in the *Acts as one of the Twelve Apostles*.

His name, a patronymic, means "son of Tolomai," and scholars believe that he is the same as the Nathanael mentioned in *John*, who says that he's from Cana and that Jesus called him an "Israelite . . . incapable of deceit."

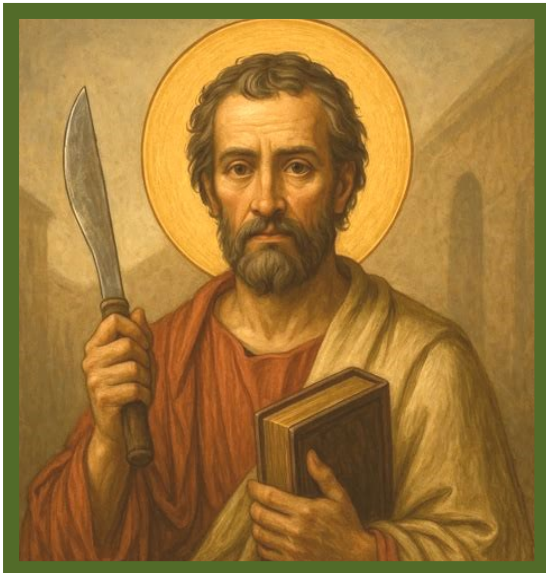
St. Bartholomew was one of the 12 apostles of Jesus, according to the New Testament. Most scholars today identify him as Nathanael.

Nathanael Bartholomew's introduction in *St. John's Gospel* is very intriguing. His close friend, Philip, had just met Jesus, and he was struck with Jesus' mysticism and goodness.

Philip had complete confidence that Jesus was the Messiah, and he ran to tell his friend, Bartholomew. But Bartholomew, evidently a bit prejudiced, found it unbelievable that anyone of importance could come from Nazareth.

However, when Bartholomew came face-to-face with Jesus himself, his heart quickly changed. Jesus' first words about Bartholomew were peculiar: He called Bartholomew a "true Israelite with no duplicity."

Bartholomew's nature evidently was clear and easy to read—lacking pretense and deceit. He spoke his true feelings.



Bartholomew then asked Jesus how He knew him. When Jesus replied that He had seen him under a fig tree one day, Bartholomew's whole countenance transformed. Jesus being from Nazareth no longer mattered—Bartholomew was ready to profess that Jesus was indeed the Son of God and the King of Israel.

There are no specific stories on Bartholomew outside of John's "calling" story. However, because he was an apostle, we do know that Bartholomew spent a great deal of time with Jesus, learning from Him, and experiencing many wondrous and miraculous events.

Because he was selected as an apostle, Bartholomew had the authority to preach, cure people, and drive out demons. He was blessed to have witnessed the risen Christ, watched as Jesus ascended into heaven, and encountered the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Legends state that Bartholomew traveled to India, Armenia, Ethiopia, and Persia after Pentecost. Ancient historians wrote that he lived an austere yet happy life. It is also believed that he was flayed alive in India.

Most of his relics are believed to be entombed within the Basilica of St. Bartholomew on Tiber Island, which is in the Tiber River in Rome.

St. Bartholomew, whose feast day is August 24th, is the patron saint of butchers and leatherworkers.

—*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  
August 16, 2026 † 20th 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](mailto:stjosephparish@bendbroadband.com)**

**Pastor: [fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com](mailto:fatherjoseph@bendbroadband.com) / [joekunel55@gmail.com](mailto: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

♦ **ADORATION—First Tuesday of Every Month 6 p.m.**

♦ **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    | 08/17/2026 | 8:00 a.m.  | Murra Miller (D)              | Ez 24:15-23; Mt 19:16-22               |
| Tuesday   | 08/18/2026 | 8:00 a.m.  | Cecilia Vargas (D)            | Ez 28:1-10; Mt 19:23-30                |
| Wednesday | 08/19/2026 | 12:00 p.m. | Tom MacDonald (L)             | Ez 34:1-11; Mt 20:1-16                 |
| Thursday  | 08/20/2026 | 8:00 a.m.  | Bob Leonard (L)               | Ez 36:23-28; Mt 22:1-14                |
| Friday    | 08/21/2026 | 12:00 p.m. | Bishop Liam Cary (L)          | Ez 37:1-14; Mt 22:34-40                |
| Saturday  | 08/22/2026 | 5:00 p.m.  | Richard Grant (D)             | Is 22:19-23; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20 |
| Sunday    | 08/23/2026 | 9:00 a.m.  | Sami Pedersen (D)             | Is 22:19-23; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20 |
| Sunday    | 08/23/2026 | 12:00 p.m. | Parishioners of St Joseph (L) | Is 22:19-23; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20 |

(L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

## Today's Homily

**TODAY'S GOSPEL GIVES** us one of the most beautiful examples of persistent faith in the whole Gospel. We meet a Canaanite woman who comes to Jesus with a desperate plea: "Lord, Son of David, have pity on me! My daughter is tormented by a demon."

She is a mother who is suffering because her child is suffering. She does not come with a long prayer or many words. She simply brings her need before Jesus.

But what happens next is surprising. Jesus does not immediately answer her. She continues to cry out, and even the disciples become uncomfortable and say, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us."

Then Jesus seems to make the situation even more difficult. Yet the woman does not give up.

Finally, Jesus says, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed at that very moment.

What can we learn from this remarkable woman?

**First, she teaches us not to give up praying.**

Sometimes we pray and it seems that God is silent. We pray for a sick family member, but the sickness continues. We pray for peace in our family, but the problems remain. We pray for our children, but they make choices that worry us. We pray for a loved one who has walked away from God, and nothing seems to change. At those moments, we may wonder: "Where is God? Why doesn't God answer me?"

The Canaanite woman teaches us: **Keep praying. Do not give up.**

God's silence is not necessarily God's absence. Sometimes God is working in ways we cannot yet see. Faith means continuing to trust even when we do not understand.

**Second, she teaches us humility.** When Jesus says that the children's food should not be thrown to the dogs, the woman does not become angry or walk away. She simply answers, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters."

She knows that she has nothing to claim from Jesus. She comes with humility and trust.

True prayer is not telling God what He must do. True prayer is saying, "Lord, I trust You. You know what is best."



Sometimes we want God to answer our prayers according to our timetable and our plans. But faith asks us to place our lives into God's hands.

**Third, her faith breaks barriers.** The woman was a Canaanite. She was an outsider. She was not part of the Jewish

community. Yet she believed that Jesus could help her.

Jesus uses this encounter to reveal something important: God's mercy is greater than the boundaries we create.

We sometimes divide people into "us" and "them"—people who belong and people who do not, people who are worthy and people who are not.

But Jesus shows us that every human being is precious in God's eyes.

The first reading today reminds us of this same truth: ***My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.***

The Church is called to be a place where everyone can encounter God's mercy and love.

Finally, notice what the woman calls Jesus. She says, "Lord, help me!"

That is, perhaps, the most simple and most powerful prayer we can make. When we don't know what else to say, we can simply say: "Lord, help me." "Lord, help my family." "Lord, help my child." "Lord, strengthen my faith." "Lord, have mercy on me." God hears the prayer of a humble and trusting heart.

My brothers and sisters, perhaps today each of us carries something that we have been praying about for a long time. Perhaps we have become tired or discouraged because we haven't yet received the answer we hoped for.

Let us learn from this Canaanite woman: **Do not give up. Keep praying. Keep trusting. Keep coming to Jesus.** Her prayer began with desperation, but it ended with faith. She came asking for a miracle, but Jesus also revealed the greatness of her faith.

May we have the courage to say every day: **"Lord, I believe in You. I trust You. Even when I do not understand, I will not walk away. Lord, help me."**

And may Jesus say to each of us what He said to that woman: "Great is your faith. Let it be done for you as you wish."

**AMEN.**

## August—The Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

### The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- ◆ Rooted in Sacred Scripture and professed in prayers and hymns, the Catholic Church considers the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the Queen of Heaven and Earth.
- ◆ The angel Gabriel announced to Mary that Jesus would reign on the throne of David forever, and Elizabeth addressed Mary as the mother of the Lord.
- ◆ Mary is highly honored in a special way, more than any other saint, but although she is the queen of Heaven and Earth, she is never the subject of worship or adoration. The humble Virgin is venerated as a queen only because of her Son's kingship.
- ◆ Mary's coronation as Queen of Heaven and Earth is meditated on as the Fifth Glorious Mystery of the Rosary.
- ◆ Pope Pius XII proclaimed the Queenship of Mary and established a feast in 1954, although the Catholic Church has acknowledged Mary's queenship as a share of her Son's kingship since its earliest days.
- ◆ The Church celebrates the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary each year on **August 22nd**—the Octave of her Assumption into Heaven.

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### USCCB Regional Workshop

Join **Dominic Lombardi and Dr. Maria Parker** at Our Lady of Angels in Hermiston on **Saturday, September 19th**, for a bilingual *Listen, Teach, Send* Regional Workshop. Sessions are in Spanish and English.

Visit [DioceseofBaker.org](http://DioceseofBaker.org) for more information, lodging options, and/or to register.

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### Save the Date

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH,  
FROM 9 A.M. TO NOON.**

All Young Adults (aged 18 to 39) are invited to join **Bishop Hennen** for a reflective hike through the stunning Painted Hills unit of the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument. **Gather in the picnic area at 9 a.m.**

After our adventure through this unique landscape, share in fellowship with a no-host lunch at Tiger Town Brewing in Mitchell.

### OCIA

**Do you know anyone who would like to become Catholic? A Catholic who needs Confirmation? Would you like to learn more about the Catholic faith?**

OCIA prepares candidates for the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation. Parishes welcome new members into the Catholic Church through a process of education, faith sharing, and rituals known as the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA). This process includes several stages marked by prayer, study, and discussion.

OCIA classes will start in September. Classes will be offered in English and Spanish. Visit the Parish Office to pick up a registration form or for more details. We will hold an orientation meeting on **Monday, August 31st, at 6 p.m. in Classroom #4.**

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### OCIA

***¿Conoces a alguien que quiera hacerse católico? ¿Un católico que necesita Confirmación? ¿Te gustaría aprender más sobre la fe católica?***

*OCIA prepara a los candidatos para los Sacramentos de Iniciación: Bautismo, Primera Comunión y Confirmación. Las parroquias dan la bienvenida a nuevos miembros a la Iglesia Católica a través de un proceso de educación, compartir la fe y rituales conocido como la Orden de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos (OCIA). Este proceso incluye varias etapas marcadas por oración, estudio y discusión.*

*Las clases de OCIA comenzarán en septiembre. Las clases se ofrecerán en inglés y español. Visita la oficina parroquial para recoger un formulario de registro o para más detalles. Realizaremos una reunión de orientación el **lunes, 31 de Agosto, a las 6 p.m. en el salón 4.***

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### Chesterton Academy of Mater Dei

We are pleased to announce that Chesterton Academy of Mater Dei, our Central Oregon Catholic High School, will be moving to the Downtown Bend Rectory next to the Historic Church to begin the new school year this fall. If your family would like to be part of this exciting opportunity, please begin an application online at [chestertonmaterdei.org](http://chestertonmaterdei.org).