

Father Joseph's Corner

"St. Maximilian Kolbe"

St. Maximilian Kolbe was born as Raymund Kolbe on January 8, 1894, in the Kingdom of Poland, part of the Russian Empire. He was a Polish Conventual Franciscan friar and a martyr in the German death camp of Auschwitz during World War II.

St. Maximilian Kolbe was very active in promoting the Immaculate Virgin Mary and is known as the Apostle of Consecration to Mary. Much of his life was strongly influenced by a vision he had of the Virgin Mary when he was 12. "That night I asked the Mother of God what was to become of me. Then she came to me holding two crowns, one white, the other red.

She asked me if I was willing to accept either of these crowns. The white one meant that I should persevere in purity, and the red that I should become a martyr.

I said that I would accept them both."

One year after his vision, Kolbe and his elder brother, Francis, joined the Conventual Franciscans.

In 1910, Kolbe was given the religious name of Maximilian, after being allowed to enter the novitiate, and in 1911, he professed his first vows.

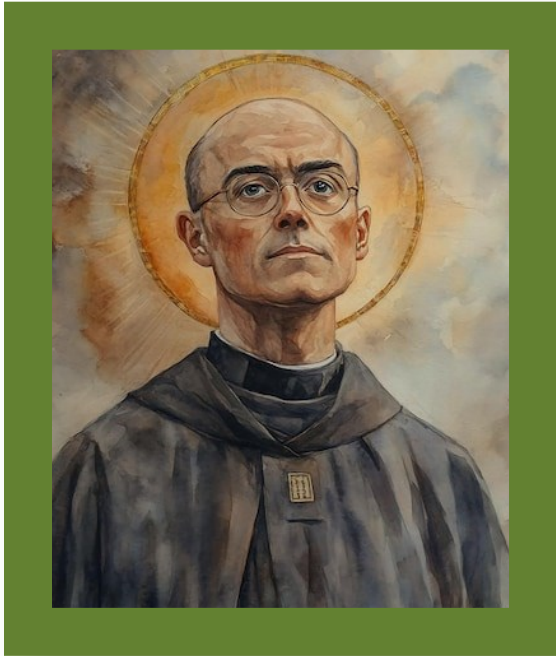
In 1918, he was ordained a priest and continued his work of promoting Mary throughout Poland.

Over the next several years, Kolbe took on publishing. He founded a monthly periodical titled "Rycerz Niepokalanej" (Knight of the Immaculate). He also operated a religious publishing press and founded a new Conventual Franciscan Monastery at Niepokalanow, which became a major religious publishing center.

Kolbe also founded monasteries in both Japan and India. To this day, the monastery in Japan remains prominent in the Roman Catholic Church in Japan.

In 1936, Kolbe's poor health forced him to return home to Poland, and once the World War II invasion by Germany began, he became one of the only brothers to remain in the monastery. He opened up a temporary hospital to aid those in need.

When his town was captured, Kolbe was sent to a prison, but he was released three months later.



Kolbe refused to sign a document that would recognize him as a German citizen with his German ancestry and continued to work in his monastery, providing shelter for refugees—including hiding about 2,000 Jews from German persecution.

After receiving permission to continue his religious publishing, Kolbe's monastery acted as a publishing house again, and he issued many anti-Nazi German publications.

On February 17, 1941, the monastery was shut down, and Kolbe was arrested by the German Gestapo. He was taken to

Pawiak prison, and then three months later, he was transferred to Auschwitz.

Never abandoning his priesthood, Kolbe was the victim of severe violence and harassment. Toward the end of his second month in Auschwitz, men were chosen to face death by starvation to warn against escapes. Kolbe was not chosen, but he volunteered to take the place of a man with a family.

It is said that during the last days of his life, Kolbe led prayers to Our Lady with the prisoners, and he remained calm. He was the last of the group to remain alive after two weeks of dehydration and starvation. The guards then gave him a lethal injection of carbolic acid. The stories tell that he raised his left arm and calmly awaited death.

St. Maximilian Kolbe died on August 14th, and his remains were cremated on August 15th—the same day as the Assumption of Mary Feast Day.

Recognized as the Servant of God, Kolbe was beatified as a "Confessor of the Faith" on October 17, 1971, by Pope Paul VI, and he was canonized by Pope John Paul II on October 10, 1982. Pope John Paul II declared Kolbe not a confessor, but a martyr.

Kolbe is often depicted in a prison uniform and with a needle being injected into an arm. He is the patron saint of drug addicts, prisoners, families, and the Pro-Life movement. His feast day is celebrated on August 14th.

—Prayerful Wishes, Father Joseph

St. Joseph Catholic Church

150 E First St., P.O. Box 1315, Prineville OR 97754
August 9, 2026 ☩ 19th 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	08/10/2026	8:00 a.m.	Phyllis Tocher (D)	2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26
Tuesday	08/11/2026	8:00 a.m.	Betty Maska (L)	Ez 2:8-3:4; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
Wednesday	08/12/2026	12:00 p.m.	Perla Marquez (L)	Ez 9:1-7, 10:18-22; Mt 18:15-20
Thursday	08/13/2026	8:00 a.m.	Robert Marquez (L)	Ez 12:1-12; Mt 18:21-19:1
Friday	08/14/2026	12:00 p.m.	Marissa Lowes (L)	Ez 16:1-15, 59-63; Mt 19:3-12
Saturday	08/15/2026	8:00 a.m.	St. Joseph Parishioners (L)	Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56
Saturday	08/15/2026	5:00 p.m.	Karen Evans (L)	Is 56:1, 6-7; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28
Sunday	08/16/2026	9:00 a.m.	St. Joseph Parishioners (L)	Is 56:1, 6-7; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28
Sunday	08/16/2026	12:00 p.m.	Armando Hernandez Lopez (L)	Is 56:1, 6-7; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

(L) = Living ♦ (D) = Deceased

Today's Homily

THE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK speak of God's saving presence among His people and the need for trusting Faith in our loving and providing God who always keeps us company, and the need of prayer in storms of life.

All of us face many personal storms in our lives. We have storms of anxiety and worries about the future. We also have storms of sorrow, storms of doubt, tension and uncertainty, storms of anger and despair, storms of temptations and storms in family relationships. It is the presence of Jesus which gives us peace even in the wildest storms of life.

The Gospel episode occurred during an unexpected storm on the Sea of Galilee in the early morning hours. As Jesus approached the apostles, miraculously walking on water, He allayed their fears by telling them, "It is I."

The Gospel episode also explains how Peter lost his trusting faith in Jesus for a few seconds and consequently failed during his attempt to walk on water.

A proper understanding of the gospel story of Jesus walking on the sea has a lot to teach us about who Jesus is, but it is also about the Church in its journey through the world and about the life of faith of the individual believer.

About Jesus: The miracle story of Jesus walking on the sea, together with the one that goes before it, the multiplication of loaves, shows that Jesus is Lord and has authority over all forces natural and supernatural. The Jews believed that the sea was the domain of supernatural demonic forces. A rough and stormy sea was regarded as the work of these hostile spirits. By walking on the raging waves and calming the stormy sea Jesus is showing himself to be one who has power and total control over these hostile spiritual forces.

Do you know Christians who have surrendered their lives to the Lord but who still live in constant fear of evil spirits, sorcery, witchcraft, potions and curses? Today's Gospel brings us the good news that these powers of darkness stand no chance at all when Jesus is present and active in our lives and affairs.



About the Church: The boat on the sea is one of the earliest Christian symbols for the Church in its journey through the world. Just as the boat is tossed about by the waves, so is the Church pounded from all sides by worldly and spiritual forces hostile to the kingdom of God. In the midst of crises, Jesus comes to restore peace

and harmony in His Church. But He comes in a form and manner in which He is easily mistaken for the enemy. He comes in a way that makes many well-meaning Christians cry out in fear: "It is a ghost!" (Matthew 14:26), as they try to keep Him out. But if we listen carefully, we shall hear through the storm His soft, gentle voice whispering in the wind, "Take heart; it is I; do not be afraid" (verse 27). If we believe His word and take Him onboard, the storm immediately subsides and the crisis is resolved.

About the Individual Believer: From the point of view of the individual believer, the story of Jesus walking on the seas—especially the involvement of Peter in the story—is a lesson for disciples who are tempted to take their eyes off Jesus and to take more notice of the threatening circumstances around them. Peter had said to Jesus, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water" (verse 28). Jesus gives him the word of command, "Come."

It would seem like Jesus is commanding the impossible. Yet whatever Jesus commands us to do, He gives us the power to do it. And the ordinary man—Peter—begins to walk on the seas, coming to Jesus. "But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and began to sink" (verse 30).

While Peter kept his eye fixed upon Jesus, and upon His word and power, he walked upon the water well enough; but when he took notice of the danger he was in, and focused on the waves, then he became afraid and began to sink. "For we walk by faith, not by sight."

May the Lord increase our little faith so that, in all the storms of life, we shall have our eyes and our trust constantly fixed on Jesus and His power—and not on ourselves and our weaknesses.

August—The Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Parish Office

The Parish Office will be closed for staff training on **Tuesday, August 11th.**

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Book Club

On **Tuesday, August 11th, at 6 p.m., in Classroom 4**, we will discuss Mitch Albom's "The First Phone Call from Heaven."

Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

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Bob's Birthday Party

★★★ Open House ★★★



The Leonard Family warmly invites everyone to the Parish Hall on **Saturday, August 15th, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.**, for a joyful Open House celebrating our cherished **BOB LEONARD'S** birthday!

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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

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on **August 15th**, is *not* a Holy Day of Obligation this year because it falls on a Saturday. There will be a Mass at 8 a.m. on Saturday.

The 5:p.m. Vigil Mass that day will celebrate the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time.



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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.

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

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