

St. Joseph Catholic Church

FEBRUARY 15, 2026

Fr. Kenneth Hoelsing, Priest in Res. / Fr. Craig Clinch, Parish Admin.

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mailing Address PO Box 70 Harvard, NE 68944	Street Address 611 N. Kearney Ave. Harvard, NE 68944	Rectory Phone 402-772-3511
Parish Website: https://www.st-joseph-harvard.com/		
Parish email address: st.joseph.cc.hrverd.ne@gmail.com		

This Weeks' Masses and Liturgies

DATE	DAY	TIME	INTENTION	SAINT / FEAST
Feb 16	Mon	7:30 am	+Marie Borino	
Feb 17	Tues	7:30 am	+Jean Erthum	Scholastica
Feb 18	Wed	7:30 am	Special Intention (td)	ASH WEDNESDAY
		7:00 pm	Parishioners of St. Joseph	ASH WEDNESDAY
Feb 19	Thur	7:30 am	+Jack Steele	
Feb 20	Fri			
Feb 21	Sat			
Feb 22	Sun	9:00 am	+John Sullivan	1st Sunday in Lent
		11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Joseph	

Confessions: one half hour before Sunday Masses

Our Offering to God last week	\$1125.00
-------------------------------	-----------

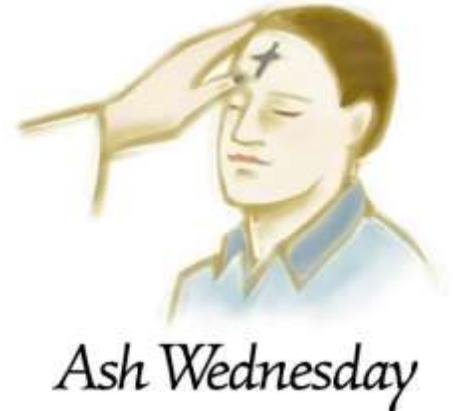
St. Joseph Prayer Chain

A special intention	George Hoffmeister	Cecilia Meeza	Tony Stec
Dan Adler (Sem)	Jim Jackson	Alyssa O.	Shannon Tebo
Andrea Ainsworth	Cathy Kamost	Brad Oschner	Ryan Urbanosky family
Bill Alexander	Bill Kerber	Salvador Palas	Angel Valdivia
Wayne Alley	Kim Kneuvan	Fr. Allan Phan	Landon Van Boening
Greg Almond	Shirley Koenig	Sharon Reasland	Garry Veik
Pete Bartels	Erica Lauinger	Dennis Reddick	The Verde family
Shawna Back	Rita Mach	Nancy Sapp	Teresa Volesky
Randy Chloupek	Jolene Markland	Randy Schulte	Diane Walz & family
Kelem Fabrice	Cecilia Martel	Juan Slazar	Edith Weber
Cesaria Gabriel	Shirley McCabe		

If you have any intentions you would like to add to the prayer chain, call Elaine Almond (402-224-0732) or Shirley Koenig (402-984-0692).

Parish News & Upcoming Events

- ◆ **Lent starts this week!** Lent will start this week! Think about how you want to observe Lent – as an individual and/or as a family. Pray about this if you haven't already (Lent has a way of sneaking up on all of us!). Let's ask the Holy Spirit's guidance to lead us through the desert of Lent to the Promised Land of the Resurrection at Easter. We still have 3 days before Lent starts. Let's use those days to get ready for the next 40 days of Lent!
- ◆ **Shrove Tuesday (Fat Tuesday) Pancake Supper this week:** The annual Fat Tuesday Pancake feed will be held at the St. Joseph Parish Hall from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm this Tuesday, February 17. St. Joseph's is responsible for clean-up.
- ◆ **Food Pantry thanks:** Thank you to everyone who helped with the Food Pantry this weekend. The weather was definitely nicer than in recent months. Thanks to God for the food provided and volunteers to help distribute it.



****Ash Wednesday Masses****

Ash Wednesday Masses will take place at 7:30 am and 7:00 pm. The 7:00 pm Mass will be bilingual.

- ◆ **Fr Hoelsing gone next weekend:** I will be gone next weekend visiting friends and relatives in Wichita. Masses next weekend will be celebrated by Fr. Clinch. Please pray for my safe travels.

- ◆ **February is Catholic Press Month in the Diocese of Lincoln:** February is Catholic Press month. Part of Catholic Press month is paying for our subscriptions to the Southern Nebraska Register. The Southern Nebraska Register subscription is \$15.00 a year. There are envelopes in the back of the church for this.

- ◆ **Special collection next weekend for the Diocese of Colombo in Sri Lanka:** Next weekend on February 22, there will be a second collection for disaster relief for the Archdiocese of Colombo in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka experienced its most severe flooding in decades in late November and early December 2025 after Cyclone Ditwah brought prolonged heavy rainfall, which triggered landslides and widespread damage across the country. This collection will provide financial assistance to the Archdiocese of Colombo to assist them in making repairs to Church property and to provide material assistance to those who are still struggling to rebuild. Any checks should be made out to "St. Joseph's Parish." If you plan to give to this collection, please do so by March 1. If you give other than during the special second collection, please be sure

to label the plain envelope "Disaster Relief for Colombo."

The Diocese of Lincoln has a very close connection to the Diocese of Colombo since we have been hosting priests from that diocese for several years now (one currently resides at St. Michael's in Hastings). This is the reason Bishop Conley has requested all parishes of the diocese to taken up this special collection next weekend.

◆ KC Fish Fry in Hastings: The St. Cecilia Knights of Columbus Fish Fries are about to begin. They will take place every Friday in Lent (except for Good Friday) at Centennial Hall at St. Cecilia's in Hastings. They will serve from 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. Cost is \$16.00 for adults with a maximum family cost of \$65.00.

◆ Seminarian of the Week: The seminarian of the week is Trent Moudry. He is a parishioner of Sts. Mary & Joseph parish in Valparaiso. He entered the seminary in 2022.

His mother are Kris Moudry. He attends St. Gregory the Great Seminary in Seward. Please pray for him and all our seminarians.

◆ Holy Father Prayer Intention for February: For children with incurable diseases – Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

Honesty and integrity

Let your "Yes" mean "Yes," and your "No" mean "No." Anything more is from the evil one. (*Mt. 5:37*)

This teaching from our Lord comes after a series of new and deeper teachings from our Lord on the Commandments of old. Jesus mentions the Old Testament teachings that we ought not kill, commit adultery, or lie. He then follows up each of these commandments with a deeper insight. In the New Law of Jesus' teaching, "Thou shall not kill" is deepened to mean that we ought to avoid all anger in our hearts. "Do not commit adultery" is deepened to mean we ought not have lust in our heart. And "Do not lie" is deepened and presented in a new way in the above quoted Scripture.

The first thing to note is the more general fact that Jesus' life and teaching brings us to a new depth of morality. No longer are we to simply avoid seriously sinful actions, we are now called to avoid even interior tendencies toward these actions. Not only must we purify our external actions, we must also purify our hearts.

This particular passage, that our "Yes" must mean "Yes," and our "No" must mean "No," is Jesus' way of saying that the words we speak must flow from the honesty and integrity of our hearts. In other words, what we say, exteriorly, must be spoken from the depths of our being. Our words must flow from that which is in our hearts.

What a profound lesson for us. It's so very easy, in life, to live in a two-faced way. It's easy to say only that which we believe benefits us the most, makes us look good, or makes a particular situation easier. It's a common tendency to say what we believe others want to hear or to say that which paints our lives in the best light.

True honesty and integrity require that we speak only from the truth that resides within our hearts. No, we do not have a moral duty to reveal every truth of our hearts publicly. Some things are to be reserved only for God or for confession. But when we do feel compelled to speak, it's essential that our words carry the integrity of truth in every way. Otherwise, they are meaningless, deceptive and, ultimately, destructive.

Reflect, today, upon your own honesty and integrity. When you speak to others, do your words flow from the truth alive within your heart? When God hears your words, does He see honesty? After a conversation, can you return to prayer and face your Lord in peace and with a clear conscience? If you struggle with honesty, know that it is honesty that produces integrity. Seek the goodness of integrity in your life and our Lord will help you to achieve it by becoming a person of truth who speaks from the heart.

My most honest Lord, please make me pure of heart. Help me to be a person of honesty and integrity. May the truth that You place in my heart be the basis of my actions and my words. May I speak with a clear conscience always speaking what You give me to speak. Jesus, I trust in You.