

St. Joseph Catholic Church

AUGUST 31, 2025

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

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mailing Address <i>PO Box 70 Harvard, NE 68944</i>	Street Address <i>611 N. Kearney Ave. Harvard, NE 68944</i>	Rectory Phone <i>402-772-3511</i>
Parish Website: https://www.st-joseph-harvard.com/		
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This Weeks' Masses and Liturgies

DATE	DAY	TIME	INTENTION	SAINT / FEAST
Sept 1	Mon			
Sept 2	Tues	7:30 am	+Betty Chloupek	
Sept 3	Wed	7:30 am		Gregory the Great
Sept 4	Thur			
Sept 5	Fri	7:30 am	Celestine & Emil Kiolbasa	
		6:30 pm	Eucharistic Holy Hour	
Sept 6	Sat	7:30 am		23 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sept 7	Sun	9:00 am	+Mary Wilson	
		11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Joseph	
Confessions: one half hour before Sunday Masses				

Our Offering to God last week	\$1,610.00
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St. Joseph Prayer Chain

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

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

◆ KC Membership Night: The Knights of Columbus will host a membership night for prospective members at our regular monthly meeting to be held Sunday Sept. 7th in Sutton. 5:40 p.m. Rosary and 6:00 p.m. Admissions video for new and current members. A short meeting will follow with food served afterwards. You can use the QR code at the right to sign up.

- We invite the men of our parish who are not members to join our council.
- Contact Neal Schlautman for more information at 402-984-7532

◆ CCD starts next Sunday: CCD starts next Sunday. We need one more teacher. Please let us know if you can help. See you next Sunday!



◆ First Friday Holy Hour this week: There will be a First Friday Eucharistic Holy Hour with benediction this Friday at 6:30 pm. Please come and spend some time with Jesus. Come for the whole hour or just part of it if that works better for you.

◆ Mowing sign-up sheet for October:



The mowing sing-up sheet for September and October is now in the back of the church. Please take a week if you can.

◆ Mass with prayers for healing: September 14, 2025, John XXIII Diocesan Center, 37th & Sheridan Blvd., Lincoln, NE. Please join together to pray for healing for yourself, your family, friends, for our Church, our Nation and for peace in our world. Sacrament of Reconciliation, begins 1:15. Praise and Worship 1:40 pm. Mass begins at 2:00 pm.

◆ Holy Father Prayer Intention for September: For our relationship with all of creation – Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

◆ Thanks, again, Lord, for the rain!: Make sure to thank Him for the rain we started getting on Friday night. We've been getting timely rains all summer.

◆ Life Chain in Hastings on October 5:

The annual Life Chain in Hastings will take place on Sunday, October 5, in Hastings. There will be more details to follow

◆ Extra produce from your garden: If you have any extra produce from your gardens, Fr. Hoelsing would be willing to take some. 😊

Attentiveness to Jesus

On a sabbath Jesus went to dine at the home of one of the leading Pharisees, and the people there were observing him carefully. (Luke 14:1)

What an interesting line. This line should not be overlooked in that it reveals a common reaction that some have to Jesus. What is the reaction? It's the tendency to observe Jesus carefully from a distance.

Look at the context of this statement. Jesus was invited to the home of a leading Pharisee and many other people were present. Those who were there would have been considered the “movers and shakers” of that time. They were the influential, wealthy, educated, and prestigious members of the community. Many would have been quite concerned about their reputation and quite curious about Jesus since He was growing in such popularity with the people. So, as a result, they were all “observing him carefully.”

Notice the implication present in this description of their reaction to Jesus. Unlike the manifest sinners of that time, they did not come to Him, falling at His feet, begging for mercy. Rather, they appear to be quite interested in how Jesus will be accepted by others, what He will say and what they should think about Him. Even though it is unfortunate that they do not all completely turn to Jesus in faith, it's at least good that they are attentive to Jesus and realize He is unique.

This curiosity on their part is not all bad. In fact, it may lead some of them to salvation. By observing Jesus, they are clearly pondering Him, His words and His actions. This is good if and only if it results in each one of them turning to Him in faith and choosing to embrace our Lord regardless of what others think. This is a risk for those consumed with their own public image. But it's a risk that is worth taking. For those who are willing to humbly allow their observations to turn into true faith, their lives will change. But in order to do so, they must let go of any fear they have of what others may think.

Reflect, today, upon any tendency you have to only “observe” Jesus and His will from a distance. If you find you are curious and interested in the presence of God around you, do not hesitate to act on this curiosity, allowing His words and presence to change your life. Do not let yourself become concerned about what others may think. Give your life to Him without hesitation and you will be eternally grateful you did.



Lord, when I perceive Your presence in my life, give me the courage I need to respond. May I never let societal pressures or pride interfere with my turning to You. I love You, dear Lord. Help me to love You without reserve. Jesus, I trust in You.