

St. Joseph Catholic Church

AUGUST 24, 2025

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

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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Parish Website: https://www.st-joseph-harvard.com/		
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This Weeks' Masses and Liturgies

DATE	DAY	TIME	INTENTION	SAINT / FEAST
Aug 25	Mon			
Aug 26	Tues	7:30 am	Special Intention	
Aug 27	Wed	7:30 am	+Richard Danek	Monica
Aug 28	Thur	7:30 am	+Trinidad de Castillo	Augustine
Aug 29	Fri	7:30 am	+Ken Kalvoda	Passion of John the Bapt.
Aug 30	Sat			22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Aug 31	Sun	9:00 am	+Randy Yonker	
		11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Joseph	
Confessions: one half hour before Sunday Masses				

Our Offering to God last week	\$371.00
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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

◆ Coffee & Rolls this weekend: There's coffee and rolls in between the two Sunday Masses this weekend. Please join us.

◆ 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: School has started, and so CCD is starting soon. We are in need of a new teacher or two before we get started (we will start on Sunday, September 7). If you would be willing to assist with this, please contact Fr. Hoelsing or Theresa Sapp. Thank you very much!

◆ Mowing sign-up sheet: August is almost done and is taken care of where mowing is concerned. We'll need help with September (since we've gotten good rain over the summer and the grass is still growing. Please help with September when that sign-up sheet is posted.

◆ Does anyone have experience with blinds? We are looking to put new blinds in the windows in the dining room and the adjoining room in the rectory. The blinds currently installed are very old and no longer work (once you open them up you can't close them). If you have experience in installing them, picking out the best style/design, anything related, please contact Fr. Hoelsing. Thanks.

◆ 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.

◆ Masses and Tears - The feast of St. Monica on August 27. The Masses and Tears devotion was written to hopefully help encourage parents who are praying for their children to return to the practice of the Catholic Faith. The devotion is based on the life and prayer of St. Monica. It was created by Fr. Jay Buhman, current pastor of All Saints Parish in Holdrege and St. John Parish in Smithfield, more than a decade ago.

If you would like more information, including a list of available materials that might assist you or your loved ones and friends, please visit massesandtears.org. If you would like materials sent to you, please email massesandtears@gmail.com



◆ Holy Father Prayer Intention for August: For mutual coexistence – Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

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

The narrow gate

“Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough.” Luke 13:24

What does this line tell us? It reveals that we cannot enter Heaven by our own will or through our own effort. Furthermore, it tells us that though some will try to get to Heaven through their own effort, this approach will not work. Upon meeting our Lord, after death, they will be surprised that they are not a member of His Kingdom.

This clear and somewhat shocking statement from our Lord should have the effect of causing you to step back and look at your life so as to sincerely and humbly examine the path you are on. Jesus’ directness and clarity on this real experience that some will have should help to open your eyes so as to honestly examine if He is speaking about you.

It takes true humility to face the truth, at times, and to admit if we are trying to rely more upon ourselves than upon Christ. The “narrow gate” is that gate through which the humble enter. Pride and self-sufficiency lead us to attempt to make our own path to Heaven. But this path is never the correct one.

Entering the “narrow gate” also means that we listen to God. He, as the divine Shepherd, is always calling to us in a gentle way. Only when we are attentive to His voice will we know where He is leading us. Only then will we discover the way through the one and only narrow gate.

Reflect, today, upon that moment when you meet our Lord face to face. What will that encounter be like? Will it be one where He greets you with open arms saying, “Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into your reward.” Or will it be one in which He says, “I do not know you.” Now is the time to face your life of faith with honesty, striving to rely only upon the strength of our divine Lord.

Lord, I do desire to enter the narrow gate. I choose to follow Your gentle voice, leading me to Heaven. Help me to remain humble in life, shedding all that leads me to rely upon myself. May I rely only upon You, dear Lord, and trust You in all things. Jesus, I trust in You.

