

St. Joseph Catholic Church

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

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

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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This Weeks' Masses and Liturgies

DATE	DAY	TIME	INTENTION	SAINT / FEAST
Sept 28	Mon			
Sept 29	Tues	7:30 am	+Chloe Schock	Michael, Gabriel, & Gabriel, Archangels
Sept 30	Wed	7:30 am		Jerome
Oct 1	Thur	7:30 am	+Marie Borino	Saint Thérèse
Oct 2	Fri	7:30 am	Cooper family	Holy Guardian Angels
Oct 3	Sat			27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Oct 4	Sun	9:00 am	Fr. Richard Piontowski, Jr.	
		11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Joseph	

Confessions: one half hour before Sunday Masses

Our Offering to God last week	\$490.00
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St. Joseph Prayer Chain

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

◆ Life Chain in Hastings next Sunday: The annual Life Chain in Hastings will take place on Sunday, October 4, in Hastings, from 2:00pm to 3:00pm. We will be at the same street/area we have been assigned in years past.

◆ Annual seminarian appeal (BAV): The annual Bishop's Appeal for Vocations (BAV) is underway in the Diocese. We will begin our participation in it soon. The money pledged to this appeal helps to defray the cost of educating our seminarians. The seminaries they attend are private institutions which do not receive public funding which makes the tuition more costly. Pledge cards for each family will be in the church hall. Please pray for all our seminarians who will be the future priests of the diocese.

◆ Harvest Season: Harvest season is well underway now. Be careful when driving because of the tractors, wagons, combines, and grain trucks that will be on the road.

◆ Parish Soup Supper: Our Annual Fall Parish Soup Supper will take place on Sunday, November 1, from 5:00pm until 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Please sign up to bring items and assist with the meal. Sign-up sheets are in the back of the church along with raffle tickets to sell.



◆ Seminarian of the Week: The seminarian of the week Daniel Stara. He is a parishioner of St. Mary's church in David City. He entered the seminary in 2025. His parents are Kevin & Betsy Stara. He attends St. Gregory the Great Seminary in Seward. Please pray for him and all our seminarians.

◆ Annual Diaper Drive during October: We are collecting diapers for the LDCCW-sponsored effort to help Nebraska Pro-Life organizations and Catholic Social Services provide diapers to families in need. Diapers can be placed in the boxes in the back of the church set aside for this purpose.

◆ 50 Days for 50 States: Just like last year and the year before, The LDCCW (Lincoln Diocesan Council of Catholic Women) is encouraging each Catholic to offer prayers for the upcoming elections. It is called the 50 Days for 50 States Program. There are no set prayers, just a sacrifice or prayer each day that each state can elect pro-life and pro-family representatives. This week we will double up because this was already going last week and it didn't make it into the bulletin.

- Week one (Monday Sept. 19 thru Sunday Sept. 25): *Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut*
- Week two (Sept. 26 thru Sunday Oct. 4) *Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana*

◆ Pope Leo Prayer Intention for September: For the care of water – Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

◆ Religious Sister of the week: This week we are asked to pray Sr. Maria Luce, a novice in the School Sisters of Christ the King . Please keep her and all our diocesan religious in your prayers.

A life of ongoing conversion

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: “What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, ‘Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.’ He said in reply, ‘I will not,’ but afterwards changed his mind and went. The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, ‘Yes, sir,’ but did not go.” Matthew 21:28–30

This parable presents a message of great hope to those who find it difficult to follow the will of God. The first son, the one who said he would not obey the father but then changed his mind, refers to those who have initially rejected the will of God but then repented and turned back to Him. The second son represents those who claim to be faithful followers of the will of God, but are not. This second son presents us with a very dangerous trap we can fall into. He represents the interior disposition of the chief priests and elders of the people. They said one thing but did another. They acted as if they were righteous but were not. They might have even been fooling themselves.

Of course, there is another possible scenario Jesus doesn’t present. Ideally, when the father asked his son to work in the vineyard he would have said “yes” and then followed through with his commitment. But this is not mentioned because no one falls into that category, except for our Blessed Mother. All people have sinned, and everyone needs to repent.

When we look at these two sons, we must humbly strive to be like the first one. We must begin by acknowledging that we have refused to obey the will of God in many ways throughout our lives. God has invited us to serve Him, and we have said “no.” Acknowledging this is an essential starting point for a life of true conversion and service of God. When we fail to humbly admit that we have sinned, we are acting like the second son. We are living a lie and are trying to convince ourselves that we are faithful to the will of God when we are not. This second

son represents a very dangerous interior disposition that we must avoid with all of our might. It is the sin of impenitence, a sin against the Holy Spirit. It is dangerous because this type of self-righteousness keeps a person from truly serving the will of God. They believe their own lie and see no need to repent.

Which of these two sons are you most like? Are you keenly aware of your weaknesses and sins? Can you humbly admit them to yourself and to God? Or do you tend to present yourself as one

who is holy and does not need to repent? Never be afraid to admit your sin. Never pretend to be someone you are not. Never allow yourself to be drawn into self-righteousness. We are all called to a life of ongoing conversion. Seeing that fact, admitting to it and striving for that conversion will win for us the glorious Kingdom of Heaven.

Reflect, today, upon the many ways that you have initially said “no” to the will of God. Sometimes we do so in grave matters, and sometimes we do so in less serious ways. The humble truth is that we all refuse to fully embrace the will of God every day. The invitation we have been given to obey Him is much more than a black-and-white, yes-or-no answer. God’s call to obedience goes deep and is a call on a continuously deepening level. Keep looking into your soul and confess the ways you reject the will of God. The more clearly you see your sins and confess them, the more fully you will be in a position to say “yes” to the will of God with all your heart.

Most merciful Lord, You continuously call us to repentance. We have all sinned against You and do so every day. Please give me the gifts of humility and honesty so that I will be aware of the ways in which I refuse to say yes to Your perfect will and so that I can repent of those sins and daily turn back to You. Jesus, I trust in You.

