

# St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

MARCH 22, 2026

5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT

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## This Weeks' Masses and Liturgies

DATE	DAY	TIME	INTENTION	SAINT / FEAST
Mar 23	Mon			
Mar 24	Tues	7:30 am	Sr. Ignatia Cooney	
		7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross	
Mar 25	Wed	7:30 am	+Anne Yonker	The Anunciation
Mar 26	Thur	7:30 am		
Mar 27	Fri	7:30 am	+John DeWitt, Jr.	
Mar 28	Sat			
Mar 29	Sun	9:00 am	+Steven Johnson	<b>Palm Sunday</b>
		11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Joseph	

Confessions: one half hour before Sunday Masses

<b>Our Offering to God last week</b>	<b>\$714.00</b>
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## 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	Cecilia Martel	Randy Schulte	Diane Walz & family
Kelem Fabrice	Shirley McCabe	Jody Schulte	Edith Weber
Cesaria Gabriel		Juan Slazar	

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

### Liturgical Events for Holy Week

Holy Thursday	April 2	7:00 pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
		8:00 pm (approx)	Procession to Altar of Repose and Adoration until 10:00 pm
			Confesiones después de la Misa y la Procesión
Good Friday	April 3	3:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
		7:00 pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Holy Saturday	April 4	9:30 am	Confessions for one hour
		8:00 pm	Easter Vigil
Easter Sunday	April 5	9:00 am	Easter Sunday Mass
		11:30 am	Easter Sunday Mass



◆ Deanery Penance Services in Sutton and Hastings Palm Sunday (next Sunday): There will be penance services for everyone to attend on Palm Sunday, March 29. One penance service will take place at St. Mary's in Sutton at 4:00 p.m. Fr. Jirovsky and Fr. Hoelsing will be hearing confessions there. The other will take place at St. Cecilia's in Hastings, also at 4:00 pm. There will be four or five priests hearing confessions there. If you want to go to another priest other than your own parish priest, these penance services are an opportunity to do that. You can go to confession that Sunday and then have supper – what a great way to kick off Holy Week!

◆ Movie Night on March 29: There will be a parish movie night on Sunday, March 29 at 5:00 p.m. We will be watching The Mission. Please bring finger foods to eat while watching the movie.

◆ Stations of the Cross: There will be Stations of the Cross this week again on Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. Please come if you can.

◆ Lenten Clothing Drive for CSS: "This Lenten season, as we seek to "put off the old self" and "put on Christ," Catholic Social Services invites you to join our Lenten Clothing Drive. This is a beautiful opportunity to practice the Corporal Work of Mercy to clothe the naked within our own community. We accept clothing in any condition: quality items provide immediate dignity to those in need, while stained or torn items are recycled to fund our local programs. Your donations directly support

Lenten  
Penance  
Services

our mission to inspire hope across Hastings and south central Nebraska. Drop off your items at the parish in the blue bin located at the back of the church. Thank you for helping us clothe Christ in the poor."

◆ KC Fish Fries in Hastings – one left! The last St. Cecilia Knights of Columbus Fish Fry will take place this 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 Rev. Mr. Bradley Moss. He was ordained as a transitional deacon for the diocese last year. He is a parishioner of St. Joseph's Parish in Lincoln. He entered the seminary in 2018. His parents are Paul Moss

and Mary Schlitz. He attends St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia. Please pray for him and all our seminarians.

◆ Holy Father Prayer Intention for March: For Migrants and Refugees – That displaced persons may find welcome, protection, and opportunities to rebuild their lives with dignity.

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## Let us go and die with Him.....

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*So Thomas, called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go to die with him." John 11:16*

What a great line! The context is important to understand. Thomas said this after Jesus told His Apostles that He was going up to Jerusalem because Lazarus, His friend, was ill and close to death. In fact, as the story unfolds, Lazarus actually did die before Jesus arrived at his house. Of course, we know the end of the story that Lazarus was raised up by Jesus. But the Apostles tried to keep Jesus from going to Jerusalem because they knew there were many who had been quite hostile toward Him and wanted to kill Him. But Jesus decided to go anyway. It was in this context that St. Thomas said to the others, "Let us also go and die with him." Again, what a great line!

It's a great line because Thomas appeared to say this with a certain resolve to accept whatever was waiting for them in Jerusalem. He appeared to know that Jesus was going to be met with resistance and persecution. And he also appeared to be ready to face that persecution and death with Jesus.

Of course Thomas is well known to be the doubter. After Jesus' death and Resurrection he refused to accept that the other Apostles actually saw Jesus. But even though he is well known for his act of doubting, we should not miss the courage and resolve he had in that moment. At that moment, he was willing to go with Jesus to face His persecution and death. And he was even willing to face death himself. Even though he ultimately fled when Jesus was arrested, it's believed that he eventually went as a missionary to India where he did ultimately suffer martyrdom.

This passage should help us to reflect upon our own willingness to go forth with Jesus to face any persecution that may await us. Being a Christian requires courage. We will be different than others. We will not fit in with the culture around us. And when we refuse to conform to the day and age we live in, we will most likely suffer some form of persecution as a result. Are you ready for that? Are you willing to endure this?

We also must learn from St. Thomas that, even if we do fail, we can start again. Thomas was willing, but then he fled at the sight of persecution. He ended up doubting, but in the end he courageously lived out his conviction to go and die with Jesus. It's not so much how many times we fail; rather, it's how we finish the race.

Reflect, today, upon the resolve in the heart of St. Thomas and use it as a meditation upon your own resolve. Do not worry if you fail in this resolve, you can always get up and try again. Reflect also upon the final resolution St. Thomas made when he did die a martyr. Make the choice to follow his example and you, too, will be counted among the saints in Heaven.

*My resolute Lord, I desire to follow You wherever You lead. Give me a firm resolve to walk in Your ways and to imitate the courage of St. Thomas. When I fail, help me to get back up and resolve again. I love You, dear Lord, help me to love You with my life. Jesus, I trust in You.*

