

St. Joseph Catholic Church

AUGUST 3, 2025

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

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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This Weeks' Masses and Liturgies

DATE	DAY	TIME	INTENTION	SAINT / FEAST
Aug 4	Mon	7:30 am	+Terry Thomas	John Vianney
Aug 5	Tues	7:30 am	+Mary Garvin	
Aug 6	Wed	7:30 am	+Mary Wilson	Transfiguration
Aug 7	Thur	7:30 am	Anne Vekved	
Aug 8	Fri			Dominic
Aug 9	Sat			19 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Aug 10	Sun	9:00 am	+James Kiolbasa	
		11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Joseph	

Confessions: one half hour before Sunday Masses

Our Offering to God last week	\$1,208.00
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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).

Concerning the Harvard Alumni Banquet next May

I'm reaching out to all parishioners with a question. St. Joseph parish is next in line in the community assignments for serving the Harvard Alumni Banquet next spring on May 28, 2026. This is a Saturday evening meal served at Harvard Public School for about 100-150 alumni and it can be a good fund raiser for our church.

I am asking if there is any one in our parish who would commit to being the chairman/organizer for planning and serving this meal. We will also ask any parishioners who are available to help prepare and serve this meal. Chris Cooney and I are both going to be gone that weekend for our own 50th class reunions so we are not able to help and so we are making this request early for planning purposes.

Thanks for considering taking on this project and please call me if you have any questions about serving it.

*Shelly Chloupek
Altar Society President*

◆ Missionary Coop and Fr. Sebastian: Please get your donations in for Fr. Sebastian soon (if you haven't already). We want get the donations from here to Missionary Coop office in Lincoln soon. Thanks to those who have generously donated already.

◆ DDP/CSA (Charity & Stewardship Appeal): Pledge cards are still being accepted for this. Thanks for everyone who has assisted.

◆ Keep thanking God for rain: There was a good rain in the area on Tuesday night (we got 1.1 inches at the rectory). Thank you, Lord, for your continued blessings!

◆ Rectory Window Project - Update: Thus far we have received \$13,234.00 toward the Rectory Window Project (much-needed insulation was also added to the attic). Thanks to all who have donated so far.

Parish News & Upcoming Events

◆ School starting soon prayer for safe travel: We pray for safe travel for anyone who is trying to get in an end-of-summer trip before school and school-related activities start. There isn't much time left!

◆ Mowing sign-up sheet for August: The mowing sign-up sheet for August is on the table in the back of the sacristy. Thanks to everyone who has helped with the mowing so far. Please sign up for a slot if you can.

◆ 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.

The final cost of the project is \$29,305.00 (which means an average cost of \$1,465.00 per window). If you would like to donate to this project and have not yet done so, you can put your donation in the collection marked “pledging a window” or “window project.” If you would like to donate over time or if you would like to pledge together with others for one window, please let Theresa know. The money donated will help to reestablish the parish savings account with the diocese which was used to complete this project.

The Glory of The Transfiguration

(The Transfiguration is celebrated this Wednesday)

Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified.

Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Mark 9:5-7

Just prior to the Transfiguration, Jesus began to reveal to His disciples that He would suffer greatly, be rejected by the elders, be killed and then rise on the third day. This caused much fear for the disciples as they grappled with this unsettling revelation from our Lord. And even though Jesus remained firm with them and even rebuked Peter for his fear, Jesus also gave three of His disciples a very precious gift.

After much traveling, preaching, miracle working and private conversations about His passion with the Twelve, Jesus invited Peter, James and John to go with Him up a high mountain to pray. These disciples most likely had no idea what they would soon encounter. As they made the difficult and arduous journey, their minds must have been pondering not only the mighty deeds done by Jesus in the previous months but also His words about the suffering to come. As they struggled with this, much to their amazement, Jesus “was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white.” Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared before them, representing the Law and the prophets. These two Old Testament figures appeared as a way of saying to these disciples that everything that Jesus was telling them was to take place to fulfill all that had been foretold about Him from of old. Perhaps Jesus thought that if His disciples would not fully listen to Him, then seeing Moses and Elijah would help. But Jesus went even further. The Voice of the Father Himself thundered and said, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Thus, if these disciples would not ultimately listen to Jesus alone, or if even Moses and Elijah failed to convince them, then the last hope was the Father Himself. And Jesus delivered such a grace.

The Transfiguration was a true mercy. These disciples had never seen anything like it before. But it was most likely this act of mercy that ultimately helped them to accept the hard truth that Jesus was trying to teach them about His coming suffering and death. If the Father in Heaven Personally gave witness to Jesus, then everything that Jesus had said was trustworthy.

As we read through the Gospels and the many teachings God has given us through the Church, think about whether there are some teachings with which you struggle? Or in your own life, on a personal level, are there some things you know God wants of you but you find it difficult to accept? When confusion sets in, that means we are not listening, are not fully hearing what God is saying to us or are not understanding. And though we will not see the Transfigured Lord with our eyes and hear the Voice of the Father with our ears as these three disciples did, we must choose to believe all that God has said as if it were the Transfigured Lord, with Moses and Elijah, and the Father Himself speaking clearly and directly to us. “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Those words were not only spoken for the good of the disciples, they are also spoken to us.

Reflect, today, upon this powerful experience given to these disciples by our Lord. Try to place yourself in the scene so as to witness Jesus transfigured in the most glorious way, with Moses and Elijah and with the thundering Voice of the Father. Allow the Father to speak also to you, telling you that all He has spoken through the Scriptures, the Church and within your own conscience is true. Allow this revelation to convince you on the deepest level to acknowledge not only the divinity of Jesus but also to “Listen to Him” in every way.



My transfigured Lord, You are glorious beyond imagination, and You revealed a small glimpse of this glory to Your disciples to help them trust You more fully. May I also trust in You more completely, knowing that all You have spoken to me is true. Please remove any doubt and fear in my life so that nothing keeps me from embracing Your holy will. Jesus, I trust in You.