

St. Joseph Catholic Church



APRIL 26, 2026

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mailing Address PO Box 70 Harvard, NE 68944	Street Address 611 N. Kearney Ave. Harvard, NE 68944	Rectory Phone 402-772-3511
Parish Website: https://www.st-joseph-harvard.com/		
Parish email address: st.joseph.cc.hrverd.ne@gmail.com		

This Weeks' Masses and Liturgies

DATE	DAY	TIME	INTENTION	SAINT / FEAST
April 27	Mon			
April 28	Tues	7:30 am	+Dale Leonard	
April 29	Wed	7:30 am	+Venette Verde	Catherine of Siena
April 30	Thur	7:30 am	+Bob Bedient	
May 1	Fri	7:30 am		
May 2	Sat			5 th Sunday in Easter
May 3	Sun	9:00 am	+Carolyn Rehtus	
		11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Joseph	

Confessions: one half hour before Sunday Masses

Our Offering to God last week	\$478.00
-------------------------------	----------

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

◆ Easter Flowers donations: If you would like to donate towards the cost of the Easter Flowers, please use the envelopes at the back of the church. The envelopes can be given to Shelly Chloupek, Chris Cooney or placed in the collection basket.

◆ Harvard Church Women May Salad Luncheon: The annual Harvard Church Women May Salad Luncheon will take place on May 1 at 12:00 noon at the Community Room. Our Altar Society is asked to provide 6 salads and 1 bread or crackers for the luncheon. Please text or call Shelly if you can donate a salad. The speaker is Megan Cook from "I Have a Name." She is a very good speaker and has a worthwhile story to tell. There is a sign on the church door with more details. Tickets are available from Shelly or Chris.

◆ Harvard Baccalaureate at St. Joseph's this year: The annual pre-graduation Baccalaureate in Harvard will take place at our church this year. It will take place on Tuesday, May 5, at 6:30 p.m.

◆ Fr Hoelsing covering Superior next weekend: Next weekend I will cover Masses at Superior and Nelson for Fr. Sparling. Fr. Matthew Schilmoeller from St. Cecilia's in Hastings will cover Masses here next Sunday.

◆ Carry-in brunch on May 3: It's time for another carry-in brunch! This one will take place on Sunday, May 3, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Everyone is welcome!

◆ May Crowing: May is the month of Mary. Part of our observance of the month of Mary is the May Crowing of the statue of Mary in our church. This crowing will take place on Sunday, May 3.

◆ Thanks for Easter help: Thanks to everyone who helped with Holy Week and Easter this year. There's a lot of preparation that goes into the special liturgies we have during that week. Thanks for everyone who helped decorate, who read at the Mass, who helped with the reading of the Passion on Palm Sunday and Good Friday, who helped with music, who did extra acolyte duty, who helped clean and set up (and take down), and to those who helped decorate the church. The efforts of so many people helped to make the liturgies of Holy Week and Easter run smoothly. Thanks for everyone for their extra efforts during this time.

◆ Prayers for priests getting new assignments: The new assignments for priests of our diocese were published recently in the Southern Nebraska Register. Please keep these priests in your prayers as they prepare for their new assignments.



◆ CSS job opening – Client and Volunteer Relations Specialist: Catholic Social Services in Hastings seeks a positive, organized, and mission-motivated communicator for the position of Client and Volunteer Relations Specialist. They will serve as the welcoming face of CSS, managing essential front-office administration and answering calls, while also recruiting volunteers to support our mission and serve our clients. To access the full job description or apply, scan the QR code or visit this webpage: csshope.org/careers

◆ Holy Father Prayer Intention for April: For priests in crisis – Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding & prayer.

Christ the Good Shepherd of us all

“But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.” John 10:2-4

Four things happen in this story:

First, the gatekeeper opens the gate for the shepherd.

Second, the shepherd calls his own sheep by name.

Third, the sheep hear his voice.

Fourth, the shepherd leads the sheep through the gate.

Who is the “gatekeeper?” Saint Augustine says that one answer to this is that the gatekeeper is the Holy Spirit. The role of the Holy Spirit is to open our minds to the truth, to a deeper understanding of Scripture, and therefore, to a deeper understanding of Christ Himself. Therefore, the Holy Spirit will open your mind and your heart to know and love Christ as your shepherd, if you let Him.

Once this happens, Jesus, the Good Shepherd, will speak your name, personally. Not audibly, but through the gift of faith. You are not only one of many sheep; rather, you are His dear one whom He knows and loves on an intimate and personal level. Therefore, this passage calls us to an intimate and personal relationship with Christ the Good Shepherd.

Knowing we are personally and intimately loved by Christ, that we are called by name, invites and encourages us to listen. Do you listen? And if you listen, do you hear? “Hearing” Christ speak to us in this personal and intimate way should motivate us to action.

What action? To be led. Normally a shepherd walks behind the sheep and they run on ahead. But in this story, Jesus, the Good Shepherd, Who calls you by name, leads you “through the gate.” Jesus Himself is the Gate. We are called to become one with Him and, through Him, to enter into the bosom of the Father in Heaven. Through Him we enter into new life itself, life of union with Him Who is our Shepherd.

Reflect, today, upon this fourfold journey to which you are called. Pray to the Holy Spirit that your mind and heart will be opened to know and love Christ. Then prayerfully listen for Christ to speak to you. Hear Him, respond to Him and allow Him to draw you into His open heart of perfect love.



Holy Spirit, please open my ears to the Voice of the Good Shepherd and my mind to all that He speaks. My precious Lord Jesus, You are my Shepherd, I choose, this day, to follow Your voice when You speak, and to do so with complete trust and abandon. I love You, my Lord, and I thank you for loving me with such tender and intimate care. Jesus, my Good Shepherd, I trust in You.