

St. Joseph Catholic Church

JULY 26, 2026

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

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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This Weeks' Masses and Liturgies

DATE	DAY	TIME	INTENTION	SAINT / FEAST
July 27	Mon			
July 28	Tues			
July 29	Wed			
July 30	Thur			
July 31	Fri	7:30 am	+James Hoelsing	Ignatius of Loyola
Aug 1	Sat			18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Aug 2	Sun	9:00 am	Special Intention (DGL)	
		11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Joseph	
Confessions: one half hour before Sunday Masses				

Our Offering to God last week	\$462.00
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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

◆ Holy Father Prayer Intention for July: For respect for human life – Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

◆ Mowing sign-up sheet for August: Please keep signing up. Thanks for all the help so far. We got some rain, so it's growing again!

◆ Pray the rosary: Just a reminder to pray the rosary. Pray just one set of the 10 beads if you can't do the whole thing. It's portable. The rosary beads are good because they literally give us something to hold on to so we can keep our focus. Pray for rain and for those who have to be outside in the heat!

◆ Fr. Hoelsing on retreat this week: I will be on retreat this week at the Diocesan Retreat House in Waverly with other priests of the diocese. I will leave Sunday afternoon and return on Thursday evening. Please pray for all the priests on retreat.

◆ Coffee/rolls/brunch & CCD registration: We will have back-to-school brunch on Sunday, August 23, after the 9:00 am Mass. Everyone is welcome. In the meantime, enjoy what's left of summer.

◆ Baptism: We welcome into our parish community Jay Dean Martin, son of James & Brendell Martin, who was baptized two weeks ago on July 5. Congratulations to the Martin family!!

◆ Religious Sister of the week: The first Religious Sister of the Diocese for whom we pray this week is Sr. Juanita Marie from the Philippines. She is a member of the Holy Spirit Adoration (Pink) Sisters in Lincoln. Please keep her and all our diocesan religious in your prayers.



Joy and judgment

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind. When it is full they haul it ashore and sit down to put what is good into buckets. What is bad they throw away. Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.” Matthew 13:47–50

This parable is the third of three parables Jesus tells in a row. The first compares the Kingdom of Heaven to a “treasure buried in a field.” When a person finds it, they sell everything they have so as to buy that field. The second parable likens the Kingdom of Heaven to a merchant who is in search of fine pearls. “When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it.” In both of these parables, the discovery of the Kingdom of Heaven is a great joy. The person discovering the treasure or the pearl is so elated that he is willing to trade all that he has so as to obtain it.

The third of these three parables, however, is much different. In this case, the Kingdom of Heaven is likened to a net that gathers all people at the end of the age and separates them, the good from the bad. The parable then concludes with a frightening image. The wicked will be thrown “into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth.”

In the end, for those who enter the glories of Heaven, there will be unending joy. And this fact must be understood so as to draw us into those riches of grace. Anticipation of such a gift should motivate us to diligently seek out the many graces our Lord wishes to bestow upon us. But sometimes we need a bit more of a nudge. We can easily become complacent in our life of faith and our search for God’s will. For that reason, Jesus includes the third parable, outlining the consequences some will endure at the end of time. Though it might not be a happy thought, it is a holy thought because it reveals God’s definitive justice and judgment at the end of time.

Do you believe in the Justice of God? Do you believe that He will exact definitive judgment upon those who reject His holy will in this life? Do you believe that Hell is real and is a possibility for us all? If this thought is difficult to accept, then it might be worth further prayerfully pondering this third parable. Justice and judgment are real. If we are not fully motivated in life to diligently seek out the glory of the Kingdom of Heaven, then we should at least honestly face the reality of the consequences that await.

Reflect, today, upon the glory, beauty and splendor of God. Try to put your eyes of faith upon the Treasure of the Kingdom of Heaven. Allow this prayerful meditation to inspire you to make obtaining the Kingdom of Heaven your sole mission in life. But if you struggle with this joyous discovery, then do not hesitate to reflect upon the potential consequences. The Lord speaks of these consequences of God’s justice and judgment for our good so as to keep them from becoming our reality.

My just Judge, You see all things and know all things. You know my heart through and through. Please cleanse me of every sin and all complacency in life. Fill me with a holy zeal for Your Kingdom. May the joy of the discovery of You fully motivate me to remain diligent in my journey to Heaven.

Jesus, I trust in You.

