

St. Joseph Catholic Church

OCTOBER 4, 2026

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

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

This Weeks' Masses and Liturgies

DATE	DAY	TIME	INTENTION	SAINT / FEAST
Oct 5	Mon			
Oct 6	Tues	7:30 am	+John DeWitt, Jr.	
Oct 7	Wed	7:30 am		Our Lady of the Rosary
Oct 8	Thur	7:30 am	+Eileen Kieffe	
Oct 9	Fri	7:30 am		
Oct 10	Sat			28 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Oct 11	Sun	9:00 am	+Harold & Elizabeth Engel	
		11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Joseph	
Confessions: one half hour before Sunday Masses				

Our Offering to God last week	\$541.00
-------------------------------	----------

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 this 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. Come if you can!

◆ **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.

◆ **Harvard Senior Community Meal:** The Harvard Senior Community Meal will take place on Thursday, October 8, from 11:30 pm to 2:00 pm at the Harvard United Methodist Church basement. The cost is \$6. Please R.S.V.P. to Elaine Almond (402) 224-0732 by 7:00pm, Sunday, October 4.

◆ **Food Pantry next Saturday:** It's St. Joseph's turn next Saturday, October 10, to help with distribution of food to those we need assistance from 9:00am to 10:30am. (as we always run the distribution on the second Saturday of the month). Volunteers are needed for various tasks outside of those times to receive orders and build boxes as well as other tasks. If you can volunteer, please contact Elaine Almond or Shelly Chloupek.

◆ **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.

◆ **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.

◆ **Seminarian of the Week:** The seminarian of the week Derrek Sumner. He is a parishioner of St. John's in Lincoln. He entered the seminary in 2022. His parents are Dominic & Anne Sumner. He attends St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Please pray for him and all our seminarians.

◆ **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 three: *Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts*

◆ 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.

◆ Pope Leo Prayer Intention for October: .For mental health ministry – Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

◆ Religious Sister of the week: This week we are asked to pray for Sr. Mary Kobe Tiche, in the School Sisters of Christ the King. Please keep her and all our diocesan religious in your prayers.

A cornerstone of grace

Jesus said to them, “Did you never read in the Scriptures: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes? Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit.” Matthew 21:42–43

The most amazing thing that has ever happened in this world is the death of the Son of God. It is amazing for many reasons. It’s amazing that God the Father allowed His Son to be brutally murdered by evil men. It’s amazing that the Son did not call upon the myriad of angels to stop His persecution. It’s amazing that Jesus spoke words of forgiveness from the Cross as His own mother looked on. But perhaps the most amazing aspect about this event is that from it, the gift of eternal salvation was made possible.

Only God, in His inconceivable wisdom and power, could bring forth the greatest good from the greatest evil. Nothing could be more evil than the brutal murder of the Son of God. And nothing could be more glorious than the transformation of that heinous act into the definitive act of salvation for the human race. Jesus was “the stone rejected by the builders.” But that rejected Stone was used by the Father to “become the cornerstone” of the new life of grace to which we are called.

The passage quoted above concludes the Parable of the Tenants, which outlines salvation history. The Father is the owner of the vineyard, which represents the people of Israel. The tenants were the religious leaders of the time who abused the prophets who were sent to gather the fruit of God’s Kingdom. The son is the Son of God whom the leaders of Israel killed under the misconception that killing Jesus would guarantee the continuation of their power. However, the true result was that they suffered their own destruction, and the murdered Son became the cornerstone of the Church and the source of new life.

Today, you are among the people to whom God has given charge of His new Vineyard, the Church. Of you, God demands an abundance of good fruit. Though the Church is entrusted to the pope, bishops and priests in a special way, it is also entrusted to the laity, each in their own way. Everyone must bear fruit for the Kingdom of God, and everyone will be held accountable for their stewardship.

Sometimes we can fall into the trap of thinking that we have little to offer. If we were the pope, a bishop or even a priest, we could do great things for God. And though that is true, it is no less true that everyone is capable of bearing an abundance of good fruit for the Kingdom. And God expects that of us all. If you doubt that fact in any way, recall again the undeniable fact that the Father used the greatest evil ever committed to bring forth the greatest good ever known. If God can bring forth new life from death, then He can certainly use you in powerful ways. In fact, the weaker you are and the more insignificant you feel, the more God can use you to produce good fruit.

Reflect, today, upon the glorious fact that if God can use his own suffering and death to bring salvation to the world, He can also use you in ways that are beyond your imagination. You might not become a famous evangelist. You might not succeed in some well-recognized ministry. In fact, you might even encounter much suffering, persecution, and hardship throughout life. Regardless of your own life situation, God desires to use you for great things and to bear an abundance of good fruit for His Kingdom. Commit to that mission, and allow God to use you as a cornerstone of His grace in this world.

My Lord and Cornerstone of the Church, You were rejected by the leaders of Israel and were killed in the most horrific way. Yet in Your glorious power, You transformed that evil into the greatest good. I give to You my weaknesses and pains, my talents and labors; I give to You my entire life. Please use me and help me to share in Your life so that, with You, I may also become a cornerstone of Your grace as You desire. Jesus, I trust in You.