

St. Joseph Catholic Church

NOVEMBER 2, 2025

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

31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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.hrvrd.ne@gmail.com		

This Weeks' Masses and Liturgies

DATE	DAY	TIME	INTENTION	SAINT / FEAST
Nov 3	Mon			
Nov 4	Tues	7:30 am	+Adeline Breslin	
Nov 5	Wed	7:30 am	+Martin Hoelsing	
Nov 6	Thur	7:30 am	Special Intention	
Nov 7	Fri	7:30 am		
		6:30 pm	First Friday Eucharistic Holy Hour	
Nov 8	Sat	7:30 am		32 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Nov 9	Sun	9:00 am	+Dec'd parishioners of our parish	
		11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Joseph	

Confessions: one half hour before Sunday Masses

Our Offering to God last week	\$741.00
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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
George Hoffmeister			

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

◆ Return to Standard Time this weekend: This weekend begins Standard Time which lasts until the second weekend in March. If you arrived for Mass this morning and no one was here, that probably means you didn't turn your clock back one hour last night. ☺

◆ Food Pantry next Saturday: It's St. Joseph's turn next Saturday, November 8, 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.

Soup Supper is today!!



Today is our annual Soup Supper. Thank you, Lord, for the beautiful weather!!

There are still some empty slots on the sign-up sheet for workers – please fill those in this morning.

Feel free to spread the word. Two Facebook posts were published this week to let people know.

◆ November – All Souls' Day Mass

Intentions: This Sunday is All Souls' Day. November has traditionally been the month to remember the poor souls in purgatory. It is a good practice to pray for those who are deceased; it's a practice that actually dates back to the Old Testament. If you would like to have a Mass offered for your deceased loved ones take any envelope and label it "All Souls Day Mass Intention" and put it in the collection. The suggested stipend amount is \$10.00, but if you can't afford that, that's fine. Make sure to include the names of those you want remembered.

◆ Book Of Remembrance: A book of remembrance will be placed in the vestibule of the church for the names of the faithful departed to be remembered in the month of November and throughout the year. Please feel free to write the names of the deceased and any the dates of their passing if you wish.

◆ Seminarian of the Week:

The seminarian of the week is Isaac VanSkiver (a local guy!). He is a parishioner of St. Michael's parish in Hastings. He entered the seminary last year. His parents are Greg & Roxanne VanSkiver. He attends St. Gregory the Great Seminary in Seward. Please pray for him and all our seminarrians.



- ◆ Holy Father Prayer Intention for November: For the prevention of suicide – Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.
- ◆ 50 Days for 50 States: The states up for prayer until November elections are as follows: West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.
- ◆ Seminarian appeal: The annual Bishop's Appeal for Vocations (BAV) is underway in the Diocese. Please get your pledges in if you haven't already.
- ◆ Magnificat Fall Prayer Meal with Fr. Jim Morin: Ladies, you're invited to Magnificat's Fall Prayer Meal with speaker Father Jim Morin, the Dean of Men and Instructor of Theology and Latin at St Gregory the Great Seminary, on Saturday November 22 at the Hillcrest Country Club from 9:30 a.m. until Noon! Father Morin is from St Teresa's Parish where he attended elementary school. He graduated from Pius X High School in 2008, and after one year of college felt called to enter the Seminary. He studied Philosophy at St Gregory the Great Seminary and Theology at the North American College in Rome. After ordination, he spent his first year as a Priest in Rome

and then parishes and schools in Nebraska City and Hastings. Join us for Father Morin's Testimony to the Holy Spirit in his life and the "rest of the story"! Be a friend and bring a friend and enjoy a morning of prayer, community and JOY with breakfast, a teaching, Praise and Worship, Father's Testimony and more! Registration is \$33 and due by November 15. For questions, contact Coordinator Rhonda Litt at 402.525.6396. Register at: <https://www.osvhub.com/magnificatmorningstarchapter/forms/november-prayer-meal-featuring-fr-morin>

The holy souls in purgatory

Purgatory is an often misunderstood doctrine of our Church. What is Purgatory? Is it the place we have to go to be punished for our sins? Is it God's way of getting us back for the wrong we've done? Is it the result of God's anger? None of these questions really answer the question of Purgatory. Purgatory is nothing other than the burning and purifying love of our God in our lives!

When someone dies in God's grace they are most likely not 100% converted and perfect in every way. Even the greatest of saints most often would have some imperfection left in their lives. Purgatory is nothing other than that final purification of all remaining attachment to sin in our lives. By analogy, imagine that you had a cup of 100% pure water, pure H₂O. This cup will represent Heaven. Now imagine that you want to add to that cup of water but all you have is water that is 99% pure. This will represent the holy person who dies with just some slight attachments to sin. If you add that water to your cup then the cup will now have at least some impurities in the water as it mixes together. The problem is that Heaven (the original cup of 100% H₂O) cannot contain any impurities. Heaven, in this case, cannot have even the slightest attachment to sin in it. Therefore, if this new water (the 99% pure water) is to be added to the cup it must first be purified even of that last 1% of impurities (attachments to sin). This is ideally done while we are on Earth. This is the process of getting holy. But if we die with any attachment, then we simply say that the process of entering into the final and full vision of God in Heaven will purify us of any remaining attachment to sin. All may already be forgiven, but we may not have detached from those things forgiven. Purgatory is the process, after death, of burning out the last of our attachments so that we can enter Heaven 100% freed of everything to do with sin. If, for example, we still have a bad habit of being rude, or sarcastic, even those tendencies and habits must be purged.

*All
Souls' Day*

How does this happen? We do not know. We only know it does. But we also know it's the result of God's infinite love that frees us of these attachments. Is it painful? Most likely. But it's painful in the sense that letting go of any disordered attachment is painful. It's hard to break a bad habit. It's even painful in the process. But the end result of true freedom is worth any pain we may have experienced. So, yes, Purgatory is painful. But it's a sort of sweet pain that we need and it produces the end result of a person 100% in union with God.

Now since we are talking about the Communion of Saints, we also want to make sure to understand that those going through this final purification are still in communion with God, with those members of the Church on Earth, and with those in Heaven. For example, we are called to pray for those in Purgatory. Our prayers are effective. God uses those prayers, which are acts of our love, as instruments of His grace of purification. He allows us and invites us to participate in their final purification by our prayers and sacrifices. This forges a bond of union with them. And no doubt the saints in Heaven especially offer prayers for those in this final purification as they await full communion with them in Heaven. It's a glorious thought and a joy to see how God has orchestrated this entire process for the ultimate purpose of the holy communion to which we are called!

Lord, I pray for those souls going through their final purification in Purgatory. Please pour forth Your mercy upon them so that they may be freed of all attachment to sin and, thus, be prepared to see You face to face. Jesus, I trust in You.