

St. Joseph Catholic Church

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

DECEMBER 28, 2025

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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This Weeks' Masses and Liturgies

DATE	DAY	TIME	INTENTION	SAINT / FEAST
Dec 29	Mon			
Dec 30	Tues			
Dec 31	Wed			
Jan 1	Thur	4:00 pm	Parishioners of St. Joseph	Mary, Mother of God
Jan 2	Fri	7:30 am		Sts. Basil & Gregory
		6:30 pm	First Friday Holy Hour	
Jan 3	Sat	7:30 am		Epiphany of the Lord
Jan 4	Sun	9:00 am	+Edyn Verbeck	
		11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Joseph	

Confessions: one half hour before Sunday Masses

Our Offering to God last week	\$903.00 (Dec. 21) \$614.00 (Dec. 25)
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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	Shirley Koenig	Fr. Allan Phan	Landon Van Boening
Greg Almond	Erica Lauinger	Sharon Reasland	Garry Veik
Pete Bartels	Rita Mach	Dennis Reddick	The Verde family
Randy Chloupek	Jolene Markland	Nancy Sapp	Teresa Volesky
Kelem Fabrice	Cecilia Martel	Randy Schulte	Diane Walz & family
Cesaria Gabriel	Shirley McCabe	Juan Slazar	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

◆ Holy Father Prayer Intention for January: For prayer with the Word of God – Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

◆ End-of-year giving: If there are donations you wish to give before the end of the year, now is the time because the year is almost over. Any giving you want to count for 2025 should be dated or postmarked no later than December 31, 2025.

◆ Seminarian of the Week: The seminarian of the week is Dominic Jasti. He is a parishioner of the St. Thomas Aquinas church in Lincoln. He entered the seminary in 2022. His parents are Jasti Vinodh & Mary Roja Manikat. He attends Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Please pray for him and all our seminarians.



◆ Fr. Hoelsing visiting family this week: After Masses this Sunday I will leave to visit my family for a post-Christmas visit. I will return on Thursday, New Year's Day, in time for the Mass at 4:00 p.m. Please pray for my safe travels.

◆ January 1 Holy Day: New Year's Day is always celebrated as a commemoration of Mary, the Mother of God. There will be one Mass here to celebrate that Holy Day: January 1, Thursday, at 4:00 p.m.

◆ First Friday Holy Hour: There will be a Holy Hour this Friday at 6:30 pm. Come and be with Our Lord for the whole hour or just part of it. You can just sit and be with Jesus and partake of the 'heavenly peace' we sing about this time of year.

◆ Thanks for decorating: Thanks to everyone who helped decorate the church for Christmas! Celebrating Jesus' birth is a big event that is not to be taken lightly. A great deal of care was put into getting the church ready for Christmas, and our décor shows that. Thanks to all who helped and thanks, also, to those who donated toward the purchase of the poinsettias.



Honoring the Holy Family

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. Luke 2:51–52 (Gospel from Year C)

On this, the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, we honor the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. In honoring them, we also honor all families, big or small. And in honoring all families, we honor the family of God, the Church. But most especially, we focus in on the hidden, day-to-day life of the Holy Family of Nazareth.

What was it like to live day in and day out in the household of St. Joseph? What was it like to have Jesus for a son, Mary as a wife and mother, and Joseph as a father and husband? Their home would have certainly been a sacred place and a dwelling of true peace and unity. But it would have also been so much more.

The family home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph would have been, in numerous ways, just like any other home. They would have related together, talked, had fun, disagreed, worked, eaten, dealt with problems, and encountered everything else that makes up daily family life.

Of course, the virtues of Jesus and Mary were perfect, and St. Joseph was a truly “just man.” Therefore, the overriding characteristic of their home would have been love.

But with that said, their family would not have been exempt from daily toil, hurt and challenges that face most families. For example, they would have encountered the death of loved ones, St. Joseph most likely passed away prior to Jesus’ public ministry. They would have encountered misunderstanding and gossip from others. Our Blessed Mother, for example, was found with child out of wedlock. This would have been a topic of discussion among many acquaintances for sure. They would have had to fulfill all daily chores, earn a living, put food on the table, attend gatherings of family and friends and the like. They would have lived normal family life in every way.

This is significant because it reveals God’s love for family life. The Father allowed His Divine Son to live this life and, as a result, elevated family life to a place within the Trinity. The holiness of the Holy Family reveals to us that every family is invited to share in God’s divine life and to encounter ordinary daily life with grace and virtue.

Reflect, today, upon your own family life. Some families are strong in virtue, some struggle with basic communication. Some are faithful day in and day out, some are broken and deeply wounded. No matter the case, know that God wants to enter more deeply into your family life just as it is right now. He desires to give you strength and virtue to live as the Holy Family. Surrender yourself and your family, this day, and invite the Triune God to make your family a holy family.



Lord, I do offer myself to You this day and in doing so I offer You my family. I offer every relationship, be it good or difficult, and I offer every challenge we face. Please come and sanctify my family, making it holy in imitation of your family in Nazareth. Jesus, I trust in You.