

St. Joseph Catholic Church

JULY 19, 2026

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

16TH 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>
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This Weeks' Masses and Liturgies

DATE	DAY	TIME	INTENTION	SAINT / FEAST
July 20	Mon	7:30 am	+Mary Lou Brockman	
July 21	Tues			
July 22	Wed			Mary Magdalene
July 23	Thur			Maria Magdalena
July 24	Fri	7:30 am	+Marie Borino	
July 25	Sat			17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 26	Sun	9:00 am	+Carolyn Mazour	
		11:30 am	Parishioners of St. Joseph	
Confessions: one half hour before Sunday Masses				

Our Offering to God last week	\$588.00
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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 July and August: Please keep signing up. Thanks for all the help so far. sign up for this month.
- ◆ Bishop Bruskewitz anniversary of ordination to the priesthood: Last Friday, July 17, was the 66th anniversary of Bishop Bruskewitz' ordination to the priesthood. He was ordained in Rome in 1960. He always appreciates the prayers of the people he served. He still lives in Lincoln and is 90 years old. Please keep him in your prayers!
- ◆ 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. We're in need of rain again – we can ask for help with that as one of the intentions for which we pray the rosary.
- ◆ Garden produce: If you have any extra garden produce to spare I'll take some! Thanks. Fr. H

◆ Fr. Hoelsing visiting in Wichita: On Monday I will leave to visit family and friends in Wichita and later visit the Shrine of Blessed Fr. Stanley Rother in Oklahoma City, I will return on Wednesday night or Thursday afternoon. Please pray for my safe travels.

◆ Exhibit of Sacred Relics – “A Night Where Heaven Touches Earth”: This Wednesday, July 22, at 7:00 pm, St. Michael's Church in Hastings will be hosting a presentation and veneration of sacred relics through the Treasures of the Church Relic Apostolate. The evening will include a short catechesis on relics, followed by time for the faithful to view/venerate 20 relics of well-known saints and martyrs, including Apostles, early Church martyrs, Doctors of the Church, and beloved saints. Seminarian Dominic Jastl will lead the presentation. Everyone is welcome to attend.



◆ 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. Mikaelis from the Philippines. She is a member of the Holy Spirit Adoration (Pink) Sisters in Lincoln. Please keep her and all of our diocesan religious in your prayers.

◆ Catholic Social Services in need of personal care supplies: This list of supplies that Catholic Social Services can use is finally listed on the church door. Please help if you can.

Vigilance

Jesus proposed another parable to the crowds, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everyone was asleep his enemy came and sowed weeds all through the wheat, and then went off. When the crop grew and bore fruit, the weeds appeared as well.” Matthew 13:24–26

This parable would have made much sense to the people of Jesus’ time. It was common practice for an enemy to get revenge upon another by sowing a weed named “cockle” in with the wheat. As the cockle began to grow, it looked much like wheat until the grain was formed. And if it were mixed with the wheat and eaten, it would cause severe nausea. Due to this, it was also common practice for farmers with enemies to have servants stand watch over their fields after they were planted. Therefore, this parable reveals that the servants who were to keep watch failed in their duty.

In explaining this parable, Jesus says, “He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels” (Matthew 13:37–39). One common tactic of the evil one is to subtly mix his lies with the truth. He knows that if he were to propose some grave and obvious lie that many would reject it outright. Therefore, he attempts to create division and confusion by slowly and slightly suggesting his errors in such a way that they are more easily believed. Therefore, “the children of the evil one” can be understood as those in this world who are under the influence of the devil, as well as the legions of demons who attempt to sow confusion in our lives and within the Church.



One helpful way to prayerfully ponder this parable is to see yourself as one of those servants who is entrusted with the task of guarding the field. Since the field is the world, we all have a duty to keep the lies of the evil one from flourishing. To do that, we certainly must confront the most serious errors we encounter. For example, the dignity of the unborn child must be protected and the diabolical practice of abortion must cease. Additionally, we must work to protect the Church, our communities, friends and families from not only the grave errors of our times but also those most subtle ones. For example, within the Church, conflicts and confusions often arise. These divisions are part of the subtle lies sown by the evil one.

We must also see our own souls as the fertile soil. Certainly God’s Word has been planted, but oftentimes we allow ourselves to believe subtle errors. This leads to internal conflict, sin and confusion. Thus, we must regularly guard our souls from these lies by relying upon the authentic teachings of our Church and the teachings of the saints.

Reflect, today, upon your sacred duty to be vigilant and constantly on the lookout for the seed of error sown within our world, the Church and your own soul. Vigilance is key. The evil one is always on the prowl. If we are to learn one of the central messages of this parable, then we must learn to guard and protect all that God has revealed and hold firmly to the Truth alone.

*Glorious Word of God, You have sown Your seed of truth in our world, within Your Church and in my life. May I always listen to Your Word and respond to it wholeheartedly. Please also reveal to me the many lies of the evil one so that I can reject them with all my heart.
Jesus, I trust in You.*