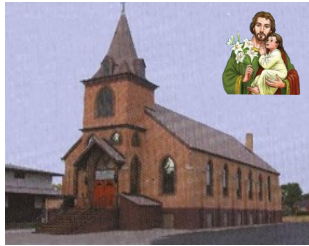


Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: July 23—July 29, 2023



St. Joseph's Catholic Church
710 N Custer Avenue
Hardin, MT 59034
Father Callistus Igwenagu
406-665-1432

Website: stjosephparishhardin.org
 Email: stjosephparishhardin@gmail.com
 Facebook: St Joseph Catholic Parish—Hardin

Pastoral Staff Volunteers

Parish Bookkeeper: Colleen Schaak
 Parish Secretary: Deb Johnson
 Bulletin: Patty Kepp
 Website Editor: Julie O'Dell
 Religious Education: Celeste Geier & Bethany Fuchs

Mass Intentions

Sun., July 23: **For the people**
 Mon., July 24: _____
 Tues., July 25: _____
 Wed., July 26: _____
 Thurs., July 27: _____
 Fri., July 28: _____
 Sat., July 29: **+For Connie Medhus
 by Lowell Medhus**



Offertory Collections **Month of June, 2023**
 Sat., July 15: \$ 433.00 **Income: \$ 6,226.30**
 Sun., July 16: \$ 761.00 **Expenses: \$ 8,966.56**
\$ (2,740.26)

Fiscal Year ending 6.30.23
Income: \$ 96,416.60
Expenses \$ 104,547.68
\$ (8,131.08)

Mass Servers

	Commentator	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat., July 22	Bethany Fuchs	Richelle Link	Deb Johnson & Julie O'Dell
Sun., July 23	Visencia Ramirez	Candy Wells	Paula Bowler & Angela Ramirez
Sat., July 29	Julie O'Dell	Katie Fuchs	Chris & Bethany Fuchs
Sun., July 30	Sue Seykora	Angela Ramirez	Angela Ramirez & Candy Wells
Sat., Aug 5	Patty Kepp	Celeste Geier	Larry & Deb Johnson
Sun., Aug 6	Candy Wells	Sue Seykora	Sue Seykora & Candy Wells

Mass Schedule

St. Joseph's Church – Hardin
 Sunday Mass – 9:00 a.m.
 Saturday Mass – 5:45 p.m.
 Daily Mass – 8:00 a.m.
 Tuesday—Friday
St. Mary's Mission – Custer
 Sunday Mass – 11:00 a.m.

Reconciliation: Saturday from 5:00-5:30 pm
For Holy Communion and Anointing of the Sick, please contact Father Cally
Contact Numbers:
Father Cally, 406-665-1432: all questions
Patty Kepp, 406-665-5257: bulletin

Calendar

Wed., July 26: Mass and Adoration, 5:30 pm

Stress in Your Marriage? - There is less than a week left to sign up for Retrouvaille. Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness and simply shut down. Others experience conflict and arguments in their relationship and don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouses about it. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve communication. Our next program begins August 4, 2023. For more information about an upcoming Retrouvaille Weekend program for couples, contact registration team: at 1-800-470-2230 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com Not counseling or group therapy. All contacts and names are held in strictest confidence.

God is good, all the time!
All the time God is good!



PARABLE OF THE WHEAT AND THE WEED ---- GOD IS A MERCIFUL JUDGE

I once boarded a flight from Billings to Houston, Texas. There was a lady who was on board with us. This lady was very indecently dressed. When I saw her, I concluded in my mind that this lady must be a prostitute; and I was sure everyone on the plane who saw her dressing must have thought the same. But to my greatest surprise when the plane was about to take off, this lady opened her handbag and brought out her rosary and began to pray. I said to myself, "wow, this lady must be a devoted good Catholic." From that moment my impression of her and my attitude towards her began to change. I said to myself that this lady may not be a bad person.

Jesus in today's gospel (Matt. 13:24-43) told us the parable of the weeds growing together with the good seeds. When the servants of the gardener noticed this, they requested the master to allow them to pull up the weeds, but the master said NO, telling them that they could mistakenly pull up the good seed along with the weeds. He ordered that both the good seeds and the weeds should be allowed to grow together until the harvest time when he himself will separate them. There are few lessons Jesus wants to teach us through this parable:

We should not judge others because we can't judge correctly. We should not condemn anyone for we could condemn innocent people. Only God who sees the inside and outside of a person can be the best judge. We should therefore leave judgment to God.

Another lesson is that God is a merciful judge. Today's first reading (Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19) tells us that God is patient with sinners. He wants repentance of the sinners and not their destruction (Ezekiel 33:11). That was why God allows the good people and the bad to live together here on earth with the hope that the bad ones may realize their sinfulness and come back to him before the judgement day. The psalmist said "Lord, you are good and forgiving." (Psalm 86).

One important question we should ask ourselves today is: Who is a good person and who is a bad person? Who is the wheat and who is the weed? Am I good or bad? One truth we all must acknowledge is that there is always a mixture of good and bad in each human person. In so far as we are on earth, we are not yet perfect. We all have some weaknesses we must always fight against. We should try daily


to be better. Repentance is a necessity for each person. The world is full of sinners and saints. Saints are not those who have no sins for all humans are imperfect. Saints rather are those who constantly make amends for their mistakes and try to avoid such mistakes. And this is how they will make heaven eventually. Sinners are those who refuse to repent and do not care about doing good and avoiding evil despite the graces and opportunities God has provided for them. Thus, they will eventually miss heaven on the last day. We are among the saints, the righteous. May we continue to make effort for the Holy Spirit assists us daily as St. Paul reminds us in the second reading (Rom 8:26-27) of today.

Inviting all Married* Couples  and Priests! 

- Worldwide Marriage Encounter is an experience for married couples and priests who value their relationships and desire a richer, fuller life in their marriage and priesthood.
- Attend a Marriage Encounter Experience and learn the tools needed to keep your marriage and priesthood strong and thriving.
- For over 50 years, Worldwide Marriage Encounter has helped millions of couples and priests find new ways to thrive together and live their vocations in love.



- This is an invitation being offered to all married couples and priests who are looking for a way to enrich their relationships through an online opportunity.
- Worldwide Marriage Encounter of Northern Illinois is hosting a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Virtual Experience being held on Thursday evenings starting October 5th through November 16th.
- The sessions run for 2 ½ - 3 hours each evening starting at 7:00 PM CT.
- Zoom access is required and you must be available to attend all 8 sessions.
- Early application is required in order for the materials for the experience to be mailed to you ahead of time.

 3RE Virtual Experience - Thursday Evenings starting October 5 – November 16, 2023

For more information and to sign up for an Experience visit our website at: alifetimeoflove.org or wwme.org or call 888-574-5653

*WWME is faithful to the Roman Catholic Church's teaching that marriage is a covenant that exists between one man and one woman. Any reference to marriage or couple made by WWME is in this context.