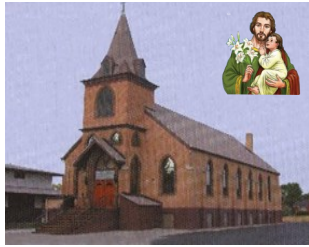


Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: August 13—19, 2023



**St. Joseph's Catholic Church**

710 N Custer Avenue  
Hardin, MT 59034

Father Callistus Igwenagu  
406-665-1432

Website: [stjosephparishhardin.org](http://stjosephparishhardin.org)  
Email: [stjosephparishhardin@gmail.com](mailto: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  
Director of Religious Education: Celeste Geier

**Mass Intentions**

Sun., Aug 13: For the people  
Mon., Aug 14: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tues., Aug 15: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wed., Aug 16: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thurs., Aug 17: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fri., Aug 18: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sat., Aug 19: +For Connie Medhus  
by Lowell Medhus



**Offertory Collections**  
Sat., Aug 5: \$ 1,432.00  
Sun., Aug 6: \$ 1,029.00

**Fiscal Year ending 6.30.23**

Income: \$ 96,416.60  
Expenses \$ 104,547.68  
\$ (8,131.08)

**Month of June, 2023**  
Income: \$ 6,226.30  
Expenses: \$ 8,966.56  
\$ (2,740.26)

**Mass Servers**

	Commentator	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat., Aug 12	Richelle Link	Patty Kepp	Celeste Geier & Julie O'Dell
Sun., Aug 13	Angela Ramirez	Candy Wells	Angela Ramirez & Sue Seykora
Sat., Aug 19	Celeste Geier	Larry Johnson	Larry & Deb Johnson
Sun., Aug 20	Sue Seykora	Angela Ramirez	Sue Seykora & Candy Wells
Sat., Aug 26	Larry Johnson	Deb Johnson	Celeste Geier & Julie O'Dell
Sun., Aug 27	Visencia Ramirez	Candy Wells	Angela Ramirez & Sue Seykora



**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**  
**Tues., Aug 15:** Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mass at 5:30 pm. This is a Holy Day of Obligation.  
**Wed., Aug 16:** Mass and Adoration, 5:30 pm

*Father Cally will be on vacation to Nigeria from Sept 12—Oct 17. There will be substitute priests to fill in for him for the weekend masses. There will be no daily masses in his absence.*

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

**DO NOT BE AFRAID FOR GOD IS STRONGER THAN YOUR SOURCE OF FEAR**

In the first reading of today (1 Kings 19:9-13) prophet Elijah was faced with a threat to his life from the wicked queen Jezebel and her husband Ahab. He ran for his life and sought the help of God. God answered him. He encountered God in a gentle breeze. Elijah found consolation, comfort, peace, and protection from God.

The Apostles in today's gospel (Matt. 14:22-33) had their boat tossed about by the waves of the sea and by heavy storms. They were in great danger. Looking up they saw someone walking on the water towards them. Thinking it was a ghost, they were highly terrified. But Jesus spoke to them "take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." Jesus entered the boat, calmed down the storm.

We are daily being tormented by storms of life, problems of various kinds. Jesus assure us of his presence during our turbulent times. He tells us not to be afraid that he is with us to support us and to lift us up even when we are sinking in the sea of life. John 16:33 he said "In the world you will have hardships but be courageous, I've conquered the world."

When Jesus tells us "Do not be afraid," he is not inviting us to deny our source of fear but rather to take off our attention on our source of fear, and to focus on him for he is stronger than our source of fear. The problem we have is that most often we focus our attention on our source of fear instead of focusing on God. Psychologically, what you pay attention to, what you concentrate on influences your life. If you focus on your challenges and problems, they will weigh you down. But if you focus on God who is more powerful than those problems you will receive the needed help.

This was the case with Peter. When he requested Jesus to allow him to walk on the water Jesus asked him to come on. He started walking on the water because he was focusing on Jesus his God. But when he began to focus on the storms and how strong the wind was, he began to sink. But Peter was smart enough to call upon Jesus for help. He shouted, "Lord save me." Jesus stretched out his hand and saved him. Hebrews 12:2 said 'Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus...' Let us place our faith strongly in Jesus and call upon him in prayer always. Like Elija and Peter, we shall find help and peace from God.



**OCIA is the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults.** This class begins in the fall and concludes with Easter Vigil celebration on March 30, 2024. This is a process of learning about the Catholic Faith. This class is offered to anyone who wants to learn more about catholic faith, desires to be a catholic, wants to be baptized as an adult, or wishes to complete the sacraments of initiation (Confirmation and First Eucharist). If you are interested please contact Fr. Cally (406) 665 -1432 or the Director of Religious Education, Celeste Geier (406) 679-1679.

**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 16<sup>th</sup>.
- 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](http://alifetimeoflove.org) or [wwme.org](http://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.