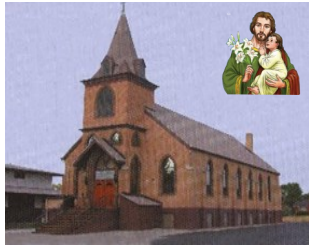


Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time: October 1—7, 2023



**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., Oct 1: For the people  
Mon., Oct 2: No Mass  
Tues., Oct 3: No Mass  
Wed., Oct 4: No Mass  
Thurs., Oct 5: No Mass  
Fri., Oct 6: No Mass  
Sat., Oct 7: +For Connie Medhus by Lowell Medhus



**Offertory Collections**

Sat., Sept 23: \$ 362.00  
Sun., Sept 24: \$ 771.00

**Fiscal Year ending 6.30.23**

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

**Month of August, 2023**

Income: \$ 6,465.42  
Expenses: \$ 12,143.98  
\$ (5,678.56)

**Mass Servers**

|               | Commentator      | Lector          | Eucharistic Ministers             |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sat., Sept 30 | Patty Kepp       | Julie O'Dell    | Celeste Geier & Julie O'Dell      |
| Sun., Oct 1   | Angela Ramirez   | Genne Taganahan | Visencia Ramirez & Candy Wells    |
| Sat., Oct 6   | Deb Johnson      | Larry Johnson   | Deb & Larry Johnson               |
| Sun., Oct 7   | Visencia Ramirez | Angela Ramirez  | Sue Seykora & Candy Wells         |
| Sat., Oct 14  | Patty Kepp       | Richelle Link   | Celeste Geier & Julie O'Dell      |
| Sun., Oct 15  | Sue Seykora      | Genne Taganahan | Angela Ramirez & Visencia Ramirez |

**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., Oct 3:** Parish Council meeting, 6:00 pm, church basement  
**Wed., Oct 4:** Religious Education Class, 3:45 pm  
**Sat., Oct 7:** Rosary #2 of 9, 5:20 pm, led by the Catholic Daughters.  
**Mon., Oct 9:** Catholic Daughters monthly meeting, 6:00 pm, church basement.  
*If you are a member please attend and bring a friend.*

The Knights of Columbus are selling Christmas Trees again this year for \$25.00. They are starting early to get the word out. Delivery will be available after Nov 28th. Sign up sheet is on the table at the entrance of the church.

**Religious Education classes will begin this Wednesday, October 4th at 3:45 p.m.**  
**Please contact Celeste Geier, Director of Religious Education for further information. 406 679-1679**

**Welcome**  
**Father Thomas**  
**and**  
**Father Wayne**



**Diocese of Great Falls-Billings**  
**Office of THE Bishop**

P.O. Box 1399 † Great Falls, MT 59403  
† (406) 727-6683 [www.diocesegfb.org](http://www.diocesegfb.org)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This is the first letter that I write to you as the Bishop of the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings. In just a few days, on October 4, Pope Francis will open the first session on the 16<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in Rome. We have had a part leading up to this Synod with the listening sessions throughout the diocese leading up to our Diocesan Synod, and participation from a variety of individuals in the regional, national, and continental stages.

This is an important time in the life of the church. A synod is above all, an event of prayer and listening that involves not only the members of the Synodal Assembly, but everyone. Indeed, we are all called to unite in a communion of prayer, invoking the Holy Spirit to guide us in discerning what the Lord is asking of the Church today.

I am asking and inviting each of you to unite in unceasing prayer for the Holy Father, Pope Francis, for all the members of the Synodal Assembly, and for each other. Prayer is first and foremost an opportunity to listen to God. Secondly, prayer is adoration. Listening must be followed by adoring silence in awe for what God is doing and saying to the church. Prayer as intercession is the third aspect. We believe in the effectiveness of intercessory prayer as we ask the Lord to enlighten our hearts to the power of God's life-giving Spirit so that we may discern his will. When we intercede, we show that we are interested, that we belong. It means that we participate. Finally, prayer is thanksgiving. In giving thanks, we recognize the primacy of God's action and grace in all that we do and in how we live.

With prayer, listening, adoration, intercession, and thanksgiving, we will be present by the power of the Holy Spirit at the Synodal Assembly.

I invite and encourage each of our pastors and parish communities to include prayers for the Synodal Assembly especially on the weekend of October 1, the 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time, but also throughout the month of October. Please remember the Synod in the homily, the Universal Prayers, and

the final blessing. I am attaching some prayers that could be utilized for the Universal Prayers and the final blessing.

I am so grateful to be your Bishop and I thank you for your prayers for the synodal journey and your prayers for me. Please know of my prayers for you. May the Spirit of the Lord enlighten us and lead us always in the way of his will.

In Christ's peace, joy, and love,  
+ Jeffrey M Fleming

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience:** A good marriage does not come easy. A good marriage takes work. Not unlike the command given to all of us to work in the Vineyard. Come to the Vineyard at The Ranch at Ucross, November 3-5 and work alongside other couples and priests who desire a deeply satisfying relationship with their spouse or the people they have been called to serve. The Experience is private, but many walk away with a profound sense of community, that we are not alone on this journey. The application fee is \$100. To learn more, watch: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=635747607124827> OR visit the website:

**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.



Fr. Charles Collins of Cross Catholic Outreach will be visiting our parish next weekend to speak at all Masses on behalf of the poor in developing countries. Cross Catholic Outreach was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, Central and South America.