



[Jesus said to the crowd,]  
“Strive to enter through  
the narrow door, for many,  
I tell you, will attempt  
to enter but will not be  
strong enough.”

LUKE 13:24

## The Narrow Gate

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**S**ome people find love in their lives; others complain of loneliness. Some find peace, while others seem to be perpetually angry. Some live comfortably amid human diversity, yet others insist that the rest of the world be like them. There are those who are able to forgive and compromise and offer compassion and those who cannot. The difference seems to be the ability to forgo one’s own desires for the sake of a greater good or the common good. Such may be the narrow gate through which some may not be strong enough to enter.

Phrases like *the kingdom of God* or *the kingdom of heaven* are not just references to places to which we go

but also ways of being or states of existence. They all refer to God’s presence, to life with God. You’ve heard people say they were so happy that they felt it was like heaven on earth. It wasn’t a place they went but an experience of being filled with joy and peace. It’s pure gift. No one ever finds it by focusing on oneself. It is the narrow gate by which we find our way into such a life. It is the doorway of caring for others. ●

### Reflect

***What is the “narrow gate” before me now—the most difficult challenge as a follower of Jesus?***





**Immaculate Conception &  
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**Mass Schedule – Forsyth**

**Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Mass Schedule – Hysham**

**Sunday at 10:30 AM**

**Sunday at 12:30 PM**

**Office hours:** By appointment – call 406.853.5252 or come to the rectory.

**Religious Education:** Contact Diane Wyrick for Forsyth at 406.351.2845 and Amber for Hysham at 406.342.5448.

**Confession:** Saturdays @ 2 PM.

**Baptism:** Adults and children under 7 (please contact Father Rob.)

**Anointing of the Sick:** If you are having surgery or are sick, please contact Father Rob to receive the Sacrament of Anointing.

**Funerals:** When anticipating or planning a funeral, please contact Father Rob or Heather Pester at 406.346.7297 before finalizing the arrangements.

**Mass Intentions:** If you would like to have a Mass offered and be listed in the bulletin, please contact Father Rob, or Heather Pester.

**Homebound & Sick:** If you or someone you know can no longer attend Mass due to physical inability, please contact Father Rob or Diane Wyrick at 406.351.2845 or Rosemary in Hysham at 406.740.1457 to receive Holy Communion and Anointing.

**Immaculate Conception Prayer Chain:** For requests, call Cherie Hesser at 406.351.9048 or any member of the Prayer Chain listed on the bulletin board in Parish Hall.

**Mass & Liturgy Schedule:**

Sunday	08/24	10:30 AM	Mass in Forsyth for Betty Steinberger from the Steinberger Family.
Sunday	08/24	12:30 PM	Mass in Hysham for Mass in Hysham the People of the Parish.
Tuesday	08/26	5:15 PM	Mass in Forsyth for the Family of Ken & Rose Silvernagel from Jon & Carol Wigen.
Friday	08/29	9:00 AM	Mass in Forsyth for the Family of Ken & Rose Silvernagel from Jon & Carol Wigen.
Saturday	08/30	4:00 PM	Mass at the Nursing Home for the Family of Robert & Ella Wigen from Jon & Carol Wigen.
Sunday	08/31	10:30 AM	Mass in Forsyth for Michelle Cooper (D) from Fr Rob Oswald.
Sunday	08/31	12:30 PM	Mass in Hysham for Alpha Hopf, Scott & Tanya Hargrove & Linda Howell from Chuck & Chrissy Hopf.

† Rosary every Monday at 8:15 AM, Tuesday at 4:45 PM and Friday at 8:30 AM.

† Religious education for children Sunday at 9:30 AM.

† Bible Study in Forsyth is paused for now and will be resumed late this summer.

† CCD & Sacramental Prep Classes on Sunday morning. Questions: Please contact Diane Wyrick in Forsyth and Amber in Hysham.

† Mass times at St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Colstrip Sunday 8:30 AM.

† CCW meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Mass.

### **Announcements:**

**Parish Picnic!** The Knights of Columbus (Forsyth Council 3039) will be holding a Parish picnic after Mass Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> of August. There will be burgers, polish and hot dogs provided. Families with the last names beginning A-M are asked to bring a salad and those with last names beginning with N-Z a desert. We look forward to seeing all of you there and it should be a great time!

Fr. Rob will be out of town September 1st through 5th - there will be NO Mass or Bible Study the first week of September.

The Bismarck Diocese is offering a SEARCH for Christian Maturity to those ages 15 through college age. It is a weekend retreat to encounter God and his will for their lives. If you are interested, please take a brochure from the table in the dining room.

Registration/reservation forms are available for the Marian pilgrimage next May. They can be found next to the bulletins. Thank you!

### **Finance Update: Last Sunday Collection: 08/17/2025**

<b>Immaculate Conception – Forsyth</b>		<b>St. Joseph – Hysham</b>	
Loose Cash	235.55	Loose Cash	80.00
Loose Checks	290.00	Loose Checks	95.00
Envelope Cash	125.00	Envelope Cash	10.00
Envelope Checks	1470.00	Envelope Checks	100.00
Other (Bathroom)	475.00	Other	10.00
Diocese Assessment	0.00	Building Fund	0.00
Special Collection	0.00	Special Collection	0.00
Capital Campaign	0.00	Capital Campaign	0.00
Current Operating Fund	0.00	Current Operating Fund	0.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 2595.55</b>	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 295.00</b>

### **Forsyth & Hysham Ministry Schedule for next Sunday: 08/31/2025**

<b>Forsyth:</b>			
	<b>Time</b>	<b>Service</b>	<b>Names</b>
	<b>Mass at 10:30 AM</b>	Eucharistic Ministers	<b>Diane Wyrick &amp; Leann Murnion</b>
		Cross Bearer	<b>Diane Wyrick</b>
		Lector	<b>Albert Martens</b>
		Ushers	<b>Dave &amp; Diane Wyrick</b>
		Gifts	<b>Dave &amp; Diane Wyrick</b>
		Col. Counters	<b>Frank Smith &amp; Diane Wyrick</b>
		Sacristan	<b>Diane Wyrick</b>
<b>Hysham:</b>			
	<b>Mass at 12:30 PM</b>	Eucharistic Ministers	<b>Renee Zent &amp; Rosemary Olson</b>
		Lector	<b>Mary Mithchell</b>



# Dear Padre,

***My wife mentioned that neither the Book of Mormon nor the Catholic Bible mentions purgatory. Please comment.***

A not-uncommon frustration is when a person searches the Bible for a particular word or phrasing. Frankly, it is expecting too much from the religious text to be able to faithfully record a particular word or phrase that originated hundreds of years after the ancient text was composed. Purgatory is one such example of this frustration. The concept of purgatory is referenced in the biblical text, particularly in 2 Corinthians 5:10 and 7:1, Hebrews 9:27 and 12:14, and 2 Maccabees 12:46, but the word is never used.

This should come as no real surprise because it was not until the writings of St. Thomas Aquinas (1225–1274) that the concept was expanded and formed into a theological statement of belief that has become central to Roman Catholicism. And what is that belief? The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* is clear: “All who die in God’s grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church gives the name purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned” (CCC, 1030, 1031a). The Book of Mormon never references purgatory, but it does speak about the afterlife and the experience of “waiting” in the spirit world for the completion of earthly time. ●

**Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org**



SOULS IN PURGATORY BY LORENZO PERETTI / RENATA SEDMAKOVA / SHUTTERSTOCK



LOSSERVATORE ROMANO / CNA

## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

***The narrow door is an image that could scare us, as if salvation is destined for only a select few, or for perfect people. But...a little further ahead, [Jesus] confirms, “Men will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God.”***

***Therefore, this door is narrow, but is open to everyone!***

**ANGELUS, ROME, AUGUST 21, 2022**

### Monday

August 25

Weekday

1 Thes 1:1–5, 8b–10

Mt 23:13–22

### Tuesday

August 26

Weekday

1 Thes 2:1–8

Mt 23:23–26

### Wednesday

August 27

St. Monica

1 Thes 2:9–13

Mt 23:27–32

### Thursday

August 28

St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

1 Thes 3:7–13

Mt 24:42–51

### Friday

August 29

The Passion of St. John the Baptist

1 Thes 4:1–8

Mk 6:17–29

### Saturday

August 30

Weekday

1 Thes 4:9–11

Mt 25:14–30

### Sunday

August 31

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 3:17–18, 20, 28–29

Heb 12:18–19, 22–24a

Lk 14:1, 7–14