

**ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH**

219 W. PINE ST.  
P.O. BOX 68  
RAWLINS, WYOMING 82301  
**Email.....stjosephrlns@dcwy.org**  
Website.....stjosephsrawlins.org  
Facebook.....facebook.com/josephsaint

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Sept 13 - 14**

Sat 4:15 p.m. Parishioners of St. Joseph's  
Sun 9:30 a.m. +Deacon Jesus Juarez  
Sun 1:30 p.m. (BAGGS) +Holy Souls in Purgatory

**Sept 15 - 21**

Mon NO MASS SCHEDULED  
Tues 12:00 Noon Theresa and Neil Kabourek  
Wed 12:00 Noon +Bob Hones  
Thurs 12:00 Noon The Homebound  
Fri 12:00 Noon +Robert Bustos, Sr.  
Sat 4:15 p.m. +Tom & +Vivian Murry and Family  
Sun 9:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. Joseph's  
Sun 1:30 p.m. (BAGGS) +Lonnie Hedges

**\*PLEASE NOTE\***

Since the one Sunday Mass time of 9:30 am seems to be working well, we will continue one Mass time for the time being. Please watch this space for updates. Make your opinion known!

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**Father Mark will be attending the September Institute in Casper September 17-18, Wednesday and Thursday this week. Father Hayes will celebrate the Noon mass on those days.**

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Ask and you shall receive....

Thank You for the PVC pipe that Father needed to store the altar cloths. He has enough, and it is working well!

PASTOR Father Mark Kusmirek (307)324-4631  
(Parochial Administrator)  
In case of emergency (936) 218-6710

Church Office  
New office location behind the school (307) 328-5024  
Office Hours 9:00 am-12:00 Noon M-F

**Elissia Petersen**  
**Director of Religious Education (405)778-9795**  
stjosephparish317@gmail.com

**SCHEDULE OF MASSES**

**Saturday 4:15 PM**  
**Sunday 9:00 and 10:30 AM**  
**July 6 – Aug 17 9:30 AM ONLY**  
**Daily Tuesday thru Friday 12:00 Noon**  
**NO MASS ON MONDAY**

**SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION**

Saturday 3:00 – 3:45 p.m.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION**

Baptisms: Scheduled by appointment  
Marriages: Please contact Father Mark at least six months before proposed wedding date

**FUNERALS**

Before announcing plans, please call the office to make arrangements and verify with Father.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry (307) 324-7002

Suicide & Crisis Hotline Dial 988

Project Rachel (307) 222-8430  
(Healing after abortion) (call or text)

**Hour of Adoration**  
**September 18 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm**

**September 14 , 2025**

**Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

*he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross. Philippians 2:8*

By accepting his death and sacrificing his life, Jesus transforms the cross from an instrument of execution to one of triumph. When we were baptized and the sign of the cross was made over us, we were given a share in this triumph. We affirm this each time we trace the cross on ourselves. We are not given an exemption from the cross. But our crosses are not just instruments of suffering and hardship. Our crosses have been sanctified for they are shared by Christ, who carried his cross to the end. Our crosses too can transform death into life.

**Last Week--**  
**September 6 and 7 collections:**  
**First collection: \$2,615.21**  
**Second Collection: \$531.00**

**This week's 2nd collection will be sent to the Diocese as our parish's donation to the NATIONAL RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE RELIGIOUS**  
**Thank you for your generosity!**  
**\*\*Next week will once again benefit the Building Fund.\*\***

*Living and Giving in Christ 2025*  
(As of 9/2/2025)

	<u>St. Joseph's</u>	<u>Our Lady of the Sage</u>
Goal	\$28,770	\$2,341
Pledges	<u>(\$14,170)</u>	<u>(\$1,200)</u>
	\$14,600	\$1,141

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES**

**\*CONTACT: ELISSIA PETERSEN\***

**(405)778-9795 or stjosephparish317@gmail.com**

(ALL CLASSES ARE IN THE SCHOOL)

**CCD (Pre-K thru 5<sup>th</sup>)**

Wednesdays 5:00-6:30 pm

**Youth Group (Pre-K thru 5<sup>th</sup>)**

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 5:00-6:30 pm

+

**Middle School (6<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup>)**

Sundays 3:30-4:30 pm

**Confirmation..Year 2**

Sundays 3:30-4:30 pm

**Secondary Youth Group (6<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup>)**

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 4:45 - 5:45 pm

+

**Adult Formation**

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30 pm

Note: No Class Sept 16

**Come and take a look....**

Father Mark and some angel helpers have cleaned and organized the sacristy! He would be happy to take you on a "tour" after each of the weekend masses. Just ask him!

**Finance Council Meeting September 15 (Monday)**  
**at 6:00 pm in the church meeting room.**

**Attention Plant Angels**

Just to change the décor of the church a bit...we are looking for a few "plant angels" to bring a potted mum of any color to replace the ferns and lillies that are currently residing peacefully in the meeting room.. If you have a green thumb and would like to adopt one or more of the green plants.... please take them with you! If someday we change the décor again, perhaps you would loan your green beautiful plant back to the church!



Wisdom from Siri:



*"The world would be a nicer place if everyone had the ability to love as unconditionally as a dog." – M.K. Clinton*



## When Life Is on Empty

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**A**s he stood in line in front of me, the back of his T-shirt read, “Pain is weakness leaving the body.” Though unsaid, it implied that the parting pain would be replaced by newfound strength. Yet, the more I thought about it, I wondered if that is always the case. Some pain simply leaves one empty, like the grief that comes with the death of one’s child. That emptiness never leaves, it is never replaced. So too, the pain of living with mental illness, as it seems to isolate one from many of life’s joys and satisfactions. Or, eventually, the aging process in all of us, as it slips in and steals the treasures of life, one by one. Pain is not always weakness leaving the body. Sometimes, it is the pain of an alien spirit settling in for the long haul.

If St. Paul’s assertion that Jesus came and “emptied himself...coming in human likeness...even [to] death on a cross,” then those times that seem to empty us of all we would hold dear are the times when we slowly take on the image of Jesus in our own lives. It is at such times when we are most powerless but also when God’s spirit shines through our broken and wounded lives, if only because we become totally dependent upon God. It is Saint Teresa of Kolkata who is said to have once remarked that even God cannot fill what is already full. ●

### Reflect

***What emptying am I experiencing?  
Can I accept it as becoming more like Jesus?***



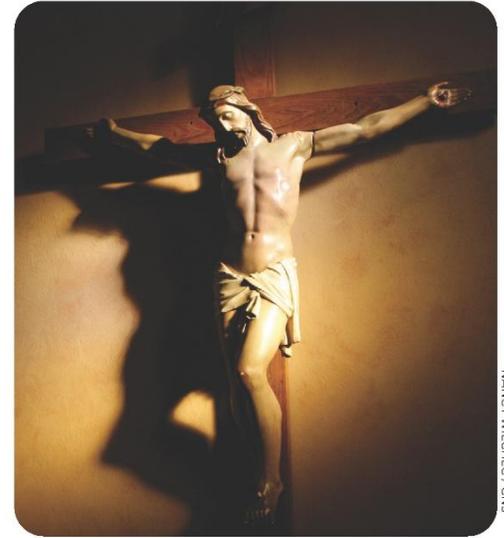
**[Christ Jesus] emptied himself...  
becoming obedient to death,  
even death on a cross.**

PHILIPPIANS 2:7-8

# Dear Padre,

***A Protestant friend tells me that Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins. That doesn't seem accurate to me. What does the Church teach about the meaning of Jesus' death on the cross?***

Jesus understood his mission to be sacrificing his own life “as a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:28). His fidelity to that mission was even at the cost of death. However, saying Jesus’ death was payment for our sins doesn’t mean that a vengeful God was appeased by the slaughter of his own innocent son. Rather, we are redeemed because of the mutual love between Father and Son, as well as the love Christ had for us all when he offered his life. “It is love ‘to the end’ (see John 13:1) that confers on Christ’s sacrifice its value as redemption and reparation, as atonement and satisfaction” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 616). It is in this sense that Jesus’ death was a payment—not one to be exacted—but a unique sacrifice “that completes and surpasses all other sacrifices,” when “the Father handed his Son over to sinners in order to reconcile us with himself,” and the Son of God freely and lovingly offered his human life to his Father “in reparation for our disobedience” (CCC 614). Christ “bore our sins in his body upon the cross.... By his wounds you have been healed” (1 Peter 2:24). Viewed in light of the resurrection, Christ’s death has meaning in eternal life’s triumph over sin. ●



NANCY WIECHEC / CNS

**Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
September 15	September 16	September 17	September 18	September 19	September 20	September 21
<i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	<i>Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs</i>	<i>Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
1 Tm 2:1–8 Jn 19:25–27 or Lk 2:33–35	1 Tm 3:1–13 Lk 7:11–17	1 Tm 3:14–16 Lk 7:31–35	1 Tm 4:12–16 Lk 7:36–50	1 Tm 6:2c–12 Lk 8:1–3	1 Tm 6:13–16 Lk 8:4–15	Am 8:4–7 1 Tm 2:1–8 Lk 16:1–13 or 16:10–13



STANISLAW TOKARSKI / SHUTTERSTOCK

## A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

***I chose to take the name Leo XIV...mainly because Pope Leo XIII in his historic encyclical Rerum Novarum addressed the social question in the context of the first great industrial revolution. In our own day, the Church offers...the treasury of [its] social teaching in response to...new challenges for the defense of human dignity, justice, and labor.***

**ADDRESS TO THE COLLEGE OF CARDINALS,  
ROME, MAY 10, 2025**

## ANUNCIO DEL BOLETÍN – CUARTO RETIRO DEL AÑO JUBILAR

Todos están invitados al cuarto Retiro de Peregrinos de la Esperanza del Año Jubilar, el sábado 27 de septiembre de 2025, en la Iglesia de San Patricio, Casper, comenzando a las 9:00 a. m. y terminando con una misa a las 5:00 p. m. El retiro se centra en la esperanza de paz en el mundo y los migrantes. Este tema coincide con la *Spes Non Confundit*, párrafos 8 y 13. El Obispo Steven abrirá el retiro hablando sobre la esperanza y sus fuentes: la Palabra de Dios, el Espíritu Santo, el Misterio Pascual y los Santos de la Esperanza. Los participantes participarán en la Exposición Eucarística y la Bendición, y participarán en la Conversación Espiritual y una Hora de la Misericordia.

### Este será un retiro bilingüe y se ofrecerá almuerzo.

Para fines de planificación, la diócesis solicita que quienes deseen asistir confirmen su asistencia a más tardar el **15 de septiembre de 2025**, escaneando el



código QR o llamando al 307-638-1530, Ext. 102.

Para leer la Bula Papal, acceder a la agenda del retiro, obtener información sobre las indulgencias y más información sobre el Año Jubilar, visite: <https://dcwy.org/jubilee2025-pilgrimsofhope>

### HOURS

To apply for grants to help our parish we need data. This data includes **ALL VOLUNTEER HOURS** spent in service to our parish. Examples are lectors, ushers, servers, food pantry volunteers, funeral dinner helpers, maintenance, money counters, CCD teachers and helpers, and on and on.

Record your name, the activity and number of hours. Either email to or turn into the church office on a weekly or monthly basis. Thank You!

## BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT – JUBILEE YEAR RETREAT FOUR

All are welcome to attend the fourth Jubilee Year Pilgrims of Hope Retreat on Saturday, September 27, 2025, at Saint Patrick Church, Casper, beginning at 9 am, and closing with Mass at 5 pm. The retreat focuses on hope for peace in the world and migrants. This theme coincides with *Spes Non Confundit*, paragraphs 8 and 13. Bishop Steven will open the retreat by discussing hope and the sources of hope: Word of God, Holy Spirit, Paschal Mystery, and Saints of Hope. Participants will join in Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction, and engage in the Spiritual Conversation and a Mercy Hour.

### This will be a bilingual retreat, and lunch will be provided.

For planning purposes, the diocese requests that those who wish to attend should RSVP no later than September 15, 2025, by scanning the QR Code, or calling 307-638-1530, Ext. 102.



To read the Papal Bull, access the retreat agenda, learn about indulgences, and learn more about the Year of Jubilee, go to:

<https://dcwy.org/jubilee2025-pilgrimsofhope>.

### Opportunities

Young Catholic Men (ages 16-30) who are open to discerning priesthood are encouraged to attend the **Men's Discernment Retreat** at our Lady of Fatima in Casper, WY, Sept. 20-21.

This retreat is FREE to attend.

Contact Fr. Brian Hess to register at

[bhess@dcwy.org](mailto:bhess@dcwy.org)



Young Catholic Women (High School age) who are serious about their faith are encouraged to be part of the **Annual Nun Run**, Sept. 25-28. Please email

Theresa Meuer at [tmeuer@dcwy.org](mailto:tmeuer@dcwy.org)