St. Joseph's Colon, NE

Mailing Address: PO Box 58, Colon, NE 68018
Physical Address: 111 Cherry St, Colon, NE 68018

St. Mary's Cedar Bluffs, NE

Mailing Address: PO Box 58, Colon, NE 68018
Physical Address: 207 S 3rd St, Cedar Bluffs, NE 68015



Pastor: Fr. Luke Fleck

Fr.Luke-Fleck@cdolinc.net

Rectory Phone: (402)647-4901
Sacramental Emergency: (402)786-8655

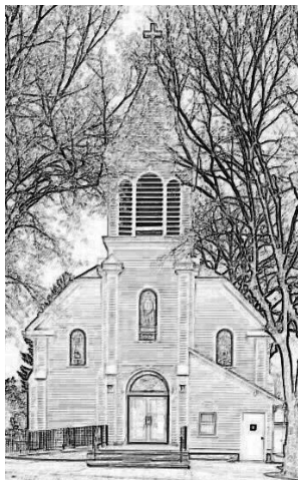
October 25, 2026

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.stjosephstmary.org

stjosephstmary@lincolndiocese.org

www.facebook.com/stjosephcolon



Mass Schedule

26	Monday	NO MASS		
27	Tuesday	7:00 AM	@ St. Joseph's	Frank Cuda †
28	Wednesday	7:00 AM	@ St. Joseph's	Florence Denny †
29	Thursday	7:00 AM	@ St. Joseph's	Mary Cuda †
30	Friday	7:00 AM	@ St. Joseph's	Laurie Proskovec
31	Saturday	5:00 PM	@ St. Joseph's	Ralph Fererra †
1	Sunday	8:00 AM	@ St. Joseph's	Ed Kozisek
		10:00AM	@ St. Mary's	For the people of the parishes

CONFESSIONS: Weekdays: 20 minutes before Mass
Saturday: 4:30—4:50 pm @ St. Joseph's
Sunday: 7:30—7:50 am @ St. Joseph's
9:30—9:50 am @ St. Mary's
or call the office for an appointment.

BAPTISM: Please contact the Pastor to schedule a date & time. The baptism request form is on the parish website.

MARRIAGE: Please contact the Pastor **AT LEAST 6 months** before the planned marriage.

ADORATION: Exposition times at St. Joseph:
Saturday 4:00 - 4:50pm
Sunday 7:00 - 7:50am
Wednesday 7:00am - 1:00pm

SATURDAY, October 31st, 5 pm at St. Joseph
Acolyte: Brandon Henkel Lector: Volunteer Needed
Servers: Henry Henkel & Volunteer needed

SUNDAY, October 31st, 8 am at St. Joseph
Acolyte: Joe Meduna Lector: Jeremy Vrana
Servers: Philip & Nicholas Vrana

SUNDAY, November 1st, 10 am at St. Mary
Volunteers needed

Sacramental News and Special Announcements

The holy day for All Saints falls on a Sunday this year.

Father will be celebrating All Souls Day Masses at 7am (St.J) and 530pm (St. M) on Monday, Nov 2.

There will be no Mass on Tuesday, Nov. 3

Father's Re"Fleck"ions

Dear Parishioners,

As I mentioned last week, we will hold new parish council elections this coming November. Before we begin this process, I want to reflect on where our parishes have been, where we are now, and where the Holy Spirit may be calling us.

Over the past eight years, our parishes have been blessed to welcome many new members into our communities. St. Joseph's, in particular, has doubled in size, growing from approximately 50 families to 102. With this growth come both new opportunities and new responsibilities. We have more administrative work, which led us to hire a parish secretary to assist with the weekly operations of our parishes. We also have many more children, prompting us to consider what ministries and opportunities for formation will help this next generation encounter Jesus Christ.

We are already seeing what is possible. Through our marriage preparation program, Witness to Love, we have witnessed remarkable encounters with Christ among couples preparing for marriage. The fruit of this ministry has even led people outside our parishes to seek our assistance with their own programs. These developments point toward something greater than simply keeping our parishes running. **The Holy Spirit is inviting us to move from maintaining what we have to becoming missionary disciples who prayerfully discern God's will and put it into action.**

Maintenance is necessary. We must care for our buildings, manage our finances, maintain accurate records, and ensure that the ordinary work of parish life is done well. But these things are means, not the end. Our mission is not simply to preserve our institutions for another generation. It is to help people encounter Jesus Christ, become his disciples, grow in holiness, and bring the Gospel into their families and communities.

Our parish mission statement expresses this calling clearly: "To foster Sacrament-nurtured disciples of Christ who live a bold and extraordinary faith, first in the family, then flowing out into our community." This mission must guide our decisions, our ministries, and our priorities. It calls us to ask how we can deepen our liturgical life, strengthen catechesis, promote evangelization, support families, and help each person discover and live out the particular vocation God has given them. Each of us has gifts from the Holy Spirit that are meant to build up the Body of Christ.

This is where our parish councils play an important role. A pastoral council is a group of faithful parishioners whose purpose is to assist the pastor in discerning how best to lead the parish in fulfilling its mission. The council is advisory to the pastor; it does not replace his authority or function as a legislative or governing board. Together, the pastor and the council identify pastoral needs, consider new opportunities for ministry, and keep our attention fixed on the spiritual good of the community. Our parish council should not be concerned only with how to maintain the parish we have. It should also help us discern what God is calling our parish to become.

The difference is significant. A parish focused only on maintenance asks, "How do we serve the people who show up?" A missionary parish asks, "How do we help every person who walks through these doors become a saint and go set the world on fire?" **Here is a question worth sitting with: If a new family visited our parish this Sunday and never came back, would anyone notice? If somone noticed, would they know how to reach out and welcome that family?**

This is not meant to discourage us, but to challenge us. It reminds us that evangelization is not the responsibility of the pastor alone, nor is it limited to a particular ministry or program. It belongs to all of us. A welcoming conversation, an invitation to prayer, a commitment to catechesis, or a willingness to accompany another person in faith can become the beginning of a genuine encounter with Jesus Christ.

As we prepare for our November elections, I ask you to pray about who might help our parishes take the next steps in this mission. We will be electing two new members to each parish council. Please share with me the names of parishioners whom you believe possess the faith, wisdom, humility, and missionary spirit needed for this service. Let us seek people who are willing not only to preserve what is good in our parishes, but also to prayerfully consider new ways to form disciples, strengthen families, and reach those who have not yet encountered the love of Christ.

May the Holy Spirit guide our discernment and give us the courage to respond generously to his call. May our parishes become ever more deeply what Christ desires them to be: communities where people encounter him, are formed as his disciples, and carry his Gospel into the world.

In Christ, Fr. Luke Fleck

Parish Contact Information

Sacramental Emergency: (402) 786-8655

Adoration Hour Chair: Ryan Mascarello (402) 203-0208

Bulletin Request: stjosephstmary@lincolndiocese.org

Knights of Columbus: Jeremy Vrana (402) 443-7300

St. Joseph Hall Rental: Cyndy Bohaty (402) 647-2555

Men's Group: Adam Quinn (402) 853-2693

St. Anne's Funeral Group for St. Joseph's:
Alice Meduna, (402) 647-4485 or richardmeduna@windstream.net
or Patty Swanson, (402) 480-1771 or pswanson999@gmail.com

St. Mary's PCCW Funeral Group: Gladys Wagner (402) 628-5345
or Mary Osterloh (402) 708-0284

We are grateful you are here! All families and individuals are welcome in our parish community!

If you are returning to the faith, interested in becoming Catholic, want more information, or would just like to dialog with someone. Please contact the Pastor or Ryan Mascarello at rjmascarello@gmail.com.

If you are new to St. Joseph's or St. Mary's, please reach out to Kara Lombardo (St. Joseph's) at (402)480-1395 or Mary Tenopir (St. Mary's) at (402)720-3491. Kara and Mary would love to introduce themselves and answer any questions you may have regarding the registration process, men's and women's groups, and our annual church dinner.

	Last Week's Actual Collection	Last Week's Budgeted Collection needed	Year to Date Actual Collections	Year to Date Budgeted Collections needed
St. Mary's	$ 1,147	$ 1,477	$ 20,154	$ 23,625
St. Joseph's	$ 3,513	$ 3,584	$ 48,774	$ 57,340

Local News

St. Joseph's Work Day: Saturday, October 24th at 9am. The north side of the church basement is leaking. We need help moving rocks and adding dirt. Contact Matt Wesch 402-443-2753 for more information.

Men's Group Breakfast: All are invited for breakfast burritos after the 8am Mass at St. Joseph's on Sunday, October 25th.

St. Mary's Coffee and Rolls: Please join us after the 10am Mass on October 25th. Mary Tenopir's Group 3 will be serving.

St. Anne's Altar Sodality: Sodality members responsible for cleaning the church during the month of October are Nicole Trutna, Emily Meduna, Amy Rezac, and Kate Casale. October and November groups will host a breakfast in November.

St. Mary's Church (Davey) Soup Supper: Sunday, October 25th from 4 pm to 7 pm at the Davey Community Hall. Chicken Noodle Soup or Chili, Hot Dogs, Sandwiches, Homemade Desserts, Raffle, Bake Sale. Free Will Donation.

WDCCW Meeting: The next meeting of the Wahoo Deanery Council of Catholic Women (WDCCW) will be held October 27th, 2026 and hosted by St. Mary's Church in Cedar Bluffs, NE. The Mass will be at 6:00 pm. We will have a presentation from John Soukup with Catholic Social Services, following with lunch and a meeting. All ladies are invited to a night of information sharing and fellowship with others from the Wahoo Deanery. Please let Mary Osterloh know if you plan to attend at 402-708-0284.

Catholic Daughter's Meeting: Monday, Oct. 26th at 2:00 at St Wenceslaus in Wahoo. Members need to bring items for the silent and live auctions. There will not be mass, but we will say a rosary after the live auction and before the start of the meeting. We need a good turnout so we have auction items.

Silent and Live Auction Fundraiser: Catholic Daughters of the Wahoo Deanery are hosting an afternoon of silent and live auctions on Mon. Oct. 26th at St Wenceslaus church basement. The silent auction will go from 2:00 to 2:30 followed with refreshments. The live auction will start around 2:45-3:00. This is open to the public. There will be an assortment of baked items, decorating items, home canned items, to name a few. Come and bring a friend or two.

St James Church (Mead) 46th Annual All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Breakfast: Nov. 1st – 7:30 am to 12 pm All-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage and eggs. Adults $10, Kids (2-12) $5, Under 2 free St James Parish Hall, Mead. RAFFLE PRIZES: Handmade Queen-sized Quilt, $250 Arbor Day Farm gift card, Pit Boss Grill. Silent Auction, Craft and Bake Sale. Mass is at 7am and 9am.

All Souls' Day Mass of Remembrance: Monday, November 2nd at 1:45 p.m. Bishop Neumann Catholic High School
Join us as we prayerfully remember and honor our deceased alumni. There will be reserved seating for families and a reception following Mass. Please RSVP to the Bishop Neumann front office (402) 443-4151 by October 30th.

Veterans Day Mass: Bishop Neumann students and staff invite you to join them for a Mass in honor of all those who have served on November 13, 2026 at 10:20 in the Bishop Neumann Gym followed by a lunch at 11:30. Please RSVP (402) 443-4151.

LDCCW October Pro-Life Diaper Drive: One of the non-truths in the abortion debate is the notion that pro-life advocates care about the child in the womb and do nothing for pregnant women or for the children once born. The Diaper Drive is a great opportunity to support the women that choose life rather than abortion. Desperately needed are size 6 diapers. Let's all work together to make this Pro-Life Diaper Drive a great success. Donated diapers also support 'Walking with Mom's in Need'.

October is Respect Life Month: Pray the annual Respect Life Month Novena. respectlife.org/respect-life-month-novena

Diocesean and National News



Pray for Vocations: Please pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life, especially in our diocese.
Oct 25 - Oct 31 we are praying for Sr. Guadalupe, Jr. Sister with the Marian Sisters of the Diocese of Lincoln and Isaac VanSkiver, College 1 at St. Gregory the Great Seminary.

40 Days for Life — Join Us in Prayer: Please consider joining us for an hour of peaceful prayer for mothers, babies, and families during 40 Days for Life, September 23–November 1, 7 AM–7 PM, at Planned Parenthood, 5631 S. 48th St., Lincoln. Sign up at 40daysforlife.com/Lincoln. Need help signing up? Call/text Cathy Turner at (402) 202-1614.

Spirit Catholic Radio welcomes Catholic Answers apologist and author Joe Heschmeyer to Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Lincoln on November 3rd at 6:30 PM. Joe will speak on "The Faith of the Early Christians," exploring what the first Christians believed and how their faith continues to shape the Catholic Church today. Get your tickets today at https://spiritcatholicradio.com/joe/! Catch Joe on Catholic Answers Live weekdays at 5 PM CT on Spirit Catholic Radio at 102.7 FM in Lincoln and surrounding area.

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If you're interested in **advertising in the bulletin.** Please reach out to Ryan Mascarello at rjmascarello@gmail.com

DEADLINE: Bulletin announcement/additions should be requested before noon on Thursday of each week. Please email Stephanie Quinn at stjosephstmary@lincolndiocese.org

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