

Saint Joseph's Parish
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 Wisner, NE 68791
 Parish Office: 529-3891
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15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 12th, 2020

Administrator: Rev. Vincent Sunguti

Holy Cross Parish
 PO Box 212
 517 N Fraiser
 Beemer, NE 68716
 Phone: 528-3475

Reconciliation:

St. Joseph's-Saturday: 4:15-4:40 PM or by appointment
 Holy Cross-Sunday: 8:00-8:20 AM or by appointment

The 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time



"A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred- or sixty- or thirty-fold. Whoever has ears ought to hear" (Matt 13:3-9).

Sunday Readings

The **first reading** is taken from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 55:10-11. The word of God which came to the Chosen People through the prophets, and the divinely inspired writers, came out of God's loving interest in His people. He wanted to prepare them for the inheritance, the real "promised land," that, when the messianic age (the "fullness of time") came, would be theirs, provided their lives on earth were lived as they should be.

The **second reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 8:18-23 and is about present suffering and the glory of God. Suffering is an essential part of the Christian life and one who truly believes will have his or her share of hardships and trials. Yet, these are not ends in themselves, as there is hope that they will terminate with the full revelation of the glory of God. The theme and message of St. Paul is not to lose hope in the Lord into whose risen life we have been initiated by Baptism.

The **Gospel** is from St. Matthew 13:1-23. Christ's description of His audience, that day in Galilee, is unfortunately as true today as it was then. His message of salvation has been preached to a great part of the world's population, but the proportion of those who accept it and live up to it, is about the same today as it was then. There are millions of men and women today, in what was once Christian Europe, who are like the seed sown on the unplowed path. They refuse to accept the message, they have no thought for their future, they are content to end in the grave after their few years of misery and hardship on this planet.

There are others who see the truth and the consolation of the Christian gospel, but when it comes to making sacrifices for it, they give up. The message did not sink into their hearts and minds. They are like the seed which fell on rocky ground because the faith had no deep roots in their lives. Others again, and they are legion, are like the seed that fell among the briars and thorns. They accepted the faith and it took root in them, but later on, "the cares of the world and the delight in riches chokes the word and it proves unfruitful,"—these are our Lord's own words.

The last class of Christians are like the seed sown on good soil. They not only accept Christ and his teaching, but they live up to it, and, come what may, they are faithful to it. These will produce fruit and will earn for themselves eternal happiness.

Each one of us can look into his own conscience today and discover to which class he or she belongs. Are some of us perhaps, like the seed that fell on the rocky ground? While Christianity makes no very difficult demand we are all for it, but when it demands mortification, the curbing of passion, real sacrifices for our neighbor, do

we forget our Christian calling then and ignore its precepts? And how does our type of Christianity stand up to the temptations of the world—the desire to get all the enjoyment we can out of this life, licit or illicit, breaking God's commandments weekly or maybe daily? Are we chasing after wealth and power, using all our energies to rise in the world to be above our neighbor by fair or foul means? If the above are our aims in life, our Christianity has been or is being choked out of us.

There are millions of saints in heaven today, enjoying eternal happiness, who had some, if not all, of our present failings. We, too, can be with them one day, provided we do what they did. They repented sincerely and remained God's close friends, until he called them to himself. May the merciful God give us the grace to imitate them while we yet have time.

In Courtesy of Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.



From Fr. Vincent's' Desk:

Finance report Summary July 1st 2019 – June 30th 2020 Now Available

Find the attached simplified annual Finance report for each parish. It is made simple for each one to understand our Financial status. If you have any questions or need a detailed copy, feel free to contact us and we will get back to you.

Thank you all for being good stewards especially during this challenging time that began way back in mid-March. I appreciate what each one gives. We count on your support once more in this new year. Due to the unpredictable situation that we are in, our budget for this new year has remained the same as the past fiscal year.

Temporary New Mass schedule

Starting August 1st 2020, there will be additional Masses said each week at both St. Joseph and Holy Cross parishes to allow for more opportunities to attend. At St. Joseph, Wisner, there will be Mass every Tuesday at 8.00 am as well as the usual one of Thursdays; and at Holy Cross, Beemer, there will be Mass on Fridays at 8.00 am as well as the usual one on Wednesdays. These changes are temporary until the nursing homes will reopen for Masses.

All of our parishioners are at liberty to choose to come to any weekday Mass that is generally attended by fewer people making social distancing easier. Please make use of this opportunity, especially as the weekend Mass attendance is increasing.

Saint Joseph Parish Council Members 2020-2021	
Shane Batenhorst — Pres.	Dave Deitloff
Tyler Oligmueller	Rick Jacobs
Kari Moeller	Janet Ludwig
Becky McGuire — Sec.	Mary VonSeggern
For contact information, please see the parish directory	

Holy Cross Parish Council Members 2019-2020	
Mike Guenther—Pres.	Tracy Oligmueller—Sec.
Alan Batenhorst	Trisha Robertson
Mike Gentrup	Tanya Oligmueller—VP
For contact information, please see the parish directory	

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer

Weekend of July 19th

WORD: Tom Peatrowsky
EMHC: Susan Niewohner, Gerald Schlickbernd
USHER: Michael Gentrup
PRAISE: Marge Gentrup, JoAnn Steffensmeier

Stewardship of God's Gifts Holy Cross—July 5, 2020	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,109.00
Plate:	7.00
HELP/Fuel:	10.00
Totals:	\$1,126.00

VOTING FOR PARISH COUNCIL is this weekend. You may vote either in person at church OR by e-mail to Tracy. The ballot is limited this year but we want to make it official. **Vote for one man:** Mike Guenther or a write-in man of your choice, **AND one woman:** Trisha Robertson or a write-in woman of your choice.

MINISTRY LISTS are out for July and August. Please contact us if unable to make your date.

JULY MOWING GROUP: Chairman- Brian Oligmueller, Members: Gerald Gentrup, Chris Black, Brad Schulz, Joe Hansen, Jeff Robertson, Brian Gentrup, Wayne Emanuel.

Find HOPE and healing. ARE YOU PREGNANT AND NEED HELP? Call/text 888.550.1588 or visit loveline.com
 HAVE YOU TAKEN THE FIRST DOSE OF THE ABORTION PILL? It may not Be too late to save your baby. Call 877.558.0999 or visit abortionpillreversal.com
 FREE, CONFIDENTIAL COUNSELING FOR WOMEN AND MEN EXPERIENCING GRIEF AFTER ABORTION Call 888.456.HOPE (4673) or Visit hopeafterabortion.com

BioSPIRITUAL FOCUSING: PRAYING WITH THE WHOLE SELF, August 22, one-day retreat at Saint Benedict Center, Schuyler, with Deborah Sheehan, M.A., and Jane King, M.A. BioSpiritual Focusing is a way of opening the whole of ourselves—mind, body, and spirit—to a deeper connectedness with God, others, and self. Join us to learn more about how gently being with what is present within your embodied self can open the door to a deeper story—and to a greater sense of wholeness. This practice requires no more than showing up and a willingness to engage contemplatively with what is going on within. And the potential for transformation and growth unfolds in the process. Social distancing will be observed, please bring your mask. Lunch is available at the Center for \$11.02 (includes tax). Register at www.StBenedictCenter.com or call (402) 352-8819.

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	13	NO MASS	---	NO MASS
Tue	14	—	WCC	(private Mass only) Residents of the Wisner Care Center
Wed	15	8:00 AM	HC	+ Duane Humlicek
Thu	16	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Jayda Oligmueller
Fri	17	—	CHB	(private Mass only) + Norbert Ruskamp
Sat	18	5:00 PM	SJ	Living & Dec'd Mbrs of Ron & Mary Ann Wemhoff
Sun	19	8:30 AM	HC	+ Larry & Karen Welsch
Sun	19	10:00 AM	SJ	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
SJ—St. Joseph's		HC—Holy Cross		
WCC—Wisner Care Center		CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer		
Fr. will <u>live stream only the 5:00 Saturday Mass</u> via both Facebook pages...				
St. Joseph—"Joseph Wisner"				
Holy Cross—"Holy Cross Catholic Church—Beemer"				

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner

Weekend of July 18th & 19th

LEC: Alan Harms
EMHC: Sally Harms
USHER: Men's July Work Group

LEC: Dave McGuire
EMHC: Capri McGuire
USHER: Men's July Work Group

MEN'S WORK GROUP—July 2020

Chair: Eric VonSeggern
Co-Chair: Jeff Phillips
Members: Ken Knust, Mark Porter, Andy Bachman, Tony Wemhoff, Chuck Ross, Tim Stalp, John Woerde-mann

Stewardship of God's Gifts St. Joseph—July 5, 2020	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,495.00
Plate:	82.00



Prayer Chain info.....The St. Joseph prayer group is open to all men and women of the parish. The prayer request notifications come to you via text or phone call, and you are not asked to pass on the requests (like past prayer chains have required). You simply include the request in your regular prayers and there is no meeting involved.

If you or a loved one need extra prayers, please let us know. The information you give can be as general or specific as you'd like. All members of the prayer group are asked to keep the intentions confidential. To be added to the prayer group or to ask for special prayer requests, please notify Father Vincent or call or text Anne at 402-750-9616.

I DON'T REMEMBER, August 14-16, retreat at Saint Benedict Center Schuyler, with Father Donald W. Shane. Jesus' desire is that we let the Father's profound personal love for us flow into our hearts. The presentations will highlight Jesus' meetings with Mary Magdalene, Peter, Paul, Matthew, Dismas and others. We will reflect on the real meaning of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick with personal experiences. The theme, "I don't remember" points to the total forgiveness the Father offers us through his Son. There is no better model of trusting in His love than that of our Blessed Mother. We will reflect on her life and ask her to guide us to open our hearts to receive His personal love. Come prepared to celebrate His personal love and forgiveness and to let go of unhealthy guilt forever. Social distancing will be observed, please bring your mask. Friday, 7:30 p.m. to Sunday after lunch. Register now at www.StBenedictCenter.com or call (402) 352-8819.

More Like Jesus

Let us be more like Jesus
 In everything we do;
 Let's live a life of service,
 A life that's fresh and new.

Let's relinquish worldly things,
 And not be slaves to fashion;
 Let's fill our hearts with love,
 Forgiveness and compassion.

Yes, let's be more like Jesus,
 Being always in God's will,
 For if Jesus' light shines through us,
 Our earthly purpose we'll fulfill.

By Joanna Fuchs