

Saint Joseph's Parish
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Wisner, NE 68791
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17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 26th, 2020

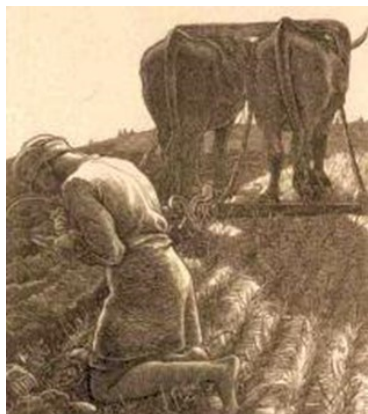
Administrator: Rev. Vincent Sunguti

Holy Cross Parish
PO Box 212
517 N Fraasier
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 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time



"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it" (Matt 13:44-46).

The feast of Sts. Joachim and Anne parents of Mary, which is ordinarily celebrated today, is superseded by the Sunday liturgy.

Sunday Readings

The **first reading** is taken from the first Book of Kings 3:5, 7-12. God gives Solomon a choice of gifts. Solomon asks God for "an understanding mind," so that he could always do what was just and best for his subjects. God rewards him with the gift of wisdom making him the wisest man that ever lived.

The **second reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 8:28-30. The theme of this reading concerns the graciousness and mercy of God at work in calling men to himself, justifying them, and glorifying them as well. The point of the reading is the eternal mystery of the ineffable love of God for man, even before man existed.

The **Gospel** is from St. Matthew 13:44-52. The lesson of these two parables is as true for us today, as it was for those Palestinians to whom Christ spoke. All Christians are called on to imitate the two wise men, and surrender all their earthly possessions if necessary, in order to gain eternal life. Does this "giving all" mean that we are all expected to abandon the world and take on the religious vows of poverty, chastity and obedience? There are many who do just this. But it is not the only way, nor the normal way, to purchase the eternal treasure. Heaven is within the reach of all, who follow the ordinary vocations of life and partake of this world's joys and pleasures *within the framework of God's commandments*, but never lose sight of the goal toward which they are moving.

Keeping within the framework of God's commandments is the difficulty. We need not have a vow of obedience, but we must obey all legitimate authority. We may possess the goods of this world, but only such goods as we lawfully and justly acquire. Nor may we withhold all of these from a fellow man who is in need. We do not have to take a vow of chastity, but yet we must be chaste, we must use the gifts and the pleasure of sex only within the limits set down by God's wise laws.

All of this is not easy for human nature. But we are not relying on weak human nature, we have within our reach in the Church all the spiritual and supernatural aids we need. Our twentieth century, it is true, is so engrossed in chasing after the earthly comforts and pleasures of the body, and so devoid of any spiritual or other-worldly outlook, that even those who know and believe that there is an eternity after death, find it hard to allow their faith and convictions to govern and direct their daily actions. Yet, the evil example of others will never justify our wrongdoing. The commandments of God are still binding, even though they are openly and flagrantly violated by individuals and whole nations today.

Remember this: we shall not be asked at the judgment, "What did your neighbor do?", but "what did you

do?" If we lose the pearl of great price in the eternity of happiness God has offered to us-it will not be the fault of others. The fault will be ours and ours only. We refused to pay the price. We did not think it worth the "paltry all" which we possessed in this life.

*In Courtesy of The Sunday Readings
by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.*



From Fr. Vincent's' Desk:

COVID- 19 Phase III Updates for July/August 2020

So far, we don't have any new updates for the next month of August.

You are welcome back into the Church for Mass while following the guidelines given especially sitting 6 ft away from each party and sanitizing the hands before and after mass among other guidelines.

I strongly recommend that if you are attending Mass, wear a face mask but it is not a requirement.

Bible Study Group

During this time of pandemic, it can be challenging to get together but we can still do something while following the guidelines given to us by CDC. Apart from other parish groups that are trying to reopen and move on, Bible study is another one.

Every faith is built on knowledge of God that we learn from various experiences which we go through in life. But our primary source of the knowledge of God is from the Holy Bible. Our parish is blessed to have this small group of Bible Study that you are welcome to join. You are also welcome to initiate a new Bible group that meets your needs. Come let us interpret together this word of God into an easier way of understanding by relating it to my story and your story of life. I encourage you to wear face masks if you can.

If you are interested in joining this group or would like to initiate a new one, please contact:

For Wisner- **Ruth Bloedorn at 402-640-3446 or email at ruthbloedorn@yahoo.com.**

For Beemer- **Marilyn Ortmeier at 402-380-0676 or email at marilyn.ortmeier@icloud.com.**

You may also contact Fr. Vincent at 402-529-3531.

PRAYER FOR RAIN

God of life, all good gifts come from you;
the breath of life that creates us,
the fellow creatures that accompany us,
the saving waters that renew and refresh us.
We look to you in our time of need.
Give to the earth the water of life,
water to bring forth food for your creatures.
Send us rain to heal the earth and to cleanse
its face,
water to quench your thirsty land.
Let faith be born from our doubts,
hope from our despair,
compassion from our troubles.
Let the rains come,
so we may know once more your care for all
creatures.
Then we will bless your great name
and declare your faithful love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer

Weekend of August 2nd

WORD: Renae Carlson
EMHC: Dawn Peatrowsky, Tom Peatrowsky
USHER: Fred Gentrup
PRAISE: Mike McTaggart, Jeanie McTaggart

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner

Weekend of August 1st & 2nd

LEC: Bonnie Styskal
EMHC: Steve Ausdemore
USHER: Men's August Work Group

LEC: Joyce Stalp
EMHC: Madonna Servi
USHER: Men's August 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

MEN'S WORK GROUP—August 2020

Chair: Chad Ludwig
Co-Chair: Lorin Batenhorst
Members: Ray Johnson, Nick Heller, Austen God-bersen, Perry Albers, Roger Lampman, Todd Schroeder, Dylan Ludwig

Stewardship of God's Gifts Holy Cross—July 19, 2020	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$400.00
Plate:	152.00
Totals:	\$552.00

Stewardship of God's Gifts St. Joseph—July 19, 2020	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$936.00
Plate:	103.00
Heating/AC:	20.00

CONGRATULATIONS TO KAITLYN COMBS, MITCHELL PEATROWSKY, AND KAILEY PENA on their graduations this month. We wish it had not been such a strange circumstance for you, but we pray for God's blessings in your future lives. We will miss you.

BIBLE STUDY will resume Study in the basement of Holy Cross church - with masks - on Friday, July 31st from 2 - 3 p.m. and after that on the first and 3rd Fridays of each month. On July 31st we will be discussing the introduction to Exodus and Chapters 1 and 2. As usual everyone is welcome.

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

UPCOMING AUGUST MOWING GROUP: Chairman– Alan Batenhorst, Members: Gary Batenhorst, Melvin Niewohner, Tom Peatrowsky, Ron Francis, Gerald Schlickbernd, Heath Harrison, Paul Schlickbernd.

2020 MARRIAGE CELEBRATION
 Archbishop George J. Lucas invites you to attend the annual Mass honoring marriage September 20th at St. Cecilia's in Omaha or September 27th at St. Mary's in Norfolk. This event honors couples who are celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 or more years of marriage. Rosary at 1:30pm, Mass at 2pm. Registration limited to the first 50 couples and is required by August 7th, 2020. If you are not able to attend in person but want your name in the program, you can make that request by completing the online registration form. We also plan to livestream this Mass. Visit ArchOmaha.org/FamilyLife for more information and to register. Contact Reggan 402-551-9003 x1300 with questions. Sponsored by the Family Life Office.

LADIES GUILD meeting will be held Monday, July 27th at 7:00 pm in the church basement.

BIBLE STUDY will resume this week in the basement of St. Joseph church. Tuesday, July 28th at 8:15 am. Read Exodus Introduction, and ch. 1 & 2.

JOIN THE TEAMMATES MENTORING PROGRAM in Wisner on Monday, Aug. 3 from 6-7 PM to participate in the One Hour Walk: Making a Difference for Youth! The Walk will be held at the Wisner-Pilger Track. Registration will begin at 5:30. The Walk starts at 6:00 PM. For additional information call Staci Jensen at 529-3338.

Walkers are expected to register for this one-hour event that recognizes the importance of the one hour that mentors spend with their mentees each week. The generous support of TeamMates by our community makes this event possible. All the funds raised locally will benefit the local TeamMates Scholarship Fund.

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	27	NO MASS	---	NO MASS
Tue	28	9:30 AM	WCC	Residents of the Wisner Care Center
Wed	29	8:00 AM	HC	+ Wenzel Franzluebbers
Thu	30	8:00 AM	SJ	+ John Davies
Fri	31	—	CHB	(private Mass only) + Mr. & Mrs. Francis Hetherington
Sat	01	5:00 PM	SJ	+ Jayda Oligmueller
Sun	02	8:30 AM	HC	+ Mary Ann Schlickbernd
Sun	02	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"				

**YES.....We still need volunteers!!
CAN YOU HELP??**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
TEACHERS NEEDED**

ST. JOSEPH—GRADES K-12

We are still looking for a 3rd grade teacher for the afternoon as well as volunteers for other areas, and we still need two teachers for the high school in the evening.

Our program relies completely on volunteers in order to function, and each year it becomes harder and harder to find help. If you are able and willing to lend a hand, please call Sarah Jacobs at 402-841-6144 or Capri McGuire at 402-380-2925.

**MASS INTENTION ENVELOPES:
St. Joseph and Holy Cross.**

There are envelopes available in the back of church. If you would like to have a Mass said for a loved one, complete the envelope and place in the collection basket or contact Sarah at the parish office 402-529-3891, or email the info to stjo68791@gmail.com. The suggested donation is \$10.00 per mass.



