

Saint Joseph's Parish
PO Box 623
1318 Ave G West
Wisner, NE 68791
Parish Office: 529-3891
Bulletin Email:
stjo68791@gmail.com
Fr. Vincent Sunguti: 529-3531
Email: vsunguti2018@gmail.com

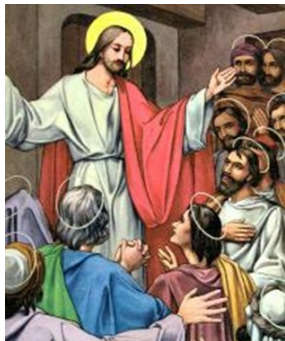
5th Sunday of Easter
May 10th, 2020
Administrator: Vincent Sunguti

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 5th Sunday of Easter – May 9/10th 2020



Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too."

Sunday Readings

The **first reading** is taken from the Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7 and continues the description of the missionary preaching and missionary activity of Paul and Barnabas. For those who follow the reign of God as inaugurated in Christ, these apostles can promise nothing for sure but trials and hardships. And yet, the paradox of suffering and yet being joyful in the Holy Spirit is here expressed as it was in the ending of the readings from Acts last week. — *A Celebrants Guide to the New Sacramentary - A Cycle* by Kevin W. Irwin

The **second reading** is from the first Letter of St. Peter 2:4-9 in which he reminds the new converts to Christianity, that they must be holy, for they are the living stones out of which the new spiritual temple of God is formed. The cornerstone, the base and binding force of this temple, is the risen Christ. . Because of Him, and through Him, they are able to offer sacrifices which are acceptable to God.

The **Gospel** is from St. John 14:1-12. We may well wonder at the slowness of the Apostles in seeing in Christ nothing more than a man—a great man, a man with power from God, yes, but still a mere man. That He was the Messiah, they were convinced, but their idea of the Messiah was wrong. They thought He would free Israel from foreign domination (Lk. 24 21), and set up a new kingdom of God—a prosperous, earthly kingdom with God guaranteeing peace and plenty for all. If, therefore, He allowed His enemies to put Him to death, all their hopes would be dashed to the ground. Hence, the mention of His impending death at the Last Supper filled them with dismay and despair.

But we must not judge them too harshly. Christ had indeed often claimed to be God, but His words fell on deaf ears. It was only after His resurrection that they began to understand that He had spoken literally—it was only then they believed He was indeed the Son of God, in human nature.

For us today, the Incarnation is still a mystery, but it is not the "how" that should trouble us, we know that with God all things are possible. It is rather the "why" that should cause us amazement. Why should God go to that length for our sake—mere creatures, and sinful, ungrateful creatures at that? The infinite goodness and the infinite love of God are the answer, but still an answer which is mysterious to us. For we, with our limited capacity for love, can form no idea of infinite love.

God created us "in His own image and likeness" (a very limited likeness, granted) and intended, because of the spiritual faculties He gave us, which enable us to see and enjoy truth and beauty, to give us a share in His eternal life and glory. To do this, the Incarnation of the second Person of the Holy Trinity was God's plan. There must have been other ways of doing this, but God, we can be sure, chose the best way. Even with our limited intelligence, we ourselves can see what a perfect way this was for proving to us the infinite love, goodness and compassion of our Creator.

Sin entered the world of man, as God had foreseen, but notwithstanding this ingratitude on our part, God's Son came in our lowly, human nature and suffered, even though sinless, all the effects of men's sins. He suffered in our name, and because He was God, His sufferings in His human nature made infinite atonement for the sins of all mankind.

His Incarnation had made us His brothers and co-heirs to heaven. His death on the cross wiped out, and gave

us the means of wiping out, our sins, so that we would be capable of possessing our inheritance.

Knowing the story of the Incarnation therefore, we know of the love and kindness of God toward us. We need not ask, with Philip, "show us the Father," we have seen Him in His riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! "How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable are His ways!" (Rom. 11 :33).

"What return can I make to the Lord?" All the mortifications and good works of all the holy men and women that ever lived, or will live, would not be adequate a return to God for the miracle of love He has shown toward us. But He accepts the widow's mite, the little acts of love, the little proofs of gratitude, the willing acceptance of the crosses He sends us, to purify us. In one word, all He asks in return is that we try to live our Christian life day after day, ever thanking Him for the gift of Christ and the Christian faith.

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



From Fr. Vincent's' Desk:
2019/2020 RCIA Program

We do have 3 candidates of RCIA under St. Joseph's parish, Wisner who have been preparing for the last 9 months to be received into Catholic Faith as well as receiving the sacrament of Confirmation. This event usually takes place during the Easter vigil Mass but due to the Corona Virus this year, we didn't do it. Since it has to be done during Easter season and in front of the Faithful, I'm pleased to let you know that we have scheduled it to take place during Vigil Mass of the solemnity of Pentecost which will be celebrated on **Saturday, May 30, 2020, at 5:00 pm**, at St. Joseph's Church, Wisner. You are welcome to attend this Mass so long as we all follow the guidelines and Safety Measures given due to COVID-19. Our candidates of this year are:

Paige JoAnn Godbersen
Blaine Johnson
Brittany Albers

Ongoing Guidelines and Safety Measures

Reminder: As you know, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services has issued updated **Directed Health Measures** that affect churches. These changes went into effect on Monday, **May 4**. We also did receive guidelines and safety measures from Archbishop Lucas that we started enforcing when we opened our buildings for the celebration of Masses and Sacraments this week. Therefore, our regular schedule of Masses resumed on Wednesday **May 6, 2020**, in observation of the given guidelines.

In summary, please note the following measures to limit the spread of illness:

- ◆ I will not greet people before or after the liturgy as I usually do on weekends;
- ◆ The sacristy is closed except to those assisting with the liturgy;
- ◆ Please keep appropriate social distance during and after the liturgy, and do not congregate inside or outside of the church building;
- ◆ Please be certain that children stay with their families during and after the liturgy;
- ◆ For the reception of Holy Communion, for the safety of our ministers, please maintain a six-foot distance in line and please consider receiving Holy Communion in the hand and not on the tongue;
- ◆ If you are only open to receiving Holy Communion on the tongue, please receive at the end of the line;
- ◆ In order to maintain appropriate distancing, altar servers will not be serving at this time.

Please look at this as an opportunity to exercise patience, charity, and meekness during this time.

For further details, carefully read and observe the attached Guidelines of our Parishes that are at the back of the Church.

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer
Weekend of May 17th

WORD: Rita Eichelberger
EMHC: Mike McTaggart, Jeanie McTaggart
USHER: Scott Ortmeier
PRAISE: Marge Gentrup, JoAnn Steffensmeier

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—May 3, 2020	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,895.00
Easter:	200.00
Works of Mercy:	990.00
Ascension:	125.00
Building Fund:	150.00
Totals:	\$3,360.00

MAY MOWING GROUP: Chair—Tim Oligmueller, Doug Steffensmeier, Jesus Pena, Robert Praest, Ron Guenther, Dan Spenner, Shane Combs

Prayer for Healing



Gracious Healer, I entrust these persons into your care. Ease the burdens that this illness brings. Relieve the sharp edges of pain. Stir up hope amid adversity. Give them spiritual strength to cope with the difficulties of this situation. Encourage them to lean on you and to find comfort in your presence. May those who tend to them do so with compassion and skill. Let all who are near these loved ones be a source of love and hope. We commit your loved ones who are ill into your care and safekeeping. Hold them close with your love as you gather them under your wings.

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 stj068791@gmail.com. The suggested donation is \$10.00 per mass.



Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner
Weekend of May 16th & 17th

LEC: Richard Schultz
EMHC: Steve Ausdemore, Anne Ausdemore
USHER: Men's May Work Group

LEC: Joyce
EMHC: Alan Harms, Sally Harms
USHER: Men's May Work Group

St. Joseph Catholic Church—Wisner
MONEY COUNTERS
 If you are available to help count on Tuesday mornings, please contact Sarah at the church office, 402-529-3891.

MEN'S WORK GROUP—May 2020

Chair: Terry Soden
Co-Chair: Ron Machacek
Members: Bernie Ruskamp, Steve Obermeyer, Adam Brahmer, Jeff Recker, Dan Kane, Tyler McBride

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—May 3, 2020	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,495.00
Heating/AC:	200.00
Cemetery:	220.00

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ST. JOSEPH—GRADES K-12

Looking ahead to the 2020-2021 school year, we will be in need of 5-7 teachers total for elementary and evening Rel Ed classes, as well as the volunteers for prayers, Christmas program, snack, etc. Our program depends 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 let us know by June 15th. Please call Sarah Jacobs at 402-841-6144 or Capri McGuire at 402-380-2925.

VOLUNTEERS will be needed to sanitize pews and other surfaces after each Mass at both parishes. If you are able to help, please stay after Mass. With a several volunteers, it shouldn't take much time.



MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	11	NO MASS	---	NO MASS
Tue	12	—	WCC	(private Mass only) Residents of Wisner Care Center
Wed	13	8:00 AM	HC	+ Peter and Elizabeth Peitzmeier
Thu	14	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Ron Wemhoff
Fri	15	—	CHB	(private Mass only) + Coleman & Shirley Toth
Sat	16	5:00 PM	SJ	+ Jayda Oligmueller
Sun	17	8:30 AM	HC	+ Tom McTaggart
Sun	17	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 live stream only the 5:00 Saturday Mass via the respective Facebook page...

St. Joseph—"Joseph Wisner"
 Holy Cross—"Holy Cross Catholic Church—Beemer"

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS AT CHURCH: At St. Joseph, there are several items we would like to find a home for from the rectory basement. There are many folding chair desks, small gas stove, and a mini fridge. We believe they are all in working order. If possible, we would like to sell them for a small donation to the church. For more information, please contact Sarah at the church office at 402-529-3891.



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.