

**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 16th, 2020**

Saint Joseph's Parish

PO Box 623
1318 Ave G West
Wisner, NE 68791
Parish Office: 529-3891
www.stjosephwisner.org
Reconciliation: Saturdays before Mass
4:15-4:40 pm or by appointment

Administrator: Rev. Vincent Sunguti

529-3531

Email: vsunguti2018@gmail.com

Holy Cross Parish

PO Box 212
517 N Fraiser
Beemer, NE 68716
Phone: 528-3475
www.holycrossbeemer.org
Reconciliation: Sundays
8:00-8:20 am or by appt.

Bulletin and Office Email: stj068791@gmail.com

The 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A



But the woman came and did him homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that hour (Matt 15:25-28).

Sunday Readings

The **first reading** is taken from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 56:1, 6-7. The theme of the prophet here is the call of the Gentiles to the service of the true God on the great day which is to come. The temple of that future messianic age will be a "house of prayer" for all peoples.

The **second reading** is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 11:13-15, 29-32. In this reading Paul admits clearly that in the Christian Church is the fulfillment of all the hopes and promises made to Israel, yet this fulfillment of Judaism is composed of Gentiles as well as Israelites. Paul here calls himself the apostle to the Gentiles but still prays that the Israelite rejection of Jesus may one day be reversed.

The **Gospel** is from St. Matthew 15:21-28. There is a lesson, a very necessary one, for all of us in this episode of Christ's public life. It is the necessity of perseverance in our prayers of petition. Prayer is an essential part of our Christian life, and the essential part of prayer is that of adoration and thanksgiving, but prayer of petition has a big part in our daily prayers. We have so many spiritual and temporal needs, needs which we cannot provide by ourselves. Christ himself has told us to ask Him for these needs: "ask and you shall receive."

Do we ask with the fervor and perseverance which prove that we have "great faith"? That faith is the proof which Christ needs before He grants our requests. The Canaanite woman of whom we have just heard is for us an example of that deep-seated faith and trust in Christ's power and Christ's goodness. Even though He ignored her she continued to beseech Him, and when He answered with what seemed a direct refusal, her faith and trust did not waver. She answered His reason for refusal with another statement which showed that the granting of her petition would not in any way interfere with or impede His primary task, His mission to His father's chosen people. This was the proof of great faith which He required. He granted her request.

We must imitate and learn from this pagan mother. Her love for her child made her ready to undergo every hardship or suffering for the restoration to health of her loved one. When we turn to Christ in our needs is our faith in Him as sincere and unwavering as was this woman's? No doubt it often is, and yet we do not get the desired answer. As Christians we know that our particular request may not always be for our good, or for the final good of the person for whom we are praying. In that case, the good God will not grant what would be to our eternal disadvantage. But if our prayer is sincere and persevering, we shall always get an answer, and one which is better than what we asked for.

How often do we wonder at or perhaps doubt God's mercy when we see, for example, the young father of a family being taken from his loved and helpless ones, notwithstanding the prayers and tears of his wife and children. Where is God's mercy here? Where is His answer to these sincere prayers? But who are we to question God's mercy? The answer is there and often clear enough: that death brings out in his relatives and neighbors virtues which they would otherwise never

have had occasion to practice - virtues that will earn for them eternal life.

It is only when we get to heaven - and getting to heaven is our purpose in life - that we shall see how our prayers, sincere and persevering, were answered by God.

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



**From Fr. Vincent's' Desk:
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
Registration 2020 / 2021**

Once again, a new year is here with us and we are now open for registration of RCIA program for 2020/21. I'm taking candidates from our two Parishes of Holy Cross and St. Joseph. We will do it together. Who can join this program? Any adult who was baptized as an infant but never went through catechism instructions and hence was never initiated into First Holy Communion and neither confirmation; a baptized Christian who would like to be admitted officially into Catholic faith; one who has never been baptized; and anyone else who would like to renew his or her Catholic faith. To register, visit our website RCIA program which is under "Faith Formation", and click on "more". Download the registration form and fill it out and send it back to me not later than August 31st. Our First class will be on Tuesday September 8th, 2020. If you have any questions, contact me at: vsunguti2018@gmail.com or 402-529-3531.

Monthly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Since Holy Cross, Beemer will be having the Friday Masses at 8 am, it will always be followed by exposition and adoration of the blessed Sacrament on every **1st Friday of the month from 8:30 am to 9:00 am**. It is open to anyone. First Friday of each month is usually commemorated as the monthly Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We had the first exposition and adoration on Friday August 7th, and our next one will be on Friday, September 4th.



This is a very different academic year as compared to others. Everything seems strange for students, teachers as well as parents. It is also a very trying moment for not only school leaders but all leaders all over the world.

They all need our support especially those managing our schools during this time of pandemic. Studies are hard, yet the reward is great. They lead to a knowledge of the world and of God.

As a result of the virus risks, many students, teachers and parents have some mixed feelings of what is going to happen and how the academic year will look like. We don't have control over the future. Life is always full of risks but somehow by the grace of God, many times we make it. And so today, August 16th, I will offer a special prayer and blessings for all the students and teachers after Holy Communion.

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer

Weekend of August 22nd & 23rd

WORD: Tom Peatrowsky, Doris Guenther
EMHC: Dennis Mostek, Mary Mostek, Jeanie McTaggart, Mike McTaggart
USHER: Michael Gentrup, Scott Ortmeier
PRAISE: Betty Guenther, Rosie McNamara

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—August 9, 2020	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$2,115.00
Plate:	15.00
HELP/Fuel:	60.00
Totals:	\$2,190.00

AUGUST MOWING GROUP:

Chairman— Alan Batenhorst
 Members: Gary Batenhorst, Melvin Niewohner, Tom Peatrowsky, Ron Francis, Gerald Schlickbernd, Heath Harrison, Paul Schlickbernd.

BEEMER BIBLE STUDY will be Friday, August 21st at 2:00 p.m. in the church basement. We will be reading chapters 3 and 4 of Exodus. Everyone is welcome.

Welcome to St. Joseph's and Holy Cross Parishes

We welcome all our guests and new members to our parishes. There are many opportunities for experiencing the peace and joy of our loving God in liturgy, groups, committees and volunteer service to the church. If you would like to join our parish family, contact the parish office or send an email to:
 For St. Joseph—stjo68791@gmail.com
 For Holy Cross—renaecarlson@hotmail.com

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner

Weekend of August 23rd

LEC: Jeff Phillips
EMHC: Madonna Servi
USHER: Men's August Work Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—August 9, 2020	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$2,185.00
Plate:	11.00
Heating/AC:	75.00
Assumption:	20.00

MEN'S WORK GROUP—August 2020

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



KIDS IN CRISIS BACKPACKS: One of the CCD projects that we will complete this summer is the necessity back packs for Kids in Crisis. If you could donate full-size Shampoo/Conditioner, deodorant, and/or non-perishable snacks, please put them in the receptacle in the vestibule at St. Joseph church by August 26. You can also donate cash enclosed in a marked envelope using the collection baskets. The backpacks are donated to The Bridge, the domestic violence program in our area. The bags of necessities are given to kids who must quickly leave dangerous home situations and stay in a shelter.

ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS
EMHC/Lector Training & Mandation

Training and mandation will happen this fall to accommodate continued need for new ministers. However, due to continued limitations on large gatherings and the variety of local liturgical solutions, the process will differ from previous years.

The Pastor needs to supply [Dr. Michael Emmerich](#) with names and email contact information of candidates no later than August 31st. Dr. Michael will provide candidates with necessary forms and links for the virtual meetings. Upon completion of the session, candidates' pastors will be notified and be responsible (or delegate responsibility) for the practical instruction in their current local procedures. The customary, centralized mandation Masses in Norfolk and Omaha will not be held, but resources for the mandation will be provided to pastors to facilitate local ceremonies during their weekend parish Masses. If Interested, send your name and contact information to Fr. Vincent at vsunguti2018@gmail.com or call 402-529-3531. Note the dateline above.

Virtual Meeting Dates & Times:
 Sunday, 9/20: 3:00-4:30 pm (English)
 Monday, 9/21: 6:00-7:30 pm (Spanish)

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	17	NO MASS	- - -	NO MASS
Tue	18	9:30 AM	WCC	Residents of the Wisner Care Center
Wed	19	8:00 AM	HC	Nolan Nordby
Thu	20	8:00 AM	SJ	School Employees and Students
Fri	21	8:00 AM	HC	+ Wayne Meier
Sat	22	5:00 PM	HC	Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of the Ray Steffensmeier Family
Sun	23	8:30 AM	HC	+ Marilyn Schulz
Sun	23	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 both Facebook pages...

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

A PRAYER FOR OUR STUDENTS

DEAR GOD,
 THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT OF
 EDUCATION IN EVERY FORM.
 AS OUR CHILDREN PREPARE TO START A NEW YEAR
 MAY CONFIDENCE BE THEIR FOUNDATION,
 MAY GRACE BE THEIR GUIDE AND
 MAY HOPE BE THEIR COMPASS TOWARD A BRIGHT FUTURE.
 I PRAY THEY WOULD HAVE EYES TO SEE
 THE NEEDS OF THOSE AROUND THEM
 AND A HEART TO LOVE WELL.
 MAY THEY FACE EACH DAY WITH POSITIVITY
 KNOWING THAT NO MATTER
 WHAT COMES THEIR WAY,
 THEY DO NOT HAVE TO FACE IT ALONE.
 AMEN

