

**24th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 13th, 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

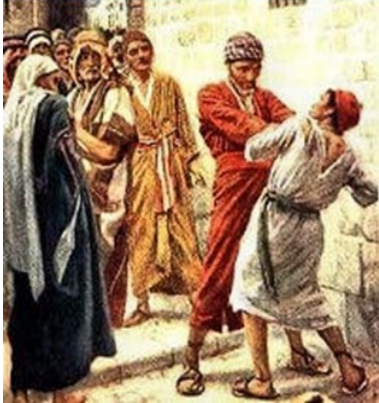
Email: vsunguti2018@gmail.com

**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 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time**



*His master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to. Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?' Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers until he should pay back the whole debt. So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart (Mt 18:32-35)."*

**Sunday Readings**

The **first reading** is taken from the Book of Sirach 27:30, 28:7. In the verses read today, Sirach tells us that we must forgive our neighbor if we want God to forgive us our own sins. We must be merciful if we hope to obtain mercy from God. We must not seek revenge on a neighbor lest God should take vengeance on us. If we remember our end in life, we will keep God's commandments and we will not be angry with a neighbor who offends us.

The **second reading** is from the St. Paul to the Romans 14:7-9. In these three verses St. Paul emphasizes the fact that through our baptism we have been made members of Christ's mystical body, we have become brothers of Christ, intimately united with him in his death and resurrection. Whether living or dead we belong to Christ. It was for this purpose, to unite all men closely to himself not only in this life but especially in the next, that Christ became man and "dwelt among us."

The **Gospel** is from St. Matthew 18:21-35. On reading or hearing this story of the merciless servant, each one of us would rightly judge him a mean, low type of man, a heartless man, who puts himself outside the pale of mercy. He throttled his fellow-servant for a paltry debt of ten dollars and would not listen to the poor man's plea for mercy. When we hear what the king did to this heartless servant we heartily approve and say: "It served him right, he got what he richly deserved."

We had better stop and think for a moment today and reflect that we ourselves may be that merciless servant described in the parable. Every time we have sinned mortally, we have incurred an unpayable debt to God. Each time we have received absolution we have come out of God's courtroom as free men. A weight greater than a million-dollar debt has been lifted from our shoulders. A fate worse than generations of earthly imprisonment — that is, eternal slavery — has been spared us because of God's loving, infinite mercy. How then can it happen that we could be so heartless, mean, and foolish as to refuse to forgive a neighbor for some offense he has committed against us?

Yet it happens, and it may be that there are some among us here today who continue to have enmity in their hearts against neighbors who offended them. In their hard-heartedness they cannot get themselves to forgive and forget. Are these not following in the footsteps of the merciless servant? Will they not receive the punishment of the merciless servant — a punishment richly deserved? This will be the fate of all unforgiving Christians; they will meet an unforgiving God when they are called to settle their accounts.

That day has not yet come for us. We still have time to put our affairs in order. We still can forgive all our enemies from our heart. If we do not, we are cutting ourselves off from the possibility of having our own sins and offenses forgiven by God. We have the solemn word of our divine Lord for this in the lesson he draws from the parable "So also

my heavenly Father will do to every one of you (that is, deliver us up to eternal slavery) if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

*In Courtesy of Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.  
Order of Franciscan Missionaries*



**From Fr. Vincent's Desk:  
2020-2021 Archbishop's Annual Appeal**

The 2020 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is beginning in our parish. You will receive an invitation from Archbishop Lucas to support the work of the Church through a personal commitment. The Archbishop's Annual Appeal makes up 25% of the Archdiocesan Annual Operating Budget. Now, more than ever, I hope you will join me in making a gift the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. As disciples of Jesus, we are invited to trust, to let go of fear and open our minds and hearts to God's saving work. Please join me and thousands across our archdiocese in sharing your gifts, recognizing we are all One Church.

**The Annual Appeal Supports:**

*The Archbishop's Annual Appeal supports all the offices, ministries and programs of the archdiocese that in turn support every parish and school in our community through efforts informed by the Pastoral Vision and Priorities including but not limited to:*

**Encountering Jesus :**

- Training and Ongoing Formation for Priests and Deacons
- Parish Evangelization Outreach and Religious Education
- Catechesis and Training to Enhance Sacred Liturgy in Parishes

**Equipping Disciples:**

- Catholic School Education and College Campus Ministry
- Marriage Preparation and Enrichment
- Family Strengthening Programs

**Living Mercy:**

- Tuition Assistance for Students Attending Catholic Schools
- Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy through Catholic Charities
- Advocacy through the Marriage Tribunal for Catholics Seeking Annulments and Protection for Sacramental Marriages

**CCD (Confraternity of Christian Doctrines) / Religious Education and RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Programs of 2020/2021**

We will be beginning the CCD year for Grade School (4:00-5:30) and High School (7:00-8:30) this Wednesday Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>. Opening Mass will be at 5 pm and 7 pm respectively. Parents and guardians are invited to attend but it is not a requirement. We will follow all the health guidelines regarding the virus precautions. We are still in need of some volunteer teachers. Contact us if you can help. I would like to ask parents to get involved in forming our children in faith especially in ensuring that they come on time and make a follow up every week what they learned. To be a good Catholic is to attend Mass on Sundays as it is the 3<sup>rd</sup> commandment. Ensure your son or daughter attends Mass on Sunday either physically or online. I highly recommend physical attendance of Mass on Sundays for all the CCD students.

We also started our RCIA program last Friday, Sept 11<sup>th</sup>. We do have 2 candidates who have registered and are attending the class so far. This program does not take long as some people think. We will be done on Easter time of 2021. I am still open for new member registration until the end September 2020.

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer

Weekend of September 20th

**WORD:** Tom Peatrowsky, Rita Eichelberger  
**EMHC:** Susan Niewohner, Gerald Schlickbernd  
 Ann Bausch, Brenda Anderson  
**USHER:** Gerald Gentrup, Brad Schulz  
**PRAISE:** Mike McTaggart, Jeanie McTaggart

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—September 6, 2020	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,565.00
Plate:	2.00
Insurance:	20.00
Tree:	200.00
HELP/Fuel	50.00
Assumption:	50.00
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$1,887.00</b>

**SEPTEMBER MOWING GROUP:**

**Chairman— Scott Ortmeier**

Members: Ethan Ortmeier, Mike Gentrup, Keith Anderson, Alex Schulz, Tom Peterson, Ron Stieren

**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](mailto:stjo68791@gmail.com)  
 For Holy Cross—[renaecarlson@hotmail.com](mailto:renaecarlson@hotmail.com)

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	14	<b>NO MASS</b>	---	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tue	15	9:30 AM	WCC	Residents of the Wisner Care Center
Wed	16	8:00 AM	HC	+ Tom McTaggart
Thu	17	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Ron Esser
Fri	18	8:00 AM	HC	+ Brent Carlson
Sat	19	5:00 PM	SJ	+ Marie Woerdemann
Sun	20	8:30 AM	HC	+ Casper Gentrup Jr.
Sun	20	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		
<b>Fr. will <u>live stream only the 5:00 Saturday Mass</u> via both Facebook pages...</b>				
St. Joseph—"Joseph Wisner"				
Holy Cross—"Holy Cross Catholic Church—Beemer"				



Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner

Weekend of September 19th & 20th

**LEC:** Sally Harms  
**EMHC:** Anne Ausdemore  
**USHER:** Men's September Work Group  
**LEC:** Tammie Batenhorst  
**EMHC:** Shane Batenhorst  
**USHER:** Men's September Work Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—September 6, 2020	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,440.00
Plate:	60.00
Rel. Ed.:	175.00

**MEN'S WORK GROUP—September 2020**

**Chair:** Chad Dixon

**Co-Chair:** Brad Cornell

**Members:** Sid Kneifl, AJ Burki, Keith Schroetlin, Trevor Cyboron, Alan Harms, Dylan Kneifl

## Religious Education

**ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6**

**September 16<sup>TH</sup>:** Classes start at 4:00p.m. No beforehand gathering in church so have your students go directly to their classroom. Grades K, 1, 2 & 4 are in rectory and grades 3, 5, & 6 are in church basement. Snack will be served in classrooms. Mass will be held at 5:00 and children will be dismissed after mass at approximately 5:30.

**September 23<sup>RD</sup>:** Class as normal from 4:00 – 5:30

**ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS (GRADES 7 -12)**

**Registration forms** will be mailed out this week to families so please return them to the church basement or mail them back to the church by September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**September 16<sup>TH</sup>:** Classes start!! We will begin with opening mass at 7:00 p.m. and then followed by class until 8:15.

**September 23<sup>RD</sup>:** Class as normal from 7:00-8:30.

**FINDING GOD LATER IN LIFE:** October 3, one-day retreat at *Saint Benedict Center, Schuyler*, with *Mary Eileen Andreasen, RN, M.S., M.A.* and *Sister Ann Marie Petrylka, OSM*. Being retired or semi-retired brings new opportunities and challenges. The greatest advantage is more time to experience God's love and reflect on God's continued plan for our lives. How can we come to know God better in later age? What do we have to leave behind and what do we have to learn anew? What are the difficulties? Come and explore new ways to hear God's gentle call in later life. Social distancing will be observed, please bring your mask. Program and lunch \$46.02 (includes tax). Register at [www.StBenedictCenter.com](http://www.StBenedictCenter.com) or call (402) 352-8819.

**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](mailto:stjo68791@gmail.com). The suggested donation is \$10.00 per mass.