

First Sunday of Advent November 29, 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: stj68791@gmail.com

The 1st Sunday of Advent – Year B



For Catholics, the new Liturgical Year commences with the first Sunday of Advent. In this new liturgical year, the Church not only wishes to indicate the beginning of a period, but the beginning of a renewed commitment to the faith by all those who follow Christ, the Lord. This time of prayer and path of penance that is so

powerful, rich and intense, endeavors to give us a renewed impetus to truly welcome the message of the One who was incarnated for us. In fact, the entire Liturgy of the Advent season, will spur us to an awakening in our Christian life and will put us in a 'vigilant' disposition, to wait for Our Lord Jesus who is coming:

*'Awaken! Remember that God comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now! The one true God, "the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob", is not a God who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the -God-who-comes.'*¹

The Season of Advent is therefore a season of vigilant waiting, that prepares us to welcome the mystery of the Word Incarnate, who will give the 'Light' to the womb of the Virgin Mary, but essentially this time prepares us not only to welcome this great event but to incarnate it in our lives. We could say that the true light enters the world through the immaculate womb of Mary but it does not stay there. On the contrary, this light flows out into our dark, obscure, sinful lives to illuminate them, so that we can become the light that illuminates the world. For this reason, let us live this time of waiting not only to celebrate a historical memory but to repeat this memory in our lives and in the service of others. To wait for the Lord who comes, means to wait and to watch so that the Word of Love enters inside us and focuses us every day of our lives.

As Blessed John Henry Newman reminded us in a homily for the Advent Season: "Advent is a time of waiting, it is a time of joy because the coming of Christ is not only a gift of grace and salvation but it is also a time of commitment because it motivates us to live the present as a time of responsibility and vigilance. This 'vigilance' means the necessity, the urgency of an industrious, living 'wait'. To make all this happen, then we need to wake up, as we are warned by the apostle to the Gentiles, in today's reading to the Romans: 'Besides this you know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed'" (Rm 13:11).

We must start our journey to ascend to the mountain of the Lord, to be illuminated by His Words of peace and to allow Him to indicate the path to tread (cf. Is 2:1-5). Moreover, we must change our conduct abandoning the works of darkness and put on the 'armor of light' and so seek only to do God's work and to abandon the deeds of the flesh (cf. Rm 13:12-14). Jesus, through the story in the parable, outlines the Christian life style that must not be distracted and indifferent but must be vigilant and recognize even the smallest sign of the Lord's coming because we don't know the hour in which He will arrive (cf. Mt 24:39-44).

In Courtesy of (Pope Benedict XVI



From Fr. Vincent's' Desk:

Updates on Archbishop's Annual Appeal:

Both of our parishes have not yet reached our goal but we are almost there with your help. Note that the Annual Appeal is an invitation, really, for Catholics throughout the Archdiocese of Omaha to participate in the good work that we're all able to do together to further the mission of the church. With the resources that the annual appeal provides, we're able to share the light and the joy of the gospel with our brothers and sisters.

Now, more than ever, our experience as One Church invites us to recognize that everything we have is provided to deepen our faith and to bring us closer to Jesus and to one another. Take the Holy Spirit up on the gifts that are being offered to you. We know that to use those gifts means to help others take a step in the direction of Jesus and a fuller life in him.

Let's Learn About Mass Corner: Why do we do that?

Part 2: Story Telling: Liturgy of the Word:

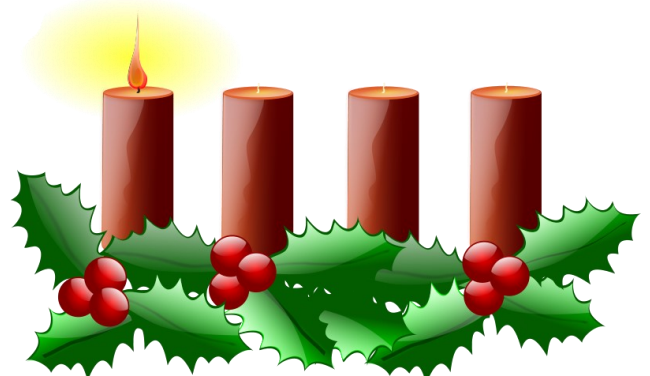
In normal times, when we gather at a friend's home for a meal, we always begin with conversation, telling our stories. At Mass, after the rites of gathering, we sit down and listen as readings from the Word of God are proclaimed. They are the stories of God's people.

Three readings and a psalm. On Sundays there are three readings from the Bible. The 1st. reading will be from the Old Testament except during Easter when we read the Acts of the Apostles. We recall the origins of our covenant. It will relate to the **Gospel** selection and will give background and an insight into the meaning of what Jesus will do in the Gospel. Then we will sing or recite a psalm. The 2nd reading will usually be from one of the letters of Paul or another apostolic writing. The third reading will be taken from one of the four Gospels.

Note that much of the Mass is taken from the Bible: For example, the 3 readings and the psalm, Holy, Holy, Holy, the Lord's Prayer, and most of the words and phrases of the prayers of the Mass are taken from the Bible.

Standing for the Gospel. *Because of the unique presence of Christ in the proclamation of the Gospel, it has long been the custom to stand in attentive reverence to hear these words. We believe that Christ "is present in his word, since it is he himself who speaks when the holy Scriptures are read in the church".* The Gospel reading concludes with the ritual formula "The Gospel of the Lord" and we respond, "**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,**" again proclaiming our faith in the presence of Christ in the word. Then we sit for the homily.

Homily. The homily takes that word and brings it to our life situation today. Just as a large piece of bread is broken to feed individual persons, the word of God must be broken open so it can be received and digested by the congregation. Ideally, the Sunday homily should take 10 minutes or less.



Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer

Weekend of December 6th

WORD: Rita Eichelberger
EMHC: Marjorie Gentrup, Ken Schlickbernd
USHER: Fred Gentrup
PRAISE: Mike McTaggart, Jeanie McTaggart

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—November 22, 2020	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,055.00
Plate:	2.00
Thanksgiving:	200.00
All Saints:	50.00
GA/CC:	50.00
Building Fund:	50.00
Insurance:	20.00
Totals:	\$1,427.00

HOLY CROSS ALTAR SOCIETY: We have cancelled meetings for December. Baskets will be in the back of church for the Jesus Baby Shower, used eye glasses and postage stamps. The baby items go to Birthright in Norfolk. There also will be no Bingo at Colonial Haven.

FROZEN TURKEYS & HAMS will be accepted until December 13th. Please put them in the basement freezer.



HOLY CROSS BIBLE STUDY will meet on Wednesday, December 2nd after the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the church basement. Everyone is welcome. We will be reading and discussing Exodus 9 and 10.

Bible Study



**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
FEAST MASS**

Monday, December 7th
5:30 pm at Holy Cross

Tuesday, December 8th
8:00 am at St. Joseph
- Live Streamed -

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE—Thursday, Dec. 24th
St. Joseph—5:00 pm
Holy Cross—7:00 pm

CHRISTMAS DAY—Friday, Dec. 25th
Holy Cross—8:30 am
St. Joseph—10:00 am

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	30	NO MASS	—	NO MASS
Tue	01	— AM	WCC	(private Mass only) + Bill Murphy
Wed	02	8:00 AM	HC	+ Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of the Ben & Catherine Franzluebbbers Family
Thu	03	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Gary Servi
Fri	04	8:00 AM	HC	+ Vergil & Frances Liermann
Sat	05	5:00 PM	SJ	+ Elwood & Mollie Minds Mary Ellen Minds and Gary Minds
Sun	06	8:30 AM	HC	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	06	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Herb Albers
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 December 5th & 6th

LEC: Madonna Servi
EMHC: Steve Ausdemore
USHER: Men's December Work Group

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

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—November 22, 2020	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,425.00
Plate:	120.00
All Saints:	20.00

MEN'S WORK GROUP—December 2020

Chair: Tom Feller
Co-Chair: Jordan Feller
Members: Tim Montgomery, Rick Jacobs, Chet Beckmann, Randy Jensen, Dave McGuire

ST JOSEPH PARISH—POINSETTIAS



If you would like to purchase a Poinsettia for the Christmas Season in memory of a loved one(s), the sign up sheet and envelope are in the back of the church. You may also put an envelope in the collection basket, or mail it to the church at PO Box 623. Be sure to include the name of your loved one(s) and \$20 for each Poinsettia.

Thank you! St Joseph Environment Committee

BURGER FRY RECAP: Many thanks to the members of the Knights of Columbus and the Ladies Guild for volunteering their time on Sunday!! It was a great success in which they served around 240 burgers and raised about \$2068 to go toward the basement renovation project at St. Joseph. Another big thank you to the grilling committee and also to the many people that supported the event. Your generosity is much appreciated.

TREE OF LOVE...

For Wisner Care Center Residents. Lists are available at Citizens, Pinnacle & Midwest Bank in Wisner. Wrapped gifts along with the tag from the tree, should be returned to the Care Center no later than December 7th.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Holy Cross - Tuesday, December 15th at 7:00 pm
St. Joseph's - Tuesday, December 22nd at 7:00 pm

Religious Education

ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6

- There was no class this past week due to Thanksgiving break.
- This week: Class from 4:00p.m. - 5:30p.m.
- December 9th: Class from 4:00p.m. - 5:30p.m. and grades 3-6 will celebrate Reconciliation with Fr. Vincent to prepare for Christmas.
- December 16th - Class from 4:00p.m. - 5:30 p.m. and will also have class Christmas parties
- December 23rd - Christmas Break - No class and will resume on January 13th.

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

- There was no class this past week due to Thanksgiving break
- This week: Class from 7:00p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- December 9th: Class from 7:00p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- December 16th - Class from 7:00.m. - 8:30p.m.
- December 23rd - Christmas Break - No class and will resume January 13th.