

**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 31, 2021**

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 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 31st 2021



In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him (Mark 1:23-26).

The **first reading** is taken from the Book of Deuteronomy 18:15-20. This central section of this book describes the various offices and officers of the theocratic society which Yahweh, through his servant Moses, is setting up for the Chosen People.

The **Gospel** is from St. Mark 1:21-28. St. Mark makes it clear that, from the very first day of Christ's public ministry, his messianic power began to be manifested to those who saw and heard him. The Jews of Capernaum were "astonished" at his teaching and "amazed" at his power over the evil spirits. "What is this," they asked one another, "a new teaching and the unclean spirits obey him!" But they were still a long way from recognizing him for what he was, the Messiah and Son of God. This is as might be expected, the astounding mystery of the incarnation was way beyond human expectation or human imagination. And it was our Lord's own plan to reveal this mystery, slowly and gradually, so that when the chain of evidence had been completed by his resurrection, his followers could look back and see each link in that chain. Then they would be ready to accept without hesitation the mystery of the incarnation and realize the infinite love and power of God that brought it about. We look back today through the eyes of the Evangelists, and, like them, know that Christ was God as well as man—two natures in one person. We should not therefore be "amazed" at the teaching of Jesus or at his power over the unclean spirits. What should amaze us really is the love that God showed mankind in becoming one of our races.

Today, while amazed at God's love for us, let us also be justly amazed at the shabby and grudging return we make for love. Many amongst us even deny that act of God's infinite love, not from convincing historical and logical proofs, but in order to justify their own unwillingness to co-operate with the divine plan for their eternal future. This is not to say that their future, after death, does not concern them; it is a thought which time and again intrudes on all men, but they have allowed the affairs of this world which should be stepping stones to their future life, to become instead mill-stones which crush their spirits and their own true self-interests.

While we sincerely hope that we are not in that class, we can still find many facets in our daily Christian lives which can and should make us amazed at our lack of gratitude to God and to his incarnate Son. 'Leaving out serious sin which turns us away from God if not against him, how warm is our charity, our love of God and neighbor? How much of our time do we give to the things of God and how much to the things of Caesar? How often does our daily struggle for earthly existence and the grumbles and grouses which it causes, blot out from our view the eternal purpose God had in giving us this earthly existence. How often during the past year have we said from our heart: "Thank you, God, for putting me in this world, and thank

you a thousand times more, for giving me the opportunity and the means of reaching the next world where I shall live happily forevermore in your presence"? If the true answer for many of us is "not once," then begin today. Let us say it now with all sincerity, and say it often in the years that are left to us

In Courtesy of Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M in reflection of 2021



From Fr. Vincent's' Desk:

**Archbishop's Annual Appeal (AAA) Updates
2020/2021**

As of Wednesday January 26th, 2021, the AAA for both parishes stands as follows: **St. Joseph Church, Wisner** has committed **\$8,305** towards parish goal of **\$7,191.53** which is **115%** of the goal pledged. Participation stands at **24.65%** towards goal of **25.6%**. **Holy Cross Parish, Beemer** has committed **\$10,561** towards the goal of **\$9,874.58** which is **107%** towards the goal pledged. Their participation is **38.1%** towards the goal of **48.7 %**. Our parishes have exceeded the goal that was set. Kudos! However, if you have not yet given and would like to do so, please go ahead and make a commitment. I want to thank you all for responding generously towards helping the Archdiocese to cover their budget for 2020/2021. Be blessed all.

EMHC, Lectors, Ushers and Mass Servers schedule resumes.

Just like every other sector in our community life is going on with adjustments due to this unique time, we would like to restart doing some of the things that we had temporarily put-on hold at initial times of the virus. We need Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors and ushers to help us in taking the collection during the Mass of Saturdays and Sundays. They will use masks and pass around the basket in a careful manner while all are seated. That basket makes a big difference in our collection. The schedule for EMHC, lectors and ushers will be emailed soon and is in the back of church for you to pick up.

I also need Mass servers during weekend Masses. Kindly tell all our young stars who had trained in serving Mass to be looking in the bulletin to see when they are scheduled to serve.

Mass Explained – Why do we do that?

Institution Narrative: Consecration. The priest continues the prayer, giving praise and thanks, and calling upon the Holy Spirit to change our gifts of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. At this juncture, he stretches both of his hands over the species of bread and wine as he says the words "...we humbly implore you by the same spirit graciously make holy these gifts we have brought to you for consecration, that they may become the Body and Blood of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ." He then recalls the events of the Last Supper—the institution of the Eucharist. At this important moment in the prayer, we proclaim the mystery of faith. Several texts are possible, for example: "We proclaim your Death, O Lord, / and profess your Resurrection / until you come again." The priest continues recalling the wonderful deeds of salvation: the passion, death and resurrection of Christ. Recalling all these events that lead to Christ giving us his body as our spiritual food is a profound prayer that leads to the change of bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus Christ.

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer
Weekend of February 7th

WORD: Doris Guenther
EMHC: Brenda Anderson, Jeanie McTaggart
PRIASE: Mike McTaggart, Jeanie McTaggart
SERV: Sunday:
USHER: Brad Schulz

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner
Weekend of February 6th & 7th

LEC: Jeff Phillips
CUP: Allison Kluthe, John Woerdemann
SERV: Lindsey Kneifl, Hailey Kneifl
USHER: February Men's Group

LEC: Joyce Stalp
EMHC: Sally Harms
CUP: Richard Schultz, Janet Ludwig
SERV: Hayden Schroeder, Sydney Porter
USHER: February Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—January 24, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$500.00
Plate:	5.00
Sol. Of Mary:	5.00
GA/CC:	35.00
Christmas:	50.00
Totals:	\$595.00

“SOUPER” BOWL SUNDAY COLLECTION will be taken up next Sunday. This money is sent to area soup kitchens and homeless centers to help feed and house those of our brothers and sisters in need. It is easy to help those you see, but more difficult to remember those we do not see and never meet. Please be generous when you see the soup pot next week.

The HOLY CROSS ALTAR SOCIETY will be on Monday, February 1st at 7:00 P.M. No lunch will be served and masks are required.

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

MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, Jan. 31st—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore
Sunday, Feb. 7th—Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder

MEN'S WORK GROUP—February 2021

Chair: Chris Liermann
Co-Chair: Ken Duncan
Members: Marvin Seier, Greg Schlautman, Tony Lampman, AJ Kluthe, Rich Bodwell, Russ Loberg, Gavin Lampman, Alex Kluthe

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—January 24, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$585.00
Plate:	53.00
Heating/AC:	50.00
Works of Mercy:	160.00


“Pulling for Boz” Fundraiser: TODAY!! January 31st at the Wisner VFW. Starts at 11:00 am. Free Will Donation for steak sandwich, chips, and cookie/bar. Dine in or carry out. Curb side pick up available by calling 402-529-6321. Covid restrictions apply. Raffle tickets also being sold for 1/2 beefs and whole pork. See the flyer in the back of church for more details.

POINSETTIAS... If anyone would like to take a poinsettia plant home, please do so anytime after Sunday Mass. They will be removed from the church on Friday.

MINISTRY SCHEDULES for February and March are printed and hanging on the bulletin board at the back of church. Be sure to find a sub if you are unable to fulfill your assignment.

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.

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	01	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	02	—	—	Mass via Zoom Lvng & Dec'd Relatives Of Ron Stalp
Wed	03	8:00 AM	HC	+ Alvin & Betty Haranek
Thu	04	8:00 AM	SJ	+ John Davies
Fri	05	8:00 AM	HC	+ Mr. & Mrs. Francis Hetherington
Sat	06	5:00 PM	SJ	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	07	8:30 AM	HC	+ Doug Temple
Sun	07	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Michelle Niichel
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”				



Religious Education

ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6

The 2nd grade celebrated the Sacrament of First Reconciliation with Fr. Vincent. The 3rd grade learned about the Sacraments of Healing and are still working on the Apostles Creed.
This week: Class from 4:00- 5:30

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

Grades 7th & 8th: We finished Session 6 on Theology Of the Body as we talked about how love is portrayed in the media. It can give men and women a very wrong picture of what God made love to be between them. We also talked about dating situations and how maturity can make a difference in how to approach it. We ended with a psalm-prayer.

Grades 9th - 12th: The lesson was on friendship and the important qualities of a good friendship. How can we be a better friend to others? A video was watched on how to identify a bad friendship. The bible passage from Proverbs 17:17-28 was discussed. Closing prayer was done with adoration reflection and a Litany of Trust.
This week: Class from 7:00-8:30.

