

**2nd Sunday of Lent  
February 28, 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: stjoe68791@gmail.com**

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**



*Between Moses and Elias Jesus shows forth His divine glory, thus foreshadowing His resurrection. He is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end of all things. Today's Mass places before us the transfigured Lord and the model toward Whom we must tend, and our own transfiguration as the goal we must attain. We attain this goal by a profound realization of our sinfulness and need of a Redeemer; by preserving purity of body and soul; by combating our passions and carnal instincts and observing the commandments and most importantly by participating in the Mass.*

The **first reading** is taken from the book of Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18. Abraham had promptly obeyed the true God and come to Canaan. Now God tests him by asking him to offer his son, Isaac, in sacrifice. Abraham obeyed promptly once more, but God intervened as Abraham got ready to slay his son. He renewed His promise of a great race, through which the whole world would receive the blessing of God — divine adoption through the Incarnation.

The **Gospel** is from St. Mark 9:2-10. This vision of Christ glorified, given to these Apostles on Mount Tabor (the traditional site of Transfiguration) was surely a very special privilege, and it was one they did not forget. "We saw his glory," St. John says in his gospel, written over sixty years later. In his epistles John also refers to this privilege (1 Jn. 1:1-4). St. Peter, writing from Rome to the churches in Asia Minor about thirty years later, mentions this outstanding experience: "For we were not following fictitious tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honor and glory, when from out the majestic glory a voice came down to him saying: 'this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.' And this voice we ourselves heard borne from heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain" (2 Pt. 1:16-18).

Yes, the three Apostles were privileged and we too are sharers in their privilege. The Transfiguration of Christ is but one among many of the incontrovertible proofs of the divine Sonship of Christ which we have in the gospel narratives and in the twenty centuries-long history of the Church which he founded. Were he not divine, that Church would long since have crumbled and fallen under the many vicious assaults from outside which it has undergone, as well as from the many human weaknesses which have beset it from within. But Christ is God and the Church has his divine protection and assistance. Therefore, it will go on to the end of time to continue his work of elevating and redeeming mankind.

The Church orders this story of the Transfiguration to be read to us during this season of Lent. We are or should be mortifying ourselves during this season. This mortification can earn for us a glorious and unending future life. To encourage us to continue it, we are reminded to listen to the Son of God. There are the voices of many false prophets shouting around us, telling us to enjoy ourselves in this life, to "eat, sleep, drink and be merry for tomorrow we die," but there is the rub—tomorrow we shall die, but where shall we go then?

Let us thank our divine Lord today, for giving this

consoling and encouraging vision of his glory to his Apostles and through them to us. It was for them, and it is for us, a guarantee and a foretaste of the joys and the glory that will be ours for eternity, if we but persevere in our struggles against the world, the flesh and the devil.

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



**From Fr. Vincent's Desk:**

**Works of Mercy Envelopes**

It is Lenten season and one of the themes is giving alms or helping the needs of others beyond our borders. The Works of Mercy collection will take place again during Holy Week. This envelope is in place of the individual special collections generally done throughout the year. We split these monies between the organizations listed on the front of the envelope. Since we do this collection only once per year, I kindly ask for your generosity.

To encourage everyone to be involved with alms giving during lent, Rice Bowls were sent home with students and are available at the back of church. Great things can be done in small acts. Rice Bowls will be returned during Holy Week and will go support Catholic Relief Services. You may place them in the offertory, or you may drop them by the church offices.

**RCIA: First Scrutiny of the Elect (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent)**

Next Sunday, and for the following two Sundays, we will celebrate the Scrutinies. According to the Church's Rites, "the scrutinies are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good." Later this week, we will also "hand over" (*traditio*) the Creed to our catechumens, which they will then "hand back" at the Easter Vigil when they make their Baptismal Promises. Please keep all the Elect in your prayers as they make their final journey to the Easter Sacraments. Because we are celebrating the Scrutinies, the readings will be taken from Cycle A of the Lectionary for this and the next two Sundays.

**Mass Explained: Why do we do that?**

**Communion.** As God fed our ancestors in the desert on their pilgrimage, so God gives us food for our journey. We approach the minister who gives us the Eucharistic bread with the words "**The Body of Christ,**" and we respond, "**Amen.**" We then go to the minister with the cup who gives it to us with the words "**The Blood of Christ,**" to which we again profess our "**Amen.**" During this procession we usually sing a hymn which unites our voices, minds and thoughts, even as the Body and Blood of Christ unites our bodies. Then we pray silently in our hearts, thanking and praising God and asking for all that this sacrament promises. During this pandemic, no Eucharist by the cup. Maybe we will do it in the future when it will be safe to do that. Otherwise, whether you receive from the cup or just Holy Communion alone, it makes no difference.

After receiving Holy Communion, it is important to move back to the pew and in reverence, kneel down and say a thanksgiving prayer for Christ giving himself to us and all you are grateful for as well as asking for all you need. This is the time you incorporate your needs to God as an individual. What do you want of God in today's Mass? Just stick to one request per Mass.

After receiving Holy Communion, the priest invites us to the concluding prayer of commonly known as Prayer After Communion, to which we respond, "**Amen.**"

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

**WORD:** Tom Peatrowsky  
**EMHC:** Mary Mostek, Dennis Mostek  
**PRIASE:** Diana Dinslage, Bev Francis  
**USHER:** Brad Schulz

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

**LEC:** Richard Schultz  
**EMHC:** Anne Ausdemore  
**SERV:** Jordyn Gentrup, Anna Jacobs  
**USHER:** March Men's Group

**LEC:** Holly Schroeder  
**EMHC:** Sally Harms  
**SERV:** Hayden Schroeder, Autumn Chohon  
**USHER:** March Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—February 21, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$947.00
Plate:	23.00
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$970.00</b>

**PARISH COUNCIL** meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 5PM.

**EXPOSITION & STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
**At HOLY CROSS**  
6:30 pm—Adoration & 7:00 pm—Stations of the Cross  
Fridays, Feb. 19th—March 26th

**Celebrations:**  
Holy Cross Parish wishes happiness and God's blessings to the following:

**Birthdays:**  
Preston Praest - February 27  
Vicky Krupka - February 29  
Doug Steffensmeier - March 2  
Kevin Lueshen - March 4  
Leo Schulz - March 4

**MONEY COUNTERS**  
Sunday, Feb. 28th—Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder  
Sunday, March 7—Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer

**MEN'S WORK GROUP—March 2021**  
**Chair:** Dave Ebel  
**Co-Chair:** Dixon Godbersen  
**Members:** Gerald Gentrup, Drew Feller, Gary Godbersen, Duane Mendlik, Blaine Johnson, Nick Schultz, Scott Mendlik

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—February 21, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$995.00
Plate:	175.00
Insurance:	170.00

**RICE BOWLS** are available to pick up in the back of church. Please take them home and return them by Good Friday. Rel Ed students are asked to return theirs to class by March 24th. Donations may also be given online at [www.csricebowl.org/give](http://www.csricebowl.org/give).

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	01	—	—	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tue	02	9:30 AM	WCC	Residents of the Wisner Care Center
Wed	03	8:00 AM	HC	+ Lars Jackson
Thu	04	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Jayda Oligmueller
Fri	05	8:00 AM	HC	+ Mr. & Mrs. Francis Hetherington
Sat	06	5:00 PM	SJ	+ Leo & Flavia Ausdemore
Sun	07	8:30 AM	HC	Lvng & Dec'd Members of the Ray Steffensmeier Family
Sun	07	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</u> only the 5:00 Saturday Mass via both Facebook pages...</b>				
St. Joseph—"Joseph Wisner"				
Holy Cross—"Holy Cross Catholic Church—Beemer"				

**Religious Education**

**ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6**  
The 3rd grade finished with their Circle of Grace Lessons. The 5th & 6th grades joined Fr. Vincent for Mass server training. This week: All classes will recite assigned prayers to our prayer personnel. The 5th & 6th grade will again have Mass server training with Fr. Vincent.

**ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS (GRADES 7 -12)**  
**Grades 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>:** We began with Stations of the Cross in church, read by the youth. Our Circle of Grace lesson was our focus for the night. We then finished with a prayer.  
**Grades 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>:** Joined the 7th & 8th graders for Stations of the Cross and then were dismissed.  
This week: Class 7:00p.m. - 8:30p.m.

**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.



**Prayer Chain info.....**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.