

**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 7, 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: stj68791@gmail.com

**The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**



*On leaving the synagogue he entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them (Mark 1:30-31).*

The first reading is taken from the Book of Job 7:1-4, 6-7. The author cries out in his misery, speaks of life and death, cites his restlessness and life's struggle and notes that he will not see happiness again.

The Gospel is from St. Mark 1:29-39. Surely the people of Capernaum saw enough that first day of Christ's public ministry among them to make them realize that this man from Nazareth who had come amongst them was no ordinary preacher, no ordinary rabbi, no ordinary man. They saw that he preached as one having authority; they saw that by a simple command he cast out demons and removed all bodily ailments. Yet though they were astonished and amazed at his power, their worldly outlook did not let them rise above their own small interests. Our Lord did not blame them or criticize them, he knew and fully understood their slowness of mind in regard to things spiritual, and he knew also that they would eventually give themselves wholeheartedly to his kingdom. While he was prepared to wait for the desired effects which his miracles and preaching would eventually have on them, he hastened the arrival of that day by praying to his heavenly Father to send the graces necessary for their conversion into their hearts and healings.

We Christians of today have many advantages over the people of Capernaum of that day. They saw Christ with their bodily eyes as a man of power amongst them; we see him with the eyes of faith as he really was and is — the Son of God who came on earth as man in order to make us sons of God. We know who he really was and we know the full meaning of his mission. We have seen that mission completed amongst us by his death on the cross and his resurrection. By his death he conquered death for us; by his resurrection he opened the gates of heaven for us and led the way there for all who will follow him.

This is the good news Christ brought to our world. This is the meaning of Christianity; this is why we are Christians. We are members of Christ's kingdom on earth, so that when our life here ends, we shall be members of his everlasting heavenly kingdom. Yet, with all of this knowledge and with the example of the thousands and millions of saints who have lived according to this knowledge over the past nineteen hundred years and more, and who are now enjoying the reward Christianity promised them, how active and how effective is our Christian faith in our daily thoughts and deeds? In my daily dealings with my fellowmen would I be picked out as a Christian? Do I, by my words and deeds, prove to those with whom I live and work that I am convinced there is a future life after death, that reaching that life is the most important thing in this world for me, and that it is through living my short earthly life as a true Christian that I can earn that eternal life?

If I can say yes to these questions I am, thank God, on the right road. But if my answer is "no" then it is time I had another good look to see where I went off the road, and to find out that I can return to that right road once more. God is merciful; Christ is patient with followers who straggle and wander, but it could be fatal to postpone for too long our call to the God of mercy. It will be too late if we delay turning to

our patient Christ until we are about to die. Stop straggling and wandering off the highway today and the patient Christ will welcome you and help you back. There may be no tomorrow for you, you have no guarantee of it.

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



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

**Message of Lent 2021**

On next week Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, we will be celebrating **Ash Wednesday Mass**. It is important to attend this Mass that officially begins our Lenten season of the next 40 days. For Mass times, look at the schedule on the next page. As we enter into the season of lent, we should all be grateful for the gift of life and good health. The pandemic has taken away so many lives of our people and others have developed a long-term effect on their health. Perhaps it is time to reflect on why did God give me this chance of life? Am I more special than others? What does he want of me? Let us not take for granted our good health. If we do, then it becomes pride. These questions lead us into a deeper meaning of life especially when we see what is happening to others. It is time to look for answers to these deep questions and perhaps think of what you would like to give to the church and the needy in return as a gratitude to God. I do have some suggestions. It could be in terms of donation of money, give up some food as a way of personal discipline, attend at least one week day Mass, go for confession every other week, say a rosary daily, spend 15 minutes a day praying before Eucharist in the church like before Saturday or Sunday Mass. These are just among many other things you could do.

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

By Wednesday February 3<sup>rd</sup>, St. Joseph parish Wisner, had total commitments of \$8,305 which is over the parish goal of \$7,191.53 with 115.5% pledged. Holy Cross Parish Beemer, had total commitments of \$10,811 of the parish goal of \$9,874.58 with 109.5% pledged. Thank you all for surpassing the parish goals. I'm grateful.

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

**Prayer for unity and intercessions.** Last Sunday we stopped at consecration prayer that ended with stretching of hands over the species of bread and wine to change into the Body and Blood of Jesus. Today we will continue with this long consecration prayer.

Consecration continues with the priest praying for unity. "Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit" (Eucharistic Prayer II). To this petition we add prayers for the Bishop of Rome (*Pope Francis name mentioned*) and for the bishop of the local Church (*Archbishop Lucas name mentioned*); we pray for the living and the dead and especially for ourselves that through the intercession of the saints we may one day arrive at that table in heaven of which this table is only a hint and a taste. If it is a funeral Mass, here the name of the deceased is mentioned.

We look forward to that glorious day and raise our voices with those of all the saints who have gone before us as the priest raises the consecrated bread and wine and offers a toast, a doxology, a prayer of glory to God in the name of Christ: "Through him, and with him, and in him, / O God, almighty Father, / in the unity of the Holy Spirit, / all glory and honor is yours, / for ever and ever." Our "Amen" to this prayer acclaims our assent and participation in the entire Eucharistic Prayer.

**Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer  
Weekend of February 13th & 14th**

**WORD:** Tom Peatrowsky, Marilyn Ortmeier  
**EMHC:** Marjorie Gentrup, Susan Niewohner  
Dennis Mostek, Mary Mostek  
**PRIASE:** Diana Dinslage  
**SERV:**  
**USHER:** Michael Gentrup, Scott Ortmeier

**Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner  
Weekend of February 14th**

**LEC:** Diane Davies  
**EMHC:** Martha Schweers  
**SERV:** Dayton Gentrup, Lainey Montgomery  
**USHER:** February Men's Group


Stewardship of God's Gifts Holy Cross—January 31, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$855.00
Plate:	5.00
HELP Fuel:	15.00
GA/CC:	50.00
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$925.00</b>

**MONEY COUNTERS**  
Sunday, Feb. 7th—Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder  
Sunday, Feb. 14th—Team #3 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore

**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

**"SOUPER" BOWL SUNDAY COLLECTION** will be today. Please drop your donation in the soup pot before or after Mass. We send these donations to shelters that provide for the homeless and needy. If you wish to donate through the week, please put it in an envelope and mark it Souper Bowl.

Stewardship of God's Gifts St. Joseph—January 31, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,610.00
Plate:	176.00
Heating/AC:	25.00
Insurance:	20.00



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


**Birthdays:**  
Conner Robinson February 8

**Anniversaries:**  
Brian and Mary Gentrup February 9

**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.

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES**  
February 17th: 8:00 a.m.—Holy Cross  
5:00 p.m.—St. Joseph (Rel. Ed.) everyone welcome  
7:00 p.m.—St. Joseph

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




**Religious Education**

**ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6**  
The 4th grade reviewed the first three commandments and talked how they are about respecting God; and how the last seven commandments are about respecting other people. They also started learning more about the 4th commandment. The 5th grade discussed the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation.  
This week: Class 4:00p.m. to 5:30p.m.

**ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS (GRADES 7 -12)**  
**Grades 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>:** In Session 5, we watched our video and started our reading on how God created us male and female, equal but different. In our bodies, emotions and actions, we complement each other in a way only a creator that loved us dearly could have planned.  
**Grades 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>:** The lesson was about being pro-life and the issues surrounding abortion. Psalm 139 was discussed and how it relates to the pro-life message. Class ended with an adoration reflection, adoration song (You Are Not Forgotten) and a Litany of Trust.  
This week: Class 7:00p.m. to 8:30p.m.



MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	08	—	—	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tue	09	—	—	<b>Private Mass</b> Residents of the Wisner Care Center
Wed	10	8:00 AM	HC	+ Dorothy Gentrup
Thu	11	8:00 AM	SJ	Lvng & Dec'd Members of Ron & MaryAnn Wemhoff Fam
Fri	12	8:00 AM	HC	+ James Hetherington
Sat	13	5:00 PM	HC	Lvng & Dec'd Members of the Ray Steffensmeier Family
Sun	14	8:30 AM	HC	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	14	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Jayda Oligmueller
SJ—St. Joseph's		HC—Holy Cross		
WCC—Wisner Care Center		CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer		
<b>Fr. will live stream only the 5:00 Saturday Mass via both Facebook pages...</b>				
St. Joseph—"Joseph Wisner"				
Holy Cross—"Holy Cross Catholic Church—Beemer"				



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