

**5th Sunday of Easter
May 2, 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

402-529-3531

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 5th Sunday of Easter – May 2nd 2021



I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in

you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you (Jn 15:5-7).

Sunday Readings

The **first reading** taken from the Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31 is about St. Paul's first visit to Jerusalem after his conversion.

The **Gospel** is from St. John 15:1-8. The words of consolation and encouragement which our Lord spoke to his Apostles on Holy Thursday night were intended to console and encourage all his followers for all time. They encourage and console us today, and we need encouragement to persevere on the road to heaven. Living a truly Christian life is never easy. We have always the attraction of the world, and the temptations by the agents of evil, to make that life less easy still. But in our own day these difficulties have increased a hundredfold. The attractions of this world have been multiplied by the increased comforts, pleasures and means of self-indulgence which science and technology have put within our reach. Human nature, always inclined to choose the easiest way out, has been given so many means of escape from the strain of self-control that even for a fervent Christian it is frequently very difficult to avoid these worldly allurements.

Having the ordinary comforts of life and the possession of some of this world's goods is not wrong or anti-Christian, but the natural temptation is to get more and more of these comforts and riches, and the point is soon reached where this becomes the only purpose in life. When this sad stage is arrived at, God and our future life are forgotten; this world becomes our idol and our prison. The temptations which the agents of evil put in Christ's way are also multiplied today. The communications media are now very technically improved and perfected and can be, and sometimes are, a means for good. Unfortunately, more frequently, they are the channels of bad example. The evil deeds of men have more "news value" than their good deeds. And it is so much easier to follow the bad example! Permissiveness, rejection of authority, glorification of unlawful sexual indulgence, drug addiction, and other such crimes are placed before the minds and the eyes of the youth of today, and are unfortunately copied by far too many.

It is indeed hard to swim against the current; it is so much more pleasant to allow oneself to be carried along without effort by the rushing tide. But when there are rocks and shoals ahead, the thoughtless and ease-seeking swimmer will end in grief. Our Lord has warned us today, as he warned his first followers, to abide in him, to remain closely united with him, as is the branch to the vine, if we hope to bear fruit worthy of heaven. He promises us that if we remain closely united to him, that is, if we strive daily to keep his commandments, he will be ever ready to answer our requests, and to heed all our prayers. The sincere prayer today of every man who is trying to lead a Christian life

is for the grace to overcome the allurements of the world, the flesh and the devil. Let us take courage, then. Christ has promised to remain beside us during life if only we stay close to him. While we remain healthy branches of the vine, Christ, we will be on the road to heaven. Our daily tasks, our work as well as our prayer, our recreation as well as our rest, our joys as well as our sorrows, will give glory to God and prove that we are worthy to be called disciples of Christ.

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



From Fr. Vincent's' Desk:

Supply Priests:

While I'm away, Fr. Alex Roedlach will be the main celebrant on the weekend of May 1st & 2nd. Fr. Alex is teacher at Creighton University and is a member of the Society of the Devine Word in Omaha. We welcome him into our parish.

Mass Attendance Dispensation Comes to End

The Archbishop of Omaha, Most Rev. George Lucas, after some consultations with several stake holders will be ending the general dispensation from the obligation to participate in Sunday Mass, in our Archdiocese effective the weekend of Pentecost, May 22nd/23rd, 2021. Many parishes have been experiencing increase in Mass attendance recently and vaccines are more widely available. However, we are recommended to still follow the DHHS guidelines.

While the responsibility to participate in Mass rests with each of us, there are persons who may consider themselves as excused under certain circumstances. For instance, those in advanced age, the sick, disabled persons, or anyone with any other serious conditions are excused. Also, those who feel they are at high risk of contracting COVID, are also excused. I will communicate with leaders so that we plan something for our parish on the Pentecost weekend or shortly after. Let us prayerfully consider this as an invitation to come back and connect in our parishes.

Updates of St. Joseph's Church Maintenance and Repairs Capital Campaign

We are most grateful to all our parishioners who have already made a donation and pledged to our parish Capital campaign. As of today, we currently have \$88,730 committed towards our goal of \$150,000, with 33 out of 140 of our parish families participating which is 24% of our total parishioners. If you have not taken the opportunity to make a donation, you may drop off your commitment card to the parish office or place it in the collection basket next weekend.



Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer
Weekend of May 8th & 9th

WORD: Shelly Wellman, Marilyn Ortmeier
EMHC: Susan Niewohner, Marjorie Gentrup
 Gerald Schlickbernd, Ann Bausch
PRIASE: Duane Neesen, Jeanie McTaggart
USHER: Michael Gentrup, Scott Ortmeier

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner
Weekend of May 9th

LEC: Richard Schultz
EMHC: Sally Harms
EMHC 2: Janet Ludwig
SERV: Anna Jacobs, Averi Buhrman
USHER: May Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—April 25, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$861.00
Plate:	78.25
Building Fund:	939.25

MAY MOWING GROUP: Chair: Tim Oligmueller
 Members: Shane Coombs, Jesus Pena, Robert Praest, Ron Guenther, Dan Spenner

THANK YOU to those who donated to the Easter Flower Fund: Robert & Ashley Praest in memory of Marcella Praest, Ken & Joyce Schlickbernd in memory of Theo & Amelia Doerneman Family and Anton & Christina Schlickbernd Family, Stan & Marilyn Ortmeier in memory of Anna Ortmeier and Ruth Benson, Bernie Oligmueller in memory of Ben & Elizabeth Wordekemper, and Bill & Johanna Oligmueller, Marjorie Gentrup in memory of Casper & Margaret Gentrup, Adolph & Eunice Behrens, and Casper Gentrup, Jr., Karen Spenner in memory of Henry & Eleanor Spenner, Ron & Bev Francis in memory of family members, Fred Gentrup in memory of Dorothy Gentrup, Rita Eichelberger in memory of Joe Eichelberger and Vergil & Francis Liermann, Renae Carlson in memory of Brent Carlson, Gerald & Fran Gentrup in memory of Dorothy Gentrup, Mike & Mary Kate Guenther in memory of Craig Baxter and Joey Melnyk, Dave & Sue Steffensmeier.



GIVE US THIS DAY and new ministry lists are out. Please find a sub if you cannot be there.

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

Birthdays:
 Farrah Lierman May 2
 Bev Francis May 8

Religious Education

ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6

The 4th grade filled the Kids in Crisis bags that they will be taking to The Bridge in West Point this week and they also studied the Beatitudes. The 5th grade worked on their Sacramental Books and finished their year-end tests. The 3rd grade finished year-end tests and then started watching the movie "We Bought A Zoo".
 This week: Final class from 4:00 - 5:30

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

Grades 7th-8th: We finished our movie "Risen" and talked about what it told us from the viewpoint of the Roman Centurion. The Apostles' mission is our mission; to bring Christ to the world. Not just His words, but His actions of love. Sometimes a difficult task. We also talked about some scenarios from our Theology of the Body and how we should react. Our last session will be next week with food!

Grades 9th-12th: They watched and discussed episode 4 of The Chosen and then finished with closing prayer.
 This week: Final class from 7:00p.m. - 8:30 p.m. and will do a field trip to West Point.

MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, May 2nd—Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder
Sunday, May 9th—Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer

MEN'S WORK GROUP—May 2021

Chair: Jim Jensen
Co-Chair: Jesse Grenier
Members: Jeremy Rehak, Fred Schultz, Chris Ruskamp, Richard Schultz, Gerald Ruskamp, Beau Ruskamp, Caleb Rehak

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—April 25, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$735.00
Plate:	224.00
Heating/AC:	100.00



SENIOR SUNDAY: Today is Senior Sunday and we have 7 members of St. Joseph parish that will be graduating from Wisner-Pilger High School on May 15th. This year's Seniors are: Breanna

Chohon, Liberty Dexter, Alaza Good, Alex Kluthe, Tyler McBride, Maci Stuhr and Sarah VonSeggern. May God bless and keep them. Please recognize their accomplishments and wish them good luck with their future endeavors. Congratulations!

ST. JOSEPH PARISH COUNCIL nominees for this years election are:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Chris Ruskamp | Lindsey Burki |
| Matt Albers | Ruth Bloedorn |
| Trevor Cyboron | Kyla Miller |
| Tim Montgomery | Anne McBride |
| Mark Porter | Megan Feller |

These names will run in the bulletin for 2 weeks, and the election will be held the weekend of May 15th and 16th. Each adult parishioner will vote for 2 men and 2 women that will replace the 4 outgoing members.

LOST AND FOUND ITEMS:

There have been several pieces of clothing, books and other items left in the church over the past several months to a year. They will be set out on a table in the basement of church. Anything not claimed by May 31, will be donated.



MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	03	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	04	9:30 AM	WCC	NO MASS
Wed	05	8:00 AM	HC	NO MASS
Thu	06	8:00 AM	SJ	NO MASS
Fri	07	9:00 AM	CHB	NO MASS
Sat	08	5:00 PM	HC	+ Francis & Vera Hetherington
Sun	09	8:30 AM	HC	+ Darrell Bruning
Sun	09	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

