

# 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time July 4, 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 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July all! Today we celebrate our Independence Day. It is a day to pray for our Nation. The **first reading** is taken from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel 2:2-5 and treats of the Ezekiel's appointment as prophet among the exiles in Babylon.

The **Gospel** is from St. Mark 6:1-6. What happened in Nazareth was a foretaste of the later reaction of

the scribes and Pharisees, the leaders of the people, to Christ's claim to be the promised Messiah. What the people of Nazareth tried to do (Lk. 4:29-30), the religious authorities in Jerusalem succeeded in doing, because they were able to threaten the Roman governor with blackmail. Even in their wickedness and unknown to themselves, they were putting into action God's plan for mankind. It was necessary that Christ should die so that all men could live forever with God. Christ's death, followed by his resurrection, was the key that opened the door of eternity for the human race.

Unfortunately for the leaders of the Jews, the good end did not justify the evil intentions and evil means which they used. It is hard to understand the irrational opposition of the Nazarites on this occasion, and of the Pharisees of Jerusalem later. The people of Nazareth had heard nothing but marvelous reports of his wonderful preaching and outstanding miracles. One would therefore expect that if they were at all reasonable, they would rejoice on having one of their fellow-citizens admired by thousands and looked upon by so many as the long-promised Messiah. Instead, they turned against him in bitter hatred and there and then decided to put an end to his career (Lk. 4:29). Why? Because the demon of envy, a daughter of pride, laid hold of their hearts and minds. Why should a neighbor's son, and one of a lower status than many of them—a mere carpenter, be given this privilege while their sons were passed over? This could not be, their envy told them, and so they shut their minds against any proof to the contrary.

It was the same later in the case of the Pharisees. The same vices, pride and envy, darkened their intellects and prevented them from seeing the truth. They were the religious leaders of the people, or so they thought themselves to be. If the Messiah had come they felt that he should have come through them and with their approval. This impostor Jesus could not possibly be the Messiah. Not only was he not keeping the law as strictly as they kept it, but he was friendly with sinners and tax-gatherers. Furthermore, he was talking of some faraway kingdom in heaven and not of the earthly empire which they decided the real Messiah would establish. They had not only heard of his extraordinary miracles but had seen some of those who were cured. In Bethany only a few miles from Jerusalem Lazarus had been raised to life after four days in the grave. They tried very hard to deny these miracles (see Jn. 9: the man born blind), and they even thought of killing Lazarus to make the people forget the miracle! (Jn. 12:11). Thus their pride and envy made them irrational. Nothing but the cruelest possible death of the one hated could satisfy their hatred. But that very death was Christ's road to glory. Lifted up on the cross he drew all men to himself as he had foretold (Jn. 12:32). Those on Calvary beheld the triumph of failure.

Would that all the opposition to Christ and his teaching, caused by human pride and envy, had ended with the Nazarites and Pharisees! Far from it. Pride and envy are still rife among us. All through the twenty centuries of Christianity, there have been proud men, men high in their own esteem. Not only would they not have Christ to reign over them, but they have tried to prevent his reign over even those who are gladly and proudly his subjects. Not content with dethroning Christ in their own hearts and minds, they have devoted all their energies to abolishing him and his Church from the face of our earth. Such enemies of Christ are still among us. They are more numerous than ever today but just as their predecessors failed in the past, so will these fail today. Christ will continue to reign and his Church will continue its mission of leading to heaven all men whose minds are free from sinful pride and therefore open to the truth.

Let us renew our loyalty to Christ today. He humbled himself so that we might be raised to the standing of sons of God. He shared our human nature with us so that we could share his divine nature. He died a cruel death on Calvary so that we could have an eternal life in heaven. We pray for light for those whose foolish pride has left them groping in darkness. Let us also ask the good God to keep us ever on the road of truth, the road of Christian humility which leads to the eternal home which Christ has won for us by his incarnation.

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



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

#### Our Parishes Hold Welcoming Back Get Together

We have not had any get together events as a parish since last year due to the Covid-19 restrictions. In collaboration with the parish councils of Wisner and Beemer, we have planned a get together meal and socialization on the following dates:

Saturday July 10<sup>th</sup> after 5 pm Mass – Family Day get together Mass followed by potluck reception dinner at Holy Cross Parish basement hall.

Sunday July 11<sup>th</sup> - Family Day and my 20<sup>th</sup> priestly Anniversary Mass at 10:00 am followed by a reception at St. Joseph, Wisner basement hall.

#### Holy Cross Church AC Issues

We will be replacing our 2 AC units in the church soon and will appreciate your help. The old ones have some problems that will cost more to repair. I am kindly asking you to consider and prayerfully give a donation towards this work. Up to date, we have received gifts of \$5,500.00 of our goal of \$16,000. Help us to reach this goal.

#### Updates on St. Joseph's Capital Campaign Maintenance and Repairs

Thank you to all those who have responded generously towards this work. As of today, July 4th. 2021, the total amount pledged is \$123,230.00 and the amount received is \$94,430.00 towards our goal of \$145,000.00. Those who have not responded, I kindly ask you to partner with us towards this goal. The work is already in progress.



Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer  
Weekend of July 10th & 11th

**WORD:** Doris Guenther, Marilyn Ortmeier  
**EMHC:** Dennis Mostek, Mary Mostek  
Jeanie McTaggart, Brenda Anderson  
**PRAISE:** Duane Neesen, Jeanie McTaggart  
**USHER:** Brad Schulz, Scott Ortmeier

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner  
Weekend of July 11th

**LEC:** Steve McGuire  
**EMHC:** Martha Schweers  
**EMHC 2:** Madonna Servi  
**SERV:** Aidan McBride, Averi Buhrman  
**USHER:** July Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts Holy Cross—June 27, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$935.00
Plate:	134.00
A/C Fund:	500.00
Total:	\$1,569.00


**MONEY COUNTERS**  
Sunday, July 4th—Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder  
Sunday, July 11th—Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer

**MEN'S WORK GROUP—July 2021**  
Chair: Loren Batenhorst  
Co-Chair: Ray Johnson  
Members: Nick Heller, Austen Godbersen, Perry Albers, Roger Lampman, Todd Schroeder, Chad Ludwig, Dylan Ludwig

**JULY MOWING GROUP:** Chair: Doug Steffensmeier  
Members: Chris Black, Roy Liermann, Keith Anderson, Ron Stieren, Paul Schlickbernd

**NEW MINISTRY LISTS, Give Us This Day and Living Faith booklets** are on the table at the entrance. Please find a sub if you are not available for your ministry.

Stewardship of God's Gifts St. Joseph—June 27, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$640.00
Plate:	270.00



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

**Birthdays:**  
George Guenther July 5  
Sherron Bramble July 9  
Brigid Guenther July 10

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR SINGLE CATHOLICS:**  
Join hundreds of single Catholics from across the country at the 20th National Conference for Single Catholics - August 20th-22nd, 2021 at the Omni Interlocken hotel in Broomfield, CO. The weekend includes talks by dynamic speakers (Fr. Nathan Cromly, Fr. Thomas Loya, Mary Beth Bonacci and others!) as well as music, social events, Mass, adoration, opportunities for confession, fellowship, food and more. Register before July 5th to get the Early-Bird discount and enter promo code: NCSC21 for an extra \$20 off. Visit [www.NationalCatholicSingles.com](http://www.NationalCatholicSingles.com) for more information and to register. (Can't find your question answered on the website? Call 512-766-5798.)

**FAMILY PARISH FUN DAY - JULY 11**  
Please plan to attend and help us celebrate Father Vincent's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of priesthood with the Parish Fun Day on Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup> after the Sunday morning mass. Hamburgers, hotdogs, potatoes, beans, bars/cookies, tableware and drinks will be provided. All those attending are asked to bring a salad. Outdoor games for the kids are planned for the day. Please plan on celebrating Father's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the Parish Fun day with us. For any questions, please contact Martha Schweers at 402-380-2114.

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE...** for St. Joseph's 3rd quarter is available in the back of church. Please take a copy.


**CAN YOU HELP?** **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHERS NEEDED**

**ST. JOSEPH—GRADES K-12**  
Looking ahead to the 2021-2022 school year, we will be in need of teachers for elementary and evening Rel Ed classes, as well as volunteers for prayers, Christmas program, snack, etc. Our program depends completely on volunteers in order to function, and each year it becomes harder and harder to find help. If you are able and willing to lend a hand, please let us know by July 31st. Please call Sarah Jacobs at 402-841-6144 or Capri McGuire at 402-380-2925.

**"STEPPING ON" Fall Prevention Class:** beginning on June 29th at the Elkhorn Logan Valley Public Health Department NORFOLK conference room. The class will be held each Tuesday for 7 weeks from 3:00pm to approx. 5:00pm. Classes will be instructed by Krista Snodgrass. Cost : Free will donation. Registration is required. Please call the Elkhorn Logan Valley Public Health Department at 402-529-2233 or online <https://elvphd.org/Classes-Events>



MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	05	—	—	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tue	06	9:30 AM	WCC	Lvng & Dec'd Relatives Of Ron Stalp
Wed	07	8:00 AM	HC	+ Norbert Ruskamp
Thu	08	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Lucy Miller
Fri	09	9:00 AM	CHB	+ Alvin Dinslage
Sat	10	5:00 PM	HC	+ Francis Oligmueller
Sun	11	8:30 AM	HC	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	11	10:00 AM	SJ	Briana & Jordan Wilcox
SJ—St. Joseph's		HC—Holy Cross		
WCC—Wisner Care Center		CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer		



**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.

