

## 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time September 5, 2021

### Saint Joseph's Parish

PO Box 623

1318 Ave G West

Wisner, NE 68791

Parish Office: 529-3891

[www.stjosephwisner.org](http://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](mailto:vsunguti2018@gmail.com)

### Holy Cross Parish

PO Box 212

517 N Fraiser

Beemer, NE 68716

Phone: 528-3475

[www.holycrossbeemer.org](http://www.holycrossbeemer.org)

Reconciliation: Sundays

8:00-8:20 am or by appt.

Bulletin and Office Email: [stjo68791@gmail.com](mailto:stjo68791@gmail.com)

### The 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech; and they besought him to lay his hand upon him. And taking him aside from the multitude privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue; and looking up to heaven, he sighed, and said to him, "Eph'phatha," that is, "Be opened." And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly (Mark 7:32-35).

The **First Reading** is taken from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 35:4-7 and contains the beautiful verse, "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

The **Gospel** is from St. Mark 7:31-37. During his discussion with the Samaritan woman at the well of Jacob, our Lord told her that "salvation was to come from the Jews" (Jn. 4: 22). This was in accordance with God's plan when he took Abraham from his pagan family and surroundings, and elected him to be the father of a Chosen People from whom God's blessing would come for all nations (Gn. 12: 1-4). This was the historic beginning of "salvation" for men. It was, as yet, a vague generic promise but down through the following eighteen-century history of the Chosen People (Abraham's descendants) this blessing eventually became crystallized in the Messiah — the anointed and holy one of God. It was He who would introduce the messianic age of which the prophets so often had spoken, and it was in Him that all peoples, Jews and Gentiles, would find their true "blessing."

It was right and fitting, therefore, that Christ should proclaim his kingdom and his Gospel among the Jews and in their promised land. Those who would accept him and his message would later spread the good news among the Gentile nations. This is what happened. His Apostles, including St. Paul, and the faithful disciples having done their best for their fellow-Jews, left Palestine and carried the great news of the incarnation — a blessing greater than any man could have imagined — to the pagan peoples of the then-known world. It was surely from the Jews that salvation came to us Gentiles.

We have much for which to thank God the Father, Christ and the good Jews who preached the Gospel to our ancestors. We should not think of questioning why Jesus spent his short public life trying to convert his fellow-Jews. God thought of us from all eternity — the incarnation was his way of giving a truly satisfying meaning to the life of man — the masterpiece and master of all his creation. It has given us a new status in life, a new purpose and an end worth every effort we can muster to gain. Life, with its trials and troubles and its brevity, has a meaning, a profound meaning, for Christians — it is a short period of preparation for the future which awaits us after death if we use it properly.

Christ who carried out his Father's will even unto the death on the cross, deserves our unending gratitude. Eternity will not be long enough for us to thank and praise

him. If ever we are tempted to be in any way anti-Semitic let us first remember those of God's Chosen People who preserved the knowledge of God and trust in his promises until the time of their fulfillment had come. Secondly, we must never forget the Apostles and disciples of Christ who devoted and gave their lives in order to bring the Christian faith to us. The best way to show appreciation of a gift is to use it fully and gratefully. Let us make full use of the divine gift of salvation by living according to its teaching all the days of our lives.

*Excerpted from The Sunday Readings  
by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M*



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Registration 2021-2022**

Once again, the time has come and we are open for registration of the RCIA program for 2021/22. I'm taking candidates from both parishes of Holy Cross and St. Joseph. Classes will be held together.

Who can join this program?

- Any adult who was baptized as an infant but never went through catechism instructions and hence was never initiated into First Holy Communion and neither confirmation
- A baptized Christian who would like to be admitted officially into Catholic faith
- One who has never been baptized
- Anyone else who would like to renew his or her Catholic faith

To register, visit our website and see the RCIA program which is under "Faith Formation", then click on "more". Download the registration form, fill it out, and send it back to me no later than August 31<sup>st</sup>. Our first class will be on Tuesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 6 pm at St. Joseph Wisner basement hall. If you have any questions, please contact me at [vsunguti2018@gmail.com](mailto:vsunguti2018@gmail.com) or 402-529-3531.

### A Prayer for Labor Day

Creator God,  
thank you for providing us  
with the gift to share our talents.

Provide our community,  
our nation, our world  
the fortitude to provide work for all  
which is decent and fair.

Make us faithful stewards  
of your creation  
to enhance the human dignity  
of our global family.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit  
now and forever.

**Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer**  
**Weekend of September 11th & 12th**

**WORD:** Tom Peatrowsky, Marilyn Ortmeier  
**EMHC:** Mary Mostek, Dennis Mostek  
 Marjorie Gentrup, Susan Niewohner  
**PRAISE:** Marge Gentrup, JoAnn Steffensmeier  
**SERVE:** Saturday: Emily O  
 Sunday: Ben O  
**USHER:** Scott Ortmeier, Gerald Gentrup

**Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner**  
**Weekend of September 12th**

**LEC:** Bonnie Styskal  
**EMHC:** Alan Harms  
**EMHC 2:** Madonna Servi  
**SERV:** Ella Jacobs, Maddisyn Lampmann  
**USHER:** September Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—August 29, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,175.00
Plate:	139.75
Assumption:	30.00
Insurance:	20.00
Building Fund:	100.00
Total:	\$1,464.75

**MONEY COUNTERS**  
 Sunday, Sept. 5th—Team #2 Norm Weber Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder  
 Sunday, Sept. 12th—Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer

**MEN'S WORK GROUP—September 2021**  
**Chair:** Mike Stuhr  
**Co-Chair:** Norm Weber  
**Members:** Bob Feller, Blake Albers, Derreck Marx, Alan Feller, Dave Deitloff, Jeremy Schultz, Devon Schultz

**SEPTEMBER MOWING GROUP:** Chair: Brad Schulz  
 Members: Mike Guenther, Melvin Niewohner, Joe Hansen, Alex Schulz, Tom Peterson

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—August 29, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$965.00
Plate:	101.00
Assumption:	25.00
Heating/AC:	25.00
Rel. Ed.:	100.00



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


**Birthdays:**  
 Jeanie McTaggart Sept 5  
 Allison Harrison Sept 5  
 Bea Seeman Sept 10

**Anniversaries:**  
 Curtis and Renae Carlson Sept 6  
 Ben and Michelle Borgmann Sept 10

**GRIEVING WITH GREAT HOPE**...is a Catholic Christian based support group that meets weekly for 5 weeks. Participants watch a short video seminar given by grief recovery experts, participate in a small group discussion, and have a journal for personal reflection to help reinforce the weekly topics. Those who have attended prior programs or other programs altogether are welcome also. There are two sessions to choose from: Mondays 1:30 to 3:30 or 6:00pm to 8:00pm starting September 13, ending on October 11. Meetings will be held at Franciscan Healthcare in West Point on the second floor in the Francis Conference Room. Masks are currently required in the hospital. Participants are asked to enter through the Main Entrance and park in the south parking lot. Flyer posted in the back of church with more information.

**MANDATORY PARENT'S MEETING:**  
 Grades 7th-12 on Sept 15th at 7:00p.m.  
**Fr. Vincent is requiring parents to attend.**  
 We will be discussing the future of our Religious Education program for grades K-12 as well as touching on Confirmation for 2023.

**\*\*\*\*\*We still need 2nd & 3rd grade teachers\*\*\*\*\***



**Can YOU help?**

If we are unable to find volunteers, the parents of these grades will be responsible for teaching either in the classroom or at home.

—Teachers meeting September 8th at 5:00 pm—  
**—Classes begin for all grades September 15th—**

The Women of St. Joseph and Holy Cross Parishes are invited to the Women of the ELCA Guest Night at Christ Lutheran Church in Wisner on Monday evening, September 20th. A salad supper will be served at 6:00 pm, followed by guest speaker Fr. Vincent Sunguti.

Please RSVP by September 13th to Jan Schulz at 402-529-6490 (janslonecker@yahoo.com)  
 Or to Karen Heftie at 402-529-6931 (K4Heftie@yahoo.com)

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	06	—	—	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tue	07	9:30 AM	WCC	Wisner Care Center Residents
Wed	08	8:00 AM	HC	+ Eugene & Elsie Emanuel
Thu	09	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Norbert Ruskamp
Fri	10	9:30 AM	CHB	+ Duane Nelson
Sat	11	5:00 PM	HC	+ Vergil & Frances Liermann
Sun	12	8:30 AM	HC	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	12	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Jayda Oligmueller
SJ—St. Joseph's		HC—Holy Cross		
WCC—Wisner Care Center		CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer		

