

**Third Sunday of Advent
December 12, 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

Gaudete or 3rd Sunday of Advent



"Rejoice: The Lord is nigh." As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes the joy which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our Savior means for us. The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing nigh when the Lord will come again in His glory to lead them into His kingdom. The often repeated *Veni* ("Come") of Advent is an echo not only of the prophets but also of the conclusion of the Apocalypse of St. John: "Come, Lord Jesus," the last words of the New Testament.

Today is known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice." Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.

Isaias and the Baptist compare the hardships of the way of the world's Messiah-King to souls with a rough, crooked, and almost impassable road up steep hills and down precipitous valleys and through dangerous mountain passes? Do you wonder that these prophets of His coming insist so strongly that merely sentimental longings and routine prayers, however multiplied, cannot prepare us worthily for the entrance He must expect and the welcome He craves?

Pray very honestly, therefore, that you may begin to see the practical reasons for the Church's crying out in the desert world, and even into your own interior soul and heart: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord: Make straight in the wilderness His paths; Every valley shall be exalted; Every mountain and hill shall be made low; And the crooked shall be made straight; And the rough ways plain" (Is. 40:3, 4). Then shall you see the salvation of God!

Today's Catechism – Let's learn something about our Catholic Faith

Lesson 9: Heaven

What is heaven? The place or state of perfect happiness with God in the next life.

Who will go to heaven? Only those who are in union with God at the moment of death.

What is the happiness of heaven? It consists of seeing God face to face as He really is and in loving Him and being loved by Him forever.

Why does the life of heaven give perfect happiness? Because God made you for Himself in such a way that you can and will find perfect joy and satisfaction in Him alone.

Will everyone have the same happiness in heaven? No, the happiness of some will be greater than others, but everyone will be as happy as he or she can be.

Why will some have greater happiness than others? Because some will know God more fully and love Him more intensely.

Why will some see God more clearly? Because they died with greater love of God and more grace in them.

How then should you spend your time on earth? By striving to grow in the knowledge and love of God as much as possible before you die.

Will there be any sorrow or pain in heaven? No, there will be no sickness, temptation or sin but only complete, unending joy.

Will you know your family and friends in heaven? Yes, and also the angels and saints.

What will keep you from getting into heaven? Dying after committing unrepented serious sins. (Rev. 21:27: And there shall not enter into it anything defiled, nor he who practices abomination and falsehood, but only those who are written in the book of life of the Lamb".

How should one pray to get to heaven? Very frequently since this is your very purpose in life.



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:

Updates on AAA – 2021-2022

Our parish of Wisner has currently committed \$6,285 from 20 donors towards our goal of \$7,945.42. Our parish of Beemer still has committed \$5,480 from 13 donors towards our goal of \$10,986.53. Please prayerfully consider a contribution to help us reach our goal! We are One Church through our baptism into Christ, and the Archbishop's Annual Appeal invites us to do more together than we can as individual parishes for ourselves and our brothers and sisters across northeast Nebraska.



HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE—Friday, Dec. 24th

Holy Cross—5:00 pm
St. Joseph—7:00 pm

CHRISTMAS DAY—Saturday, Dec. 25th

Holy Cross—8:30 am
St. Joseph—10:00 am

NO SATURDAY 5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, Dec. 26th, Regular Mass Times

NEW YEAR'S DAY— Saturday, Jan. 1st

Holy Cross—5:30 pm
St. Joseph—10:00 am

NO SATURDAY 5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, Jan. 2nd, Regular Mass Times

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer

Weekend of December 19th

WORD: Renae Carlson
EMHC: Susan Niewohner, Marjorie Gentrup
PRAISE: Diana Dinslage, Bev Francis
SERVER: Gus Harrison
USHER: Brad Schulz

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner

Weekend of December 18th & 19th

LEC: Steve McGuire
EMHC: Linda Hansen
SERVER: Alicia Ramirez-Torres, Jose Ramirez-Lugo
OFF: Ron Mahacek
USHER: December Men's Group

LEC: Holly Schroeder
EMHC: Kathy Johnson
EMHC 2: Janet Ludwig
SERVER: Aidan McBride, Anna Jacobs
OFF: Dave Oligmueller
USHER: December Men's Group

MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, Dec. 12th—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore
Sunday, Dec. 19th—Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder

MEN'S WORK GROUP—December 2021


Chair: Del Styskal
Co-Chair: Steve Gerken
Members: Jason Oligmueller, Dave Oligmueller, Dane Miller, Steve McManigal, Jeff Albers, David Dinklage

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—December 5, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,250.00
Plate:	68.00
Children:	5.00
Immaculate Conc.:	50.00
Christmas Flowers:	140.00
Total:	\$1,513.00

THANK YOU to all who participated in the fall clean up at Holy Cross last week. Your hard work is very much appreciated.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING at Holy Cross will be December 19th after Sunday Mass. Please help if you can.

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—December 5, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$2,265.00
Plate:	241.00
Children:	27.00
Immaculate Conc.:	25.00



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

Birthdays:
 Hannah Praest December 12
 Heath Harrison December 16
 Kailey Peña December 18

***** TODAY *****



BAKE SALE
Sunday, December 12th,
11:00-12:30
St. Joseph Church Basement

Youth Group Service Project & Fundraiser to raise money to buy items for the needy for Fr. Vincent's mission trip to Africa.
 Lots of goodies to choose from...
 Cookies, bars, candies, muffins, pies, breads, snacks, and more.

Religious Education


ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6

Grades K-6: The children practiced Christmas songs, with the help of Kari Moeller, and they also rehearsed for the Christmas program.

Reminder: Christmas Program is this week, December 15th at 6:00pm. Parents, Please help your students with their parts. The children will stay at church after class to get into costume and be ready for the program. A soup supper hosted by the Ladies Guild will follow the program and all are invited to attend. Families with last names starting with A-L please bring 6 sandwiches cut in half (12 half sandwiches) and families with last names of M-Z please bring 2 dozen cookies or bars (pre-cut).

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

Grades 7-12: We celebrated Mass for the Immaculate Conception with the parish and then made goodies for the fund raising bake sale for Kenya. Very productive, fun, (and a bit messy!) This week will be Christmas Bowling Party at Tornado Alley at 7:00.



ST. JOSEPH PARISH—POINSETTIAS
 If you would like to purchase a Poinsettia for the Christmas Season in memory of a loved one(s), the sign up sheet and envelope are in the back of the church. You may also put an envelope in the collection basket, or mail it to the church at PO Box 623. Be sure to include the name of your loved one(s) and \$20 for each Poinsettia.
 Thank you! St Joseph Environment Committee

GAME TIME! **FUN AT HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS...**
 The Wisner CHICS organization is starting a new initiative to celebrate Christmas as a family. They are seeking donations of new "family" board games, books, puzzles, coloring books and crafts for children of ALL ages. A donation box is located in the basement of church and a flyer is posted in the back with more details.

WISNER SENIOR CENTER...has a fully stocked food pantry and essential items. Those of any age may stop in for anything you may need. The center is blessed to be able to share these items with you. Mon-Fri 8:30-5:30. For questions, contact Kay Breitreutz at 402-529-3252.

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	13	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	14	9:30 AM	WCC	Wisner Care Center Residents
Wed	15	8:00 AM	HC	+ Mike McTaggart
Thu	16	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Bill & Clara Feller
Fri	17	9:30 AM	CHB	+ Charles F. Hetherington
Sat	18	5:00 PM	HC	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	19	8:30 AM	HC	+ Brent Carlson
Sun	19	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Herb Albers
SJ—St. Joseph's		HC—Holy Cross		
WCC—Wisner Care Center		CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer		

THE HEAVENLY HENS...present "A Christmas Hallelu"
 At the Wisner-Pilger Fine Arts Theater
 Sunday, December 12th at 2:00 pm
 Free Will offering
 to go towards children's boots & mittens.

GIFTS FOR KENYA: The needs for Kenya are many. We hope you are able to donate. Lists are available in the back of church. Any items or monetary donations are much appreciated. Thank You!



ST. JOSEPH TRIVIA NIGHT
 February 26, 2022
 An evening of fun and entertainment
 More details to follow