

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 19, 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: stj68791@gmail.com

The 4th Sunday of Advent – December 18-19th 2021



"Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." (Luke 1:28-33)

The **first reading** is taken from the Prophecy of Micah 5:1-4. In today's reading we hear words of hope that focus on one who is to be born in Bethlehem and who will bring in the day of peace when all nations will look to Jerusalem.

The **Gospel** of this Sunday, Luke 1:38-45 recounts the visit of Mary to St. Elizabeth. An ancient title of Mary is Ark of the Covenant. In this Gospel, Elizabeth says to Mary, "Who am I that the Mother of my Lord should come to me?" She tells how the babe (John the Baptist) leaped in her womb as she became filled with the Holy Spirit. Finally, Mary remains three months with her kinswoman before returning to her home. This Sunday, so close to Christmas, the Church invites us to focus our attention on Mary, round-wombed because of the God-child.

This is the last Sunday of our preparation for Christmas, the anniversary of Christ's birth. Like Joseph, we can all feel unworthy of the honor of welcoming him into our hearts and our homes. We are indeed unworthy, not because we have little of this world's goods, but because we have so little humility, so little charity, so little faith and trust in God's goodness. Let us try to imitate Joseph and Mary, the humblest of the humble, the kindest of the kindly, and the greatest-ever believers in God's goodness and mercy. We can never hope to equal them, but we can follow them humbly, from afar.

The feast of Christmas should draw the hearts of every child of God towards the furnace of divine love. In the manger, the infinite love of God for us miserable sinners is dramatically and forcefully portrayed before our eyes. In that helpless Baby, represented by a statue, we know that the person, and the power, of the omnipotent Creator and sustainer of the universe lie hidden "He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave" for us. He became a creature, like ourselves, so that he would make us sharers in his divine nature. He came on earth to bring us to heaven. He hid his divine nature so that he could cover us with it.

"Unsearchable indeed are the judgements of God, and inscrutable his ways." But though we are unworthy of his infinite love, it nevertheless stands out as clear as the noonday sun in the Incarnation. We realize that we can never make ourselves worthy of this infinite love, but let us imitate Joseph and accept the honor which God is giving us, as we trust that he will continue to make us daily less unworthy.

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



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:

Updates on Archbishop's Annual Appeal

Thank you to all those who have generously contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. To date, our parish of St. Joseph, Wisner has received \$6,555 from 22 donors toward the goal of \$7,945.42. Our other parish of Holy Cross, Beemer has received \$5,505 from 13 donors towards the goal of \$10,986.53. The Archbishop's Annual Appeal supports many ministries that provide mercy to those in need: support for families, resources for those who are grieving, tuition assistance for Catholic education and more. Before the end of the year, please consider a meaningful gift to help our archdiocese serve those in need. It is not late. Take the Holy Spirit up on the gifts that are being offered to you.



FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
Advent



HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE—Friday, Dec. 24th

NO MORNING MASS

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

No Confessions in Beemer

NEW YEAR'S

Holy Cross—5:30 pm—Friday, Dec. 31st

St. Joseph—10:00 am—Saturday, Jan. 1st

NO SATURDAY 5:00 pm Mass

Sunday, Jan. 2nd, Regular Mass Times

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer

Weekend of December 25th & 26th

WORD: Doris Guenther, Shelly Wellman
EMHC: Mary Mostek, Dennis Mostek
 Gerald Schlickbernd, Ann Bausch
PRAISE: Betty Guenther, Rosie McNamara
SERVER: Sat.— Will Robertson
 Sun.— Bo Oligmueller
USHER: Gerald Gentrup, Michael Gentrup

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner

Weekend of December 24th, 25th & 26th

Christmas Eve, Friday, 7:00 pm
LEC: Chris Ruskamp
EMHC: John Woerdemann, Anne Ausdemore
SERVER: Beau Ruskamp, Sydney Porter
 Anna Jacobs
OFF: Chris Ruskamp
USHER: December Men's Group
Christmas Day, Saturday, 10:00 am
LEC: Bonnie Styskal
EMHC: Capri McGuire, Linda Hansen
SERVER: Jesa Montgomery, Emma Schroetlin,
 Mariah Andersen
OFF: Richard Schultz
USHER: December Men's Group
Sunday, 10:00 am
LEC: Jeff Phillips
EMHC: Sally Harms
EMHC2: Richard Schultz
SERVER: Hayden Schroeder, Averi Buhrman
OFF: Chris Liermann
USHER: December Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—December 12, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,257.00
Plate:	137.00
Children:	21.00
Immaculate Conc.:	170.00
Thanksgiving:	25.00
Christmas:	125.00
Christmas Flowers:	80.00
Total:	\$1,815.00

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

COLONIAL HAVEN is still restricting the number of visitors coming to the 9:30 Mass on Fridays. If the Mass intention is for a loved one, one or two family members may attend. You need to come to the main door and ring the doorbell to be admitted. Any questions, call Karen Spenner @ 402-372-8430.

MONEY COUNTERS


Sunday, Dec. 19th—Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder
Sunday, Dec. 26th—Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer

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

MEN'S WORK GROUP—January 2022

Chair: Chris Liermann
Co-Chair: Ken Duncan
Members: Marvin Seier, Greg Schlautman, Tony Lampman, AJ Kluthe, Rich Bodwell, Russ Loberg, Gavin Lampman, Alex Kluthe



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

Birthdays:
 Dan Spenner December 19
 Betty Guenther December 20
 Brandon Liermann December 22
 Joe Hansen December 24

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—December 12, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$2,110.00
Plate:	173.00
Children:	30.00
Immaculate Conc.:	30.00

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	20	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	21	9:30 AM	WCC	Wisner Care Center Residents
Wed	22	8:00 AM	HC	Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of the Henry & Eleanor Spenner Fam
Thu	23	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Gary Servi
Fri	24	9:30 AM	CHB	NO MASS
Fri	24	5:00 PM	HC	Christmas Eve Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Fri	24	7:00 PM	SJ	Christmas Eve Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sat	25	8:30 AM	HC	Christmas Day Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sat	25	10:00 AM	SJ	Christmas Day Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sat	25	5:00 PM	HC	NO MASS
Sun	26	8:30 AM	HC	No Confessions + Wayne & Maria Emanuel
Sun	26	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		

A BIG THANK YOU!!!

The bake sale last weekend was a tremendous success. A special thanks to the students, parents and parishioners that helped with all the baking. We had a great variety because of your efforts. A heartfelt thanks to everyone that came down and purchased items, your generosity was amazing! We raised over \$1,600 to be used to buy items for the Mission trip to Kenya, with a focus on athletic gear, school and medical supplies.

Religious Education

ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6

Grades K-6: The Christmas program was postponed this past week and is rescheduled for this week, December 22nd at 6:00p.m with soup supper following. Children need to arrive at 3:45 and will stay at church until the program starts at 6:00. Families should still bring their assigned sandwiches or cookies/bars. (pre-cut).

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

Grades 7-12: Christmas Bowling Party was postponed and will try to reschedule in January.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION PENANCE SERVICES

St. Joseph's - Wed., December 22nd at 7:00 pm
 Will follow the Rel Ed Program for those that would like to go.



ST. JOSEPH TRIVIA NIGHT

February 26, 2022
 An evening of fun and entertainment
 More details to follow