

**Second Sunday of Advent
December 5, 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 2nd Sunday of Advent – Year C



As the journey of Advent continues, as we prepare to celebrate the nativity of Christ, John the Baptist's call to conversion sounds out in our communities. It is a pressing invitation to open our hearts and to welcome the Son of God Who comes among us to make divine judgement manifest. The Father, writes St. John the Evangelist, does not judge anyone, but has entrusted the power of judgement to the Son, because He is the Son of man.

“And it is today, in the present, that we decide our future destiny. It is with our concrete everyday behavior in this life that we determine our eternal fate. At the end of our days on earth, at the moment of death, we will be evaluated on the basis of our likeness or otherwise to the Baby Who is about to be born in the poor grotto of Bethlehem, because He is the measure God has given humanity.

“Through the Gospel John the Baptist continues to speak down the centuries to each generation. His hard clear words bring health to us, the men and women of this day in which even the experience and perception of Christmas often, unfortunately, reflects materialist attitudes. The 'voice' of the great prophet asks us to prepare the way for the coming Lord in the deserts of today, internal and external deserts, thirsting for the water of life which is Christ.” (In Courtesy of Pope Benedict XVI).

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

Lesson 8: Grace

Why did God make you? – God loved you as you are and brought you into existence. He wants you to be happy here on earth and eventually get back to Him the origin of your life.

Are we able to know and serve God by our own powers for lifetime?

– It is difficult to do that due to many temptations in the world like love of pleasure and possessions. (Rom. 1:23 - *The more they called themselves philosophers, the more stupid they grew until they exchanged the Glory of God with worthless imitations...*).

Does God offer us his help? – Yes. It is called grace. It enables us to live a new life of unselfish love. By it, we become adopted children of God. (Rom. 3:24 – *Both Jews & pagans ...are justified through the free gift of his grace by being redeemed in Christ Jesus...*).

How does Grace operate? – Through Christ's death and resurrection, he established a new relationship between God and humans when we believe in him. This new friendship is managed by grace.

How do we receive God's grace? - A new relationship with God is established for the first time through the sacrament of baptism. (John 3:5 – *Unless a man be born again of water and the spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.*”).

How can we strengthen this relationship? It is strengthened through prayer, fasting, works of charity, and reception of other sacraments.

Can we lose God's grace? – Yes, when we break our relationship with God through serious sin.

Can people who do not know about Christ or baptism live in the state of grace?

– Yes, Christ redeemed all people by his passion and death. He wants all to be saved. By living according to their conscience, they are regarded as having the desire of baptism. (1 Tim. 2:4 – *He wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth...*).

Today's reality-

- Only one person has been spared the effects of original sin – Blessed Virgin Mary. This favor is called Immaculate conception which we celebrate on December 8th.
- Serious sin destroys the relationship with God but does not kill the soul.
- St. Augustine on corporation with God said: “God became man, that men might become gods.”



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:

Polite Reminder: Immaculate Conception Mass - The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be on this Wednesday, December 8th. This is a Patronal Feast Day of the Catholic Church of the United States. It is therefore a Holy Day of Obligation. For Mass times, check in the weekly schedule.

Archbishop's Annual Appeal

We are most grateful to all our parishioners who have already made a gift intention to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Our parish of St. Joseph has currently committed \$5,585.00 towards our goal of \$7,945.42 with 18 of our members participating. Holy Cross has currently committed \$5,480 towards our goal of \$10,986.53 with 13 members of our parish participating. If you have not taken the opportunity to make a gift, you may drop off your commitment form to the parish office or place it in the collection basket next weekend or mail it back to the archdiocese.



MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	06	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	07	9:30 AM	WCC	Wisner Care Center Residents
Wed	08	8:00 AM	HC	Immaculate conception + Marilyn Schulz
Wed	08	7:00 PM	SJ	Immaculate Conception Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Thu	09	8:00 AM	SJ	Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of Ron & MaryAnn Wemhoff Fam
Fri	10	9:30 AM	CHB	+ Wayne Meier
Sat	11	5:00 PM	HC	Effie Pojar & Family Members
Sun	12	8:30 AM	HC	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	12	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Herb Albers
SJ—St. Joseph's		HC—Holy Cross		
WCC—Wisner Care Center		CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer		

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer

Weekend of December 11th & 12th

WORD: Rita Eichelberger, Marilyn Ortmeier
EMHC: Tom Peatrowsky, Dawn Peatrowsky
 Brenda Anderson, Jeanie McTaggart
PRAISE: Marge Gentrup, JoAnn Steffensmeier
SERVER: Saturday— Emily Oligmueller
 Sunday— Ben Oligmueller
USHER: Scott Ortmeier, Melvin Niewohner

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner

Weekend of December 12th

LEC: Bonnie Styskal
EMHC: Alan Harms
EMHC 2: Steve Ausdemore
SERV: Ella Jacobs, Maddisyn Lampman
OFF: Del Styskal
USHER: December Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—November 28, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$940.00
Plate:	150.00
Children:	9.00
HELP/Fuel:	130.00
Thanksgiving:	2,280.00
Total:	\$3,509.00

MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, Dec. 5th—Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer
Sunday, Dec. 12th—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore


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


HOLY CROSS ALTAR SOCIETY will hold their meeting December 6, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the church basement.

TURKEYS, HAMS, EYEGLASSES, & STAMPS are still being collected along with items for Kenya. Please be generous as there are many needs this year.

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—November 28, 2021	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,025.00
Plate:	203.00
Children:	6.75
Thanksgiving	500.00



Celebrations:
 Holy Cross Parish wishes happiness and God's blessings to the following:
Birthdays:
 Connie Harrison December 6
 Duane Neeson December 8
 Emmett Steffensmeier December 8




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.

Immaculate Conception Mass Schedule
 8:00 am Wednesday, Dec. 8th—Holy Cross, Beemer
 7:00 pm Wednesday, Dec. 8th—St. Joseph, Wisner


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

ADVENT RECONCILIATION PENANCE SERVICES
Holy Cross - Thurs., December 16th at 7:00 pm
St. Joseph's - Wed., December 22nd at 7:00 pm

WISNER VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE SOUP FUNDRAISER
Today, December 5th
 Soup served 11:00-1:30
 Visit Santa between 11:00-12:30
 Drawings to start around noon




Religious Education


ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6
 Grades 3-6 celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation with Fr. Vincent along with 2 priests from West Point to prepare themselves for the Christmas season. Grades K-2 were fitted for program costumes. An invitation to the Christmas program on December 15th showing details about it and the soup supper was sent home with each student.

ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS (GRADES 7 -12)
Grades 7-12: We began with prayer and reflection with Fr. Vincent, Fr. James & Fr. Matt from West Point. We then celebrated Reconciliation. After, we discussed the March for Life in Norfolk on January 21st and the bake sale fundraiser for Kenya. Next week we will have Mass for the Immaculate Conception at 7:00. Please parents, come with your youth as it is a Holy Day of Obligation.

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.



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

CLEANING AT ST. JOSEPHS:
 Any remaining items in the totes in the basement will be sorted and donated this week. Please spread the word and go have a look. Thank You.

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.

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.

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!