

**7th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
February 20, 2022**

**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

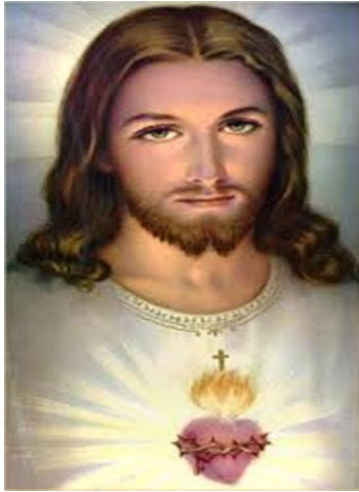
**Administrator: Rev. Vincent Sunguti**  
402-529-3531  
Email: vsunguti2018@gmail.com

**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 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



*Gospel: Luke 6:27-38*  
Jesus teaches his disciples to be merciful as God is merciful.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's gospel reading is a continuation of the teaching that began in last Sunday's gospel. We continue to hear Jesus' Sermon on the Plain. Recall that in Luke's Gospel, this teaching is addressed to Jesus' disciples. This is in contrast to the parallel found

in Matthew's Gospel, the Sermon on the Mount, in which Jesus' words are addressed to both the disciples and to the crowds.

These words from Jesus' teaching are familiar to us. They constitute the crux and the challenge of what it means to be a disciple: Love your enemies, turn the other cheek, give to those who ask, do unto others, lend without expecting repayment, judge not lest you be judged.

There are several similarities between Luke's and Matthew's report of Jesus' great teaching. Both begin with the Beatitudes. Matthew includes nearly all the content that Luke does; the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel is longer than Luke's Sermon on the Plain. There are, however, differences in language and nuance. For example, Matthew presents this portion of the teaching as a contrast between Jesus' teaching and the teachings of the law and the prophets. This is in keeping with Matthew's concern to address his predominantly Jewish audience. It is likely that Luke omits this contrast because it was unnecessary for the Gentile believers for whom Luke is writing.

Another point of contrast between Matthew and Luke's presentation is the terminology. In Luke, Jesus contrasts the behavior of his followers with the behavior of "sinners." In Matthew, Jesus contrasts the behavior desired with the behavior of tax collectors and Gentiles. Matthew concludes the teaching about love of enemies with the admonition to be perfect as God is perfect; Luke concludes by emphasizing God's mercy.

In both Gospels, Jesus' words challenge those who would follow him to be more like God. God loves us beyond our expectations, beyond anything we can possibly imagine. In response to God's love, we are to love as God loves, beyond expectations and with a depth beyond imagining.

Archbishops Letter to all Parishioners on the Upcoming Synod



Dear Friends in Christ,

Pope Francis announced last spring that the topic of the October 2023 Synod of Bishops will be synodality in the Church. A synod is a meeting of bishop delegates from around the world invited to discuss a topic of theological or pastoral significance, in order to offer advice or counsel to the pope. Synodality is understood by Pope Francis to mean all members of the Church (clergy, laity, religious) participating in the evangelizing mission of the Church, journeying together as a community, prayerfully listening to one another in order to discern the voice of the Holy Spirit.

In preparation for the synod, the Holy Father has asked Catholics worldwide to share their experiences of participation in the life and mission of the Church. We have begun the diocesan phase of this consultation by holding listening sessions with some of our neighbors on the peripheries, including the incarcerated, homeless, migrants, refugees and the elderly. I now invite all of you to participate in the consultation with the wider Church that the pope desires.

Individuals thirteen and older are asked to respond to a series of questions online from February 5- 28 at <https://archomaha.org/synod/>. You can also access the website by using the QR code below. Those without internet access can ask for a printed copy of the questions from your parish. The questions should take you 5-10 minutes to complete. Feel free to share this link with family and friends living in the archdiocese, including those who may not be members of the Catholic Church.

In addition, pastors are encouraged to hold listening sessions with parish pastoral councils or other groups and to submit group responses online.

All that is received in our archdiocese, from the listening sessions and responses to the questions will be summarized later this spring, published on our synod website this summer, and forwarded to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. There it will become part of a national summary that will be forwarded to the Holy See. This worldwide consultation about the experience of the Church's life and mission is a daunting project. At the same time, Pope Francis is sincere in his hope that even this process of sharing will strengthen the bonds of our life in Christ. I encourage you to respond to the pope's invitation to participate.

With best wishes and prayers,

*+George J. Lucas*

Most Reverend George J. Lucas  
Archbishop of Omaha



COMPLETE THE  
QUESTIONNAIRE



**Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer**

**Weekend of February 26th & 27th**

**WORD:** Rita Eichelberger, Doris Guenther  
**EMHC:** Gerald Schlickbernd, Mary Mostek  
**PRAISE:**  
**SERVER:** Sat.: Will Robertson  
 Sun.: Ben Oligmueller  
**USHER:**

**Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner**

**Weekend of February 27th**

**LEC:** Dave McGuire  
**EMHC:** Shane Batenhorst  
**EMHC 2:** Anne Ausdemore  
**SERV:** Chesney Ruskamp, Beau Ruskamp  
**OFF:** Bob Feller  
**USHER:** February Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—February 13, 2022	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,197.00
Plate:	54.00
Children:	11.00
"Souper" Bowl:	319.00
Total:	\$1,581.00

**MONEY COUNTERS**

**Sunday, Feb. 20th—Team #2** Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder  
**Sunday, Feb. 27th—Team #3** Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer

**MEN'S WORK GROUP—February 2022**

**Chair:** Dixon Godbersen  
**Co-Chair:** Gerald Gentrup  
**Members:** Drew Feller, Gary Godbersen, Duane Mendlik, Blaine Johnson, Nick Schultz, Scott Mendlik, Dave Ebel

**MEN'S WORK GROUP—March 2022**

**Chair:** Bernie Ruskamp  
**Co-Chair:** Steve Obermeyer  
**Members:** Adam Brahmer, Jeff Recker, Dan Kane, Terry Soden, Ron Machacek, Shawn Davie, Tyler McBride



**PARISH FELLOWSHIP COFFEE** after Mass next Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. Please join us!

**ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS**

**LIVE LENT TOGETHER!** What if Lent were more than fish fries and giving up chocolate? What if you could relate to scripture and enhance your prayer life? Join a small group for BIG impact with your friends and neighbors. This year, live lent together.

For more information, call:  
 Marilyn Ortmeier, 402-380-0676, in Beemer, or  
 Anne Ausdemore, 402-750-9616, in Wisner.

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—February 13, 2022	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$690.00
Plate:	82.00
Children:	6.00
Insurance:	150.00

**ST. JOSEPH CHURCH**

Saturday, February 26th  
 Social Hour & Registration  
 6-7pm  
 Followed by Trivia 7-10pm

It's not too late to get a table and join the fun. If you would like to participate, but cannot fill a table of 8, please reach out to Paige Godbersen at 402-604-0406. All proceeds go to St. Joseph Church.



**Celebrations:**

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

**Birthdays:**

Georgia Batenhorst February 22  
 Gerald Schlickbernd February 26  
 Betty Hegarty February 26

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

**March 2nd**

8:00 a.m. Mass—Holy Cross

5:00 p.m. Ash Service—St. Joseph  
 K-6 Rel. Ed.—everyone welcome

7:00 p.m. Mass—St. Joseph

**EXPOSITION & STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**At HOLY CROSS**

6:30 pm—Adoration & 7:00 pm—Stations of the Cross  
 Fridays, Mar. 4th—April 8th

**PRO-LIFE SPEAKING EVENT....Featuring Kiley Faller**

Tuesday, March 1st

7:00 PM at GACC Activity Center  
 419 E Decatur, West Point

Refreshments served following our speaker  
 All are welcome\*Open to the Community\*Please join us  
 Flyer posted in the back of church with more details

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Day	Time	Location	Notes
Mon	21	—	NO MASS
Tue	22	9:30 AM	WCC Care Center Residents
Wed	23	8:00 AM	HC + John Kleffner
Thu	24	8:00 AM	SJ + Barb Albers
Fri	25	9:30 AM	CHB + John Hassler
Sat	26	5:00 PM	HC + Francis Oligmueller
Sun	27	8:30 AM	HC Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	27	10:00 AM	SJ Lvng & Dec'd Members of the Ron & MaryAnn Wemhoff Family

SJ—St. Joseph's HC—Holy Cross  
 WCC—Wisner Care Center CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer



**Religious Education**

**ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6**

**Grades K-6:** The students started the afternoon off with practicing the song they will be singing at the Youth Mass in May. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade is discussing the Ten Commandments and the lesson was on the 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade practiced server training.

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

**Grades 7-9:** We learned that even breathing can be a prayer to God, and to always include thankfulness in our prayers. Continuing our Lesson 2, we talked about finding happiness in our relationship with God. Starting Lesson 3, we talked about God's story from creation to Jesus, and our part in it.

**Grades 10-12: Grades 10-12:** No class. There is class this week.