

**8th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 27, 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 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C



Jesus told his disciples a parable, "Can a blind person guide a blind person?... Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's eye" (Luke 6:39-42).

The **First Reading** is taken from the Book of Sirach 27:4-7. The author was a wise and pious Jew who lived about 200 B.C. His purpose in writing was to encourage his fellow Jews to live devout lives following the Law of Moses and the pious traditions handed down to them. He treats of the individual, of the family and of the community, of their relations with one another and with God. In these verses he emphasizes how a man's speech shows up his character and his religious outlook.

The **Gospel** is taken from St. Luke (6:39-45). While we ourselves are blind to, or wanting in, many necessary virtues, yet we can spot this lack in our brother Christian and have the audacity to offer to lead him on the right road. We are often lacking in the basic knowledge of the teachings of our faith and yet we can find a thousand faults in the official doctrine of the teaching Church. We can all criticize minor defects in our neighbor's Christian behavior whilst our own Christian way of living is giving far greater scandal.

In other words, most if not all of us, are to some degree hypocrites. We pretend to be what we are not, but should be. We pretend to be producing good fruit: figs and grapes, whereas we are only thornbushes and brambles which produce nothing but harmful thorns which sting and poison ourselves and our neighbors. And while I am making these comments I shouldn't be at all surprised if some of my listeners are saying in their hearts: "Mrs. X or John Y is getting it today, I hope they are taking it in," when what we should all be saying is: "How truly our Lord read my heart. How many times in the past week have I criticized my fellow men without knowing all, or any perhaps, of the true facts. How seldom have I honestly examined my own conscience to see my own more serious defects and tried to correct them?"

When our Lord spoke these words, his purpose and intention was not to condemn his hearers, the vast majority of whom were guilty of the defects he mentioned, but rather to open their minds and their hearts.

It is for the very same purpose the Church has selected this particular lesson for us today. We are all guilty of rash judgment and unjustified criticism, to a greater or lesser degree. Let us turn this criticism on ourselves rather, and judge ourselves honestly and sincerely and in a short while we may, with God's grace helping us, notice a change in our Christian conduct.

Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:

Archbishop calls for Journey of Faith

You may have received a letter from the Archbishop about the Journey of Faith pastoral plan that the Archdiocese is embarking on in restructuring the way we work in our parishes and schools in the next 3 years to come. If you have not received it, you will soon. This plan is a result of our dwindling numbers of Catholics who are attending Mass weekly, especially in the rural communities and a big decline in vocation to priesthood.

A Journey of Faith is a pastoral plan to draw together Catholics from 23 Northeast Nebraska counties to create a new vision for how we, as a Church, will flourish in the future. As planning continues, parishes are encouraged to offer prayers about the coming changes in the Archdiocese.

Archbishop George Lucas invites Catholics on a three-year journey to meet the challenges of a changing world.

What's it about: Over the next 18-months, parish leaders, pastors and pastoral planners will work together to come up with new directions for parishes and schools.

Background: Our institutions and structures that served past generations so well were designed for different times. The parishes of the archdiocese need a sustainable approach that's more in tune with the times.

Why now: Current realities in the church combined with statewide population shifts pose challenges for the future. Most importantly, our own data tells us the majority of Catholics aren't experiencing their faith in a meaningful way.

- **Fewer than 1 in 4 Catholics attend** weekly mass, a 20-year downward trend.

The challenge is to see this as an opportunity, to have a deeper experience in the activity of the holy spirit, and to respond really in faith, and to trust God.
Archbishop Lucas

Archbishop's Annual Appeal – 2021-2022

Thank you to all who have already supported the Archbishop's Annual Appeal through prayer and meaningful gifts. In the past, by such time we have always achieved our goal. Both of our parishes are almost reaching our goals. I'm making a passionate appeal to members of our parish who have not sent in your donations to kindly do so.

Here is our current update as of Feb. 22nd 2022:
St. Joseph Church has committed \$7,375 towards our goal of \$7,945.42 from 30 donors. We are less than \$571 to reach our goal. Holy Cross Church has committed \$10,105 towards our goal of \$10,986.53 from 25 donors, making us only \$881.53 away from our goal.

If you are reading this and would like to make a donation to fill this gap, please do so and I promise to say Mass for you and your family. Just email me at vsunguti2018@gmail.com, or call 402-529-3531 or text me on my cell phone at 402-657-7093. You may also talk to me at any time. And if you would like to remain anonymous, I will respect that and say Mass for you as well.



MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	28	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	01	9:30 AM	WCC	Care Center Residents
Wed	02	8:00 AM	HC	+ Eugene & Elsie Emanuel
Thu	03	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Joshua Stalp
Fri	04	9:30 AM	CHB	+ Alvin Dinslage
Sat	05	5:00 PM	SJ	+ Jayda Oligmueller
Sun	06	8:30 AM	HC	+ Mike McTaggart
Sun	06	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		

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer

Weekend of March 6th

WORD: Tom Peatrowsky
EMHC: Tom Peatrowsky
PRAISE:
SERVER: Kris Pena
USHER:

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner

Weekend of March 5th & 6th

LEC: John Woerdemann
EMHC: Allison Kluthe
SERVER: Maddisyn Lampman, Ella Jacobs
OFF: Rick Jacobs
USHER: February Men's Group

LEC: Tammie Batenhorst
EMHC: Linda Hansen
EMHC2: Shane Batenhorst
SERVER: Erica Good, Paislie Burki
OFF: A.J. Burki
USHER: February Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—February 20, 2022	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$310.00
Plate:	58.00
Children:	.00
"Souper" Bowl:	5.00
Total:	\$373.00

MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, Feb. 27th—Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer
Sunday, Mar. 6th—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore

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

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—February 20, 2022	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,545.00
Plate:	139.00
Children:	9.77
Insurance:	110.00

Thursday Men's Lenten Breakfast

You are invited: Thursday, March 3rd, at 7:00 a.m. to our Lenten breakfast at United Methodist Church of Christ in Wisner. Free Will donation. Fundraiser for the Wisner Ministerial Association that supports the needy in our communities.

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

ST. BONIFACE MONTEREY BREAKFAST:

Sunday, March 6th, 7:30-11:30 at the GACC Cafeteria in West Point. Made to order omelets, eggs, sausage, fruit cup, coffee cake, juice & coffee. To go orders available.

Religious Education

ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6

Grades K-6: The 5th grade started studying the Beatitudes. The 1st grade learned about the Fruits of the Holy Spirit (Love, Joy, Patience, Kindness and Self-Control) and how they help us to be better Christians.

Fr. Vincent visited each class room and talked about his mission trip to Kenya. This week there will be an Ash Service only at 5:00.

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

Grades 7-9: Lesson 3 continued with learning about the history story of the Bible and that God is love. Our church is made of sinners and saints, but God loves us all and wants us to be with Him in heaven. Next week, we will see you all for Ash Wednesday Mass at 7:00 as we begin Lent.

Grades 10-12: Opening prayer was done using the TIPE (Thanksgiving, Intercession, Petition, & Epiclesis). Read and discussed the Gospel of Mark 10:46-52 and did Ignatian Meditation Reflection regarding it. Class ended with closing prayer in church.

7th-12th: This week- Ash Wednesday Mass at 7:00 and there will be class afterwards.



This Sunday

PARISH FELLOWSHIP COFFEE after Mass, February 27th. Please join us!

POINSETTIAS are available for the taking as they need to be gone before Wednesday. Please take them home and enjoy!



Celebrations:

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

Birthdays:

Preston Praest February 27
Vicky Krupka February 29
Doug Steffensmeier March 2
Kevin Lueshen March 4
Leo Schulz March 4

LIVE LENT TOGETHER!

Join us for scripture, prayer and fellowship this Lent. Small groups are starting in both parishes.

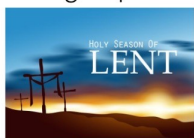
Holy Cross

Tuesday, **March 8** at Sue Steffensmeier's home at 2:00 P.M., and Wednesday, **March 9** at Holy Cross rectory at 5:30 P.M. Let Marilyn (402-380-0676) know which you will be attending to have materials ready.

St. Joseph's

Tuesday, **March 8** at noon in the basement of St. Joseph Church, and Wednesday, **March 9** at 7:00 P.M. at Anne Ausdemore's home. Contact Anne (402-750-9616) or Ruth (402-640-3446) to attend either group.

All are welcome!



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