

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

**4th Sunday of Advent
 December 18th, 2022**

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: stjoe68791@gmail.com

The 4th Sunday of Advent



The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah 7:10-14*. In today's prophecy, Isaiah gives us the most important detail concerning the Messiah, Christ. He was to be God as well as man. This is what Christ was, as he claimed and as he proved by his miracles and by his resurrection. What a stunning, and at the same time, what an inspiring fact this knowledge is for us! We call the Incarnation, the coming of the Son of God among us in human nature, a mystery.

The **Gospel** of this Sunday, from the *Gospel of Matthew 1:18-24* begins in a typical Hebrew fashion, by giving the genealogical table of Jesus, who was born of Mary. 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 kind, 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 AAA 2022-2023**

This Advent, take the Holy Spirit up on the gifts that are being offered to you. Your gifts to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal strengthen our parishes, schools and ministries. As of Dec. 13th 2022, our parish of Wisner with 26 donors has committed \$9,875 toward our goal of \$8,279.09 (119%) with a participation goal of 28%. Our other Church of Beemer with 19 donors has committed \$5,685 (50.4%) towards our goal of \$11,345.11 with a participation goal of 49%. Thank you for your faithful support!

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



Lesson 19: The Sacrament of Baptism

What is baptism? It is a spiritual rebirth in which we receive a share of Divine life which makes us children of God.

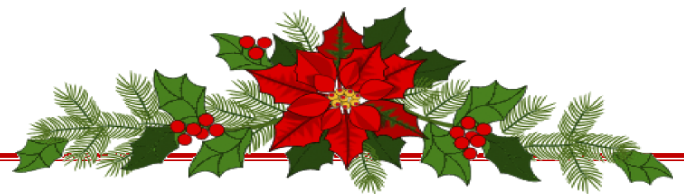
What does baptism do for us apart from original sin that most of us know about? It gives us a share in Divine life by bringing us into contact with the saving works of Jesus through his crucifixion and death.

Why do you have to be baptized? Since it is a rebirth into divine or Holy life, you can't live with God and the Saints in heaven without it.

What kind of sin is it to delay your baptism? A serious sin once you have come to understand how necessary baptism is for salvation. (*Acts 22:16 – Why dost thou delay? Get up and be baptized and wash away thy sins?*)

How soon should a baby be baptized? As soon as reasonably possible. Certainly, within the first two to three weeks after birth.

How many kinds of baptism do we have? We have three kinds of baptism and one should participate in at least one to be saved. a) Baptism by water, b) Baptism by desire c) Baptism by blood. Baptism by water is the common one that we do with mostly babies. Baptism by desire refers to anyone who has the desire for baptism by coming to church and being a good catholic and being a catechumen (one attending classes of catechism in preparation for baptism of water). Baptism by blood refers to those who have not been baptized by water but by fighting for the good of humanity. For example, soldiers in a just war and the martyrs of justice.



HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE—Saturday, Dec. 24th
 St. Joseph—5:00 pm
 Holy Cross—7:00 pm

CHRISTMAS DAY—Sunday, Dec. 25th
 Holy Cross—8:30 am
 St. Joseph—10:00 am

NEW YEAR'S EVE— Saturday, Dec. 31st
Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass
 St. Joseph—5:00 pm

NEW YEAR'S DAY— Sunday, Jan. 1st
Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God
 Holy Cross— 8:30 am
 St. Joseph—10:00 am

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer
Weekend of December 24th & 25th
Christmas Eve

WORD: Doris Guenther
 EMHC: Gerald Schlickbernd
 SERVER: Ben Oligmueller

Christmas Day

WORD: Tom Peatrowsky
 EMHC: Ann Bausch
 SERVER: Will Robertson

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner
Weekend of December 24th & 25th
Christmas Eve

LEC: Joyce Stalp
 EMHC: Dave Dietloff, Richard Schultz
 SERVER: Jaylee Lueken, Paislie Burki, Aidan McBride
 OFF: Steve Ausdemore
 USHER: December Men's Group

Christmas Day

LEC: Jeff Phillips
 EMHC: Madonna Servi
 EMHC2: Steve Ausdemore
 SERVER: Maddisyn Lampman, Chesney Ruskamp, Joel Good
 OFF: Chris Ruskamp
 USHER: December Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts

Holy Cross—December 11th, 2022

Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,332.00
Plate:	183.00
Youth:	7.00
Tithe.ly Online:	100.00
Christmas:	1,120.00
Christmas Flowers:	250.00
Immaculate Conception:	145.00
Total:	\$3,137.00

MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, December 18th—Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller
 Sunday, December 25th—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore

MEN'S WORK GROUP—December 2022

Chair: Chris Borgelt
 Co-Chair: Tyler Oligmueller
 Members: Brian Phillips, Steve Ausdemore, Shane Batenhorst, Tim Phillips, Galen Minds, Alex Ausdemore, Spencer Batenhorst

Stewardship of God's Gifts

St. Joseph—December 11th, 2022

Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,650.00
Plate:	164.00
Children:	60.81
Tithe.ly Online:	616.39
Immaculate Conception:	45.00

Celebrations:

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

Birthdays

Kailey Pena December 18
 Dan Spenner December 19
 Betty Guenther December 20
 Brandon Lierman December 22
 Joe Hansen December 24

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Holy Cross - Tues., December 20th at 7:00 pm

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES are labeled and available in the back of church. Please pick yours up at your earliest convenience.

MEN'S GROUP work assignment schedules for 2023 are completed, addressed, and ready to be picked up in the back of church until the end of December. Any remaining schedules will be mailed at that time.



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

MASS INTENTIONS

Day	Time	Location	Intention
Mon	19	—	NO MASS
Tue	20	9:30 AM	WCC + Cleone Bates
Wed	21	8:00 AM	HC Lvng & Dec'd Members of the Henry & Eleanor Spenner Fam.
Thu	22	8:00 AM	SJ + Herb Albers
Fri	23	9:30 AM	CHB + James F. Hetherington
Sat	24	5:00 PM	SJ Christmas Eve Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sat	24	7:00 PM	HC Christmas Eve Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	25	8:30 AM	HC Christmas Day Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	25	10:00 AM	SJ Christmas Day Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish

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: During class time the students did a final practice for the Christmas Program. The students presented the Christmas program Wednesday evening, did an awesome job, and received a standing ovation. The evening was finished with a soup supper hosted by the Ladies Guild. Capri & Sarah would like to thank everyone that helped with the Christmas Program and soup supper and were excited to see so many in attendance. The support for the children and fellowship at church is so great to see. No class this week due to Christmas break.

ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS– GRADES 7-12

Grade 7-12: No class due to grade school Christmas Program and soup supper. No class this week due to Christmas break.

January 4th - Classes resume for all grades



SAVE THE DATE!
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH!!!

NOT February 25, 2023
 2nd annual Trivia Night for St. Joseph Church, Wisner



Start getting your teams together!
 More information to follow!!