

**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

## **2nd Sunday of Advent December 4th, 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: stj068791@gmail.com**

### The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent



“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.”  
— Benedict XVI

The **Gospel** is from the *Gospel of Matthew 3:1-12*, an angel announced to Zechariah, a priest of the temple, that he would have a son (even though his wife Elizabeth was barren and advanced in years). This son was destined to be the Precursor who would announce the proximate arrival of the long-expected Messiah. John, the name given him by the angel even before his conception, spent his youth and early manhood as a hermit in the desert of Judea, preparing himself for his exalted office. When God revealed to him that the Messiah was soon to begin his public life, John set out for the bank of the Jordan, where he began to preach repentance, in order to prepare the people for "him who was to come."

In this holy season of Advent, as we prepare to welcome Christ at Christmas. John the Baptist has words of advice and warnings for each one of us. He advises us to "prepare the way of the Lord," by true repentance of our past sins and a firm resolution to straighten "the ways of the Lord," that is, not to deviate from the true Christian way of life in the future.

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



**From Fr. Vincent's Desk:**

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



*Lesson: 17: The Key to Unity in the Church*

*What did Jesus do to make sure that his church is united?*  
He sent the Holy Spirit to dwell in his body the church, uniting the members with one another and with Himself.

Who is the chief instrument of the Holy Spirit's teaching and unifying work in the church? It is the Pope who is the vicar of Christ and bishop of Rome.

When did Jesus make Peter the first pope? Shortly before he ascended into heaven. (Mt. 16:18-19).

Did Peter's authority die with him? No, it was handed down to a man named Linus, and after he died, it was handed down to another and so on during the past 2000 years.

Did Jesus require us to follow the pope in matters of faith and morals? Yes, because obedience and loyalty to the pope are among the chief requirements of our Lord's plan for unity in his church.

Can the pope make an error when teaching doctrines or morals? Not when he is speaking solemnly (ex-cathedra) as head of the church. He has that special protection from error which God gives as spiritual safeguard.

Today's reality: The Holy Spirit is still present in our church today and assigns us different gifts. It is this spirit that has united catholic church for the last 2,000 years.

Someone asked me recently if there is any college of bishops, cardinals and popes. There isn't any. Bishops are appointed from ordinary priests. From bishops, archbishops are appointed and from them, cardinals are appointed. Then the pope is elected by cardinals from the college of cardinals. Every cardinal is a candidate of becoming a pope. Since there is no training for bishops, archbishops, cardinals and the pope, once they are elevated, they go to Rome to meet the pope personally and attend a short in-service training with regard to their duties and mostly it takes one week. The newly appointed pope attends his session by himself

#### Updates on Archbishop's Annual Appeal 2022-2023

John the Baptist's birth was a preparation for the birth of Jesus and bear these witnesses in our words and deeds through sharing our gifts. Your participation in the Archbishop's Annual Appeal is an extension of this sharing of God's given gifts in our parishes and others. Every gift matters. To date in Wisner, 24 donors have committed \$9,620.00 with participation goal of 28%. In Beemer, 14 donors have committed \$3,760.00 with a participation goal of 49%. Please, if you received a letter from the archbishop asking you to donate and you haven't done so, kindly consider doing it.

#### **Welcome to St. Josephs Church and Holy Cross Parish**

We welcome all our guests and new members to our parishes. There are many opportunities for experiencing the peace and joy of our loving God in liturgy, groups, committees and volunteer service to the church. If you would like to join our parish family, contact the parish office or send an email to:

For St. Joseph—[stjo68791@gmail.com](mailto:stjo68791@gmail.com)

For Holy Cross—[renaecarlson@hotmail.com](mailto:renaecarlson@hotmail.com)

**Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer**  
**Weekend of December 10th & 11th**

**WORD:** Renae Carlson, Marilyn Ortmeier  
**EMHC:** Jeanie McTaggart, Tom Peatrowsky  
**SERVER:** Sun: Bo Oligmueller

**Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner**  
**Weekend of December 11th**

**LEC:** Bonnie Styskal  
**EMHC:** Capri McGuire  
**EMHC 2:** Dave Deitloff  
**SERV:** Averi Buhrman, Lilly Good, Erica Good  
**OFF:** Rick Jacobs  
**USHER:** December Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—Thanksgiving	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$840.00
Plate:	54.00
Thanksgiving:	500.00
Total:	\$1,394.00
Holy Cross—November 27, 2022	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$695.00
Plate:	88.00
Tithe.ly Online:	100.00
Youth:	14.00
Thanksgiving:	1,535.00
HELP/Fuel:	100.00
Total:	\$2,532.00.00

**MONEY COUNTERS**  
**Sunday, December 4th—Team #1** Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore  
**Sunday, December 11th—Team #2** Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder


**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—November 27, 2022	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$2,040.00
Plate:	155.00
Children:	12.00
Tithe.ly Online:	303.34

**HOLY CROSS ALTAR SOCIETY** will hold it's regular meeting December 5th at 5:30 in the church basement.

**BIBLE STUDY** will be on Tuesday, December 6th at 2 p.m. at Sue Steffensmeier's house. Everyone is welcome.

**THE BABY JESUS SHOWER** will be held at this time. Proceeds from this are given to various charities: Birthright, local Goldenrod family needs and Emergency Pregnancy Services.



**Celebrations:**

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

**Birthdays**

Skyler Peatrowsky December 4  
 Connie Harrison December 6  
 Duane Neesen December 8  
 Emmett Steffensmeier December 8

## Religious Education

**ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6**

**Grades K-6:** The first grade had a field trip to the Wisner Care Center and took Christmas decorations to the residents. Grades 3-6 celebrated the sacrament of Reconciliation with Fr. Vincent. Christmas Program will be December 14<sup>th</sup> and a reminder note will be sent home this week.

**ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS– GRADES 7-12**

**Grade 7-12** All classes celebrated the sacrament of Reconciliation with Fr. Vincent and had closing prayer afterwards. Class will be as normal this week.

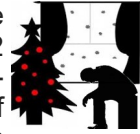
**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SERVICES**

**Holy Cross** - Wed., December 7th at 5:30 pm  
**St. Joseph's** - Thur., December 8th at 8:00 am

Find HOPE and healing. ARE YOU PREGNANT AND NEED HELP? Call/text 888.550.1588 or visit [loveline.com](http://loveline.com)  
 HAVE YOU TAKEN THE FIRST DOSE OF THE ABORTION PILL? It may not Be too late to save your baby.  
 Call 877.558.0999 or visit [abortionpillreversal.com](http://abortionpillreversal.com)  
 FREE, CONFIDENTIAL COUNSELING FOR WOMEN AND MEN EXPERIENCING GRIEF AFTER ABORTION  
 Call 888.456.HOPE (4673) or Visit [hopeafterabortion.com](http://hopeafterabortion.com)

**GriefShare – Surviving the Holidays**

Franciscan Healthcare in West Point will be hosting a GriefShare workshop. It is a 2 hour Christian based grief workshop. Participants will watch a short video given by grief experts, small group discussions and then an input from experts.



Date and Times are: December 5<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 – 8:00 pm and December 12<sup>th</sup> – 1:00 – 3:00 pm. The venue will be at the Hospital's second floor in the Clare conference room. For questions, contact Chaplain Tom Manhart at 402 372 6708 or [tmanhart@franhealth.org](mailto:tmanhart@franhealth.org). Check fliers for more information.

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	05	—	—	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tue	06	9:30 AM	WCC	Care Center Residents
Wed	07	8:00 AM	HC	<b>NO MORNING MASS</b>
Wed	07	5:30 PM	HC	+ Alvin Dinslage
Thu	08	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Ron Esser
Fri	09	9:30 AM	CHB	+ Beata Batenhorst
Sat	10	5:00 PM	HC	+ Mike McTaggart
Sun	11	8:30 AM	HC	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	11	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Gerald Ruskamp
SJ—St. Joseph's		HC—Holy Cross		
WCC—Wisner Care Center		CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer		

**WISNER VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE**  
**SOUP FUNDRAISER**  
 Wisner City Auditorium  
**TODAY...December 4, 2022**

Soup Dinner served 11:00 am—1:30 pm  
 Santa Visits 11:00 am—12:30 pm

Wisner VFW Auxiliary will have desserts for sale and Cuming County Relay for Life will also have other Christmas goodies for sale