

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

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
 January 22nd, 2023**

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 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah 9:1-4*. This reading is another prophecy, concerning the messianic days, given by Isaiah in the eighth century B.C. It describes the new era of liberty and joy, which the future Messiah will usher in.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Matthew 4:12-23*. The prophet Isaiah announced a future of liberation and great joy for all of Galilee, through the image of light that dispels the darkness in which the people walk. The Gospel, quoting verbatim the same passage of the prophet Isaiah, presents Jesus as the Light thus fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy. He is the light that was promised to dispel the darkness of sin and to free man from the obscurity in which he is enclosed.

The light becomes an efficacious means to express God's involvement in human history. God manifests Himself as 'The Light' that disperses the darkness. The light illuminates, encircles, defines things, emphasizes the colors and gives depth to space. The light heartens and comforts: to be in an enlightened place helps us to accept reality for what it is and makes one feel happier, more certain and protected.

God's initiative with regard to men permits them to have a renewed relationship with reality. In God's light everything assumes a new significance, its authentic and definitive meaning. A light which illuminates gives strength and permits the disclosure of the universe and man. This is why, after saying, 'on those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone' (Is 9:1), the text adds, 'you have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing' (Is 9:2).

A joy and happiness that became real in Jesus' presence. He is the promised light that has come into our midst, His physical presence that expresses the definitive arrival of the Light. The light that shines brightly marks God's initiative performing His first merciful and free step towards a wounded humanity.

This dynamic is expressed through Jesus' call of the first Apostles. He chooses them with an unequivocal call, 'Follow Me'. Faced with God's sudden interruption in their lives He invited them to abandon the nets and trust themselves totally to the Lord for a new 'catch', a new definitive horizon. At the Last Supper, the end of His earthly life, Jesus reminds His disciples 'you did not choose me, no, I chose you' (Jn 15:16).

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to remember that our personal vocation is founded on God's original and absolutely free choice. His invitation towards us, therefore, is an invitation to make a final decision to let Him conquer or re-conquer us to mark a turning point in our lives. Let us ask the Lord, for us and the whole Church, for the gift of a true conversion of our hearts enabling us to receive Christ as the only Light to follow. Christ is the only one that really dispels the darkness within and around us.

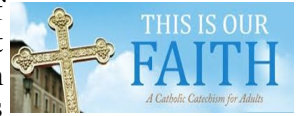
In courtesy of the congregation of the clergy



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:

**Let's learn something about our Catholic Faith
 Lesson 20: The Sacrament of Confirmation**

What is the sacrament of Confirmation? It is the sacrament that strengthens the soul's union with God and the church. It gives you help to live your Christian life faithfully. An analogy that comes to my mind is like stages of development in growth. Once you are an adult, we all move to make our own decisions in life. You were baptized as a child and now that you are an adult, you need to confirm your faith personally.



Is it a sin to neglect confirmation? Yes, it is, even though confirmation is not strictly necessary for salvation, to neglect such a wonderful gift of God would surely be morally wrong.

What is necessary to receive this sacrament? You must be a baptized catholic in a state of grace and well instructed in the Catholic religion.

What is expected of a confirmed catholic? They are expected to live what they profess. By promoting justice and practicing charity. Through these, they promote love of God to others.

How is confirmation given? The bishop who is the minister of this sacrament holds his hands over the candidates and says a prayer over them, puts his hands on each person and then anoints them on the forehead with an oil called Holy Chrism. This oil is a mixture of olive oil and fragrant ointment called balsam and blessed at Holy Chrism Mass by the bishop.

Practical point: Confirmation make you a Christian witness by giving good examples to others.

**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
 For Holy Cross—renaecarlson@hotmail.com

Saint Joseph Parish Council Members 2022-2023

Ruth Bloedorn—Pres.	Trevor Cyboron— V.P.
Matt Albers	Holly Schroeder
Lindsey Burki— Sec.	Carmen Godbersen
Chris Ruskamp	Matt McGuire
For contact information, please see the parish directory	

Holy Cross Parish Council Members 2022-2023

Mike Guenther—Pres.	Trisha Robertson—Sec.
Mike Gentrup	Karen Spenner
Robert Praest	Michelle Borgmann
For contact information, please see the parish directory	



Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer

Weekend of January 28th & 29th

WORD: Renae Carlson, Marilyn Ortmeier
EMHC: Gerald Schlickbernd, Dawn Peatrowsky
SERVER: Sat.: Will Robertson
 Sun.: Ben Oligmueller

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner

Weekend of January 29th

LEC: Diane Davies
EMHC: Richard Schultz
EMHC 2: Anne Ausdemore
SERV: Chloe Schroetlin, Sydney Porter, Averi Buhrman
OFF: Keith Schroetlin
USHER: January Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts

Holy Cross—January 15th, 2023

Sunday Envelopes:	\$860.00
Plate:	137.00
Youth:	9.00
Tithe.ly Online:	100.00
Christmas:	100.00
HELP/Fuel:	30.00
GA/CC:	520.00
Total:	\$1,756.00

MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, January 22nd—Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder
Sunday, January 29th —Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer

MEN'S WORK GROUP—January 2023

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

MEN'S WORK GROUP—February 2023

Chair: Adam Brahmer
Co-Chair: Jeff Recker
Members: Dan Kane, Terry Soden, Ron Machacek, Shawn Davie, Doug Oertwich, Bernie Ruskamp

DONATION STATEMENTS for 2022 will be available next weekend.



Celebrations:

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

Birthdays

Tanya Oligmueller January 23
 Diana Dinslage January 27
 Bernie Oligmueller January 28
 Asher Borgmann January 28

Anniversaries

David and Susan Steffensmeier January 24

Stewardship of God's Gifts

St. Joseph—January 15th, 2023

Sunday Envelopes:	\$905.00
Plate:	174.00
Children:	23.00
Tithe.ly Online:	252.93

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS FOR 2022 are completed and are available for pick up in the back of church. Also, if you have not yet grabbed your envelopes, they are on the table as well. Should you have any questions, please contact the parish office at 402-529-3891.



THE NEXT LADIES GUILD Meeting will be Tuesday, January 24, at 5:30pm in the church basement.

First Communion and a Confirmation Dinner will be discussed. All ladies are invited to attend.

COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS will be hosted by St. Joseph Parish Council in the church basement on Sunday, January 29th. Stop down to share food and fellowship with your parish family!!



NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR SINGLE CATHOLICS

A Dating Retreat and Study Series for single Catholics! NCSC is hosting a **FREE** online **Dating Retreat** with guest speaker **Fr. Robert Spitzer (January 27 & 28)**. Over 400 single Catholics from around the world have already signed up and we're expecting 500+. Don't miss the opportunity to meet other like-minded singles and go deeper in your faith!

Starting the week of February 6th, NCSC will also be hosting a **6-week study series - "Relationship Ready: A Single Catholic's Roadmap to Marriage"** that will cover topics such as the **meaning of love, communication, conflict resolution, male/female complementarity** and much more. To sign up for these programs, visit NationalCatholicSingles.com.



Join your **Spirit Catholic Radio** family for a wonderful evening of faith and friendship! Our 2023 Spirit Celebration Dinner will be held Saturday evening, **February 4, 2023** at the Mid America Center in Council Bluffs, IA! This year, our special guest speaker, **Jeff Cavins**, will present on *Life of a Disciple – Taking your Faith to the Next Level*. Reserve your seat by January 27, 2023 for \$50. For more details and ticket purchasing, visit spiritcatholicradio.com/dinner

MASS INTENTIONS

Day	Date	Time	Location	Intention
Mon	23	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	24	9:30 AM	WCC	+ Barb Albers
Wed	25	8:00 AM	HC	+ Alvin & Betty Havranek
Thu	26	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Gerald Ruskamp
Fri	27	9:30 AM	CHB	+ Georgia Batenhorst
Sat	28	5:00 PM	HC	+ Francis Oligmueller And Jim Sapp
Sun	29	8:30 AM	HC	Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of the Henry & Eleanor Spenner Fam.
Sun	29	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

Religious Education

ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6

Grades K-6: Classes were cancelled last week due to weather. This week the 2nd grade will celebrate the Sacrament of First Reconciliation with Fr. Vincent.

ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS— GRADES 7-12

Grade 7: Classes were cancelled last week due to weather. Classes at normal time this coming week.

Grades 8-10: Confirmation Classes: Retreat **TODAY** at Holy Cross. 12:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. Please bring your permission slip, Saint's name, and sponsor info. Class as usual this Wednesday.

Grades 11-12: Class was cancelled last week due to weather and will be held this Wednesday as normal.



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH!!!

2nd annual Trivia Night for St. Joseph Church, Wisner

Get your teams together!

Registration forms are being mailed this week!!

To sign up, contact Paige Godbersen at 402-604-0406