

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

**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 February 5th, 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 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time



The **First Reading** is taken from *Isaiah 58:7-10*. When lowliness unites all men, then God will fill the need of the world with his glorious presence. The final age will have to come.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Matthew 5:13-16*. No less an authority than Christ himself calls his true followers the "salt of the earth." and the "light of the world." These are titles of

honor, surely, and of the greatest distinction. Christ is putting his true follower on almost a level with himself. He was the light of the world; he was the salt of the earth. He it was who gave men the knowledge of the true nature of God, as shown by the Incarnation. He it was who gave this life its flavor, who gave this life its meaning, its preservation. By his death and resurrection, he took away the sting of death, and removed its eternal corruption, by the guarantee and promise of a resurrection to an eternal life.

This every Christian knows, and this knowledge every Christian helps to bring to those who are ignorant of it, if he lives his life daily and sincerely. The Christian, who does this, is really another Christ; he is continuing his work of salvation during his years on earth. He is the salt, of the earth and the light of the world. How many of us, can truly say that these honorable titles, which Christ gives to his followers, are given to us?

In true humility, we can all say that we are far from worthy of any such honorable titles. Yet in all sincerity too, many if not the majority among us, are doing their little bit of Christ's work, in cultivating their own small corner of his vineyard. The parents, who teach the Christian way of life to their children by word, and especially by example, are spreading the Christian faith. The workmen, whether in office or factory, who show that they are Christians by their honesty, charity for their fellowmen, their respect for God, and the things of God, in their speech, are spreading their Christian faith. All those who show moderation in their personal expenditures, and donate some of their savings to help their brothers, their fellow men who are in need, these are true disciples of Christ and are cooperating with him in bringing God's children back to their Father who is in heaven.

Unlike the salt that has lost its flavor, and the light that is kept under the bushel, the Christian who has thus behaved can change his attitude, provided he is aided by God's grace which is never refused. He can become once more what he ought to be—a life preserver for his neighbor.

Life on earth is short. The demands of our Christian life may not always be easy, but we know that if we live up to them, we are other Christs. We are continuing his great work by our own good example to our neighbor, and we are giving glory to God, and are earning for ourselves the eternal light of heaven.

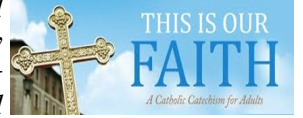
In courtesy of Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:

Let's learn something about our Catholic Faith
Continuation on Lesson 21: The Eucharist –
Practical aspects:

One time at Mass, Den held his two-year-old daughter Mary Beth, who was a bit restless. During the consecration, as the priest lifted up the host just before the Holy Communion, Den directed Mary Beth to gaze towards the altar saying: "Look Mary Beth", he whispered, "the priest is holding Jesus". Mary Beth looked intently at the priest, and then replied, "That is not Jesus daddy. That is bread that he is holding. Then turning to her daddy, she pinched his cheek and asked: "Daddy, do you need glasses?"



No, daddy does not need glasses, and soon Mary Beth will see Jesus with the eyes of faith perhaps when she comes to CCD as well as the parents keep on bringing her to church for Mass. It is Faith that gives us vision to see Jesus in the Eucharist.

It is important for parents to keep on explaining to their children like Mary Beth about the presence of Jesus not only in the Eucharist but in the church. It is not just like any other house but God's house. We therefore need to teach our children how to be respectful with simple gestures like genuflecting when they enter in and when they leave, lower the tone of our voices as a sign of respect not only to God but for others who might be praying, and also give some respect to the sanctuary. Sanctuary comes from a Latin word "Sanctus" which means holy. It actually used to be called Holy of Holies. Why is it raised with a different floor color than the rest of the church? It is because that is the place where the sacrifice of Mass takes place. We only step there with a purpose and need to control our children from playing there. I have seen it happening and our children will never learn if we don't explain to them and show them the right thing to do. Our faith is manifested in what we put in. Our churches are holy places and it is in the way we handle them that those places can remain holy to keep on enhancing our faith.

GriefShare—
Grieving the loss of someone close to you

Franciscan Healthcare in West Point will be hosting a GriefShare workshop. It is a video seminar series that features some of the nation's foremost Christian experts on grief and recovery topics as seen from a biblical perspective. The video seminars are combined with support group discussion of the materials presented during the video.

Date and Times are: January 30th—April 10th, 2023, from 6-7 pm. The workshop will be held at the Hospital on the second floor in the Clare Conference Room. Registration is strongly encouraged for material purposes (please see the flyer in the back of church).

For questions, contact Chaplain Tom Manhart at 402-372-6708 or tmanhart@franhealth.org. Check flyers for more information.



Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer
Weekend of February 12th

WORD: Doris Guenther, Marilyn Ortmeier
EMHC: Jeanie McTaggart, Tom Peatrowsky
SERVER: Sat.- Bo Oligmueller
 Sun.- Will Robertson

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner
Weekend of February 12th

LEC: Maci Batenhorst
EMHC: Tammie Batenhorst
EMHC 2: Alan Harms
SERV: Aubrianna Good, Ella Jacobs, Anna Jacobs
OFF: Kelly Lueken
USHER: February Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts

Holy Cross—January 29th, 2023

Sunday Envelopes:	\$895.00
Plate:	105.00
Youth:	17.00
Tithe.ly Online:	100.00
Total:	\$1,117.00

MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, February 5th—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore
Sunday, February 12th —Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder

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

CONGRATULATIONS TO VANESSA PRAEST who will be receiving her server cross today. Thank you and all servers for your ministry.

Celebrations:

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

Birthdays

Winfred Batenhorst February 13
 William Robertson February 14
 Tim Oligmueller February 16
 Sam Steffensmeier February 18

Stewardship of God's Gifts

St. Joseph—January 29th, 2023

Sunday Envelopes:	\$745.00
Plate:	47.00
Children:	10.25
Tithe.ly Online:	374.15



LIVE
Lent
TOGETHER

Lent is more than just giving something up and eating fish on Fridays. It's an opportunity to refocus on Jesus. And you don't have to go it alone. Small groups are forming in both parishes for a six-week (once a week) focus on the meaning of Lent. Bonus--you'll form deeper friendships with group members as you make the Lenten journey together. To find out if there's a group that fits in your schedule, call Karen Spenner at 372-8430, or Anne Ausdemore at 750-9616.

ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS

ADVANCE NOTICE
TO ALL CONFIRMATION FAMILIES

The Ladies Guild will provide a hot meal to all confirmation students and their families as well as extended family members for Confirmation on Sunday, March 12, 2023. The meal will be in the church basement following the Confirmation Mass. Invites have been sent to all Confirmation families. Questions, please contact Martha Schweers 402-380-2114.

TRIVIA night

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH!!!

2nd annual Trivia Night for St. Joseph Church, Wisner
Get your teams together!
 To sign up, contact Paige Godbersen at 402-604-0406

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	06	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	07	9:30 AM	WCC	Wisner Care Center Residents
Wed	08	8:00 AM	HC	Lvng & Dec'd Members of Leo & Hildegard Hunke Fam.
Thu	09	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Hugh McGuire
Fri	10	9:30 AM	CHB	+ Tom & Dan McTaggart
Sat	11	5:00 PM	HC	+ Joe & Lillian Neesen
Sun	12	8:30 AM	SJ	Lvng & Dec'd Members of the Ray Steffensmeier Family
Sun	12	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: The first grade delivered Valentine decorations to the Wisner Care Center. The fifth grade learned more about Confirmation and Baptism. The fourth grade discussed the 4th commandment and continued with the Circle of Grace lessons. Help review prayers with your child/children for they will be reciting prayers this week.

ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS— GRADES 7-12

Grade 7: Finished the Circle of Grace lessons and started Episode 8 of The Chosen which is the story about the woman by the well.

Grades 8-10: We began with prayer and reading the Beatitudes from Jesus' "Sermon on the Mount". Our lesson focused on their meaning and how we apply them to our lives. All parents were sent a letter with Confirmation info and dates. All Sponsor, Saints and Service sheets will be due next week. We ended with a Litany to the Name of Jesus.

Grades 11-12: No Class. Class this coming week