

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

The 3rd Sunday of Easter
April 23rd 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 of Easter



The **First Reading** is taken from the *Acts of the Apostles* 2:14, 22-33 and concerns bearing witness to the "name" of Jesus, and the implications which this witnessing necessarily brings with it. Peter and the apostles answered their inquisitors by stating firmly their faith in Christ, and the lesson ends with reference to their joy at having been found worthy to endure trials for the name of Christ.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Luke* 24:13-35. It is the first day of the week after the great Jewish feast of the Passover and Jerusalem is trying to return to its normal routine. The shop keepers count their profits and the Temple priests congratulate themselves because they were able to kill the 'Galilean'. For the disciples and those who were 'foreigners' in Jerusalem, it is time to start to return to their own homes and their normal lives.

This Gospel of today's Mass presents us with another appearance of Jesus on the evening of his Resurrection. Two disciples are making their way to the village of Emmaus, having lost all hope because Christ, in whom they had placed the whole meaning of their lives, was dead. Our Lord catches up with them, as if He too were just another traveler on the road, and walks with them without being recognized.

These men who are returning to their home village after having celebrated the Paschal feast in Jerusalem show by the tone of their conversation their great sadness and how discouraged and disconcerted, they are: *We had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel.* But now they speak of Jesus as a reality belonging to the past.

These men did know about Christ's promise of rising on the third day. They had heard that morning the message of the women who had seen the empty tomb and the angels. Things had been sufficiently clear for them to have nourished their faith and their hope; but instead, they speak of Christ as belonging to the past, as a lost opportunity. They are a living picture of discouragement. Their minds are in darkness and their hearts are numbed.

Christ Himself—whom they did not at first recognize but whose company and conversation they accept—interprets those events for them in the light of the Scriptures. Patiently He restores in them their faith and their hope. And the two of them recover also their joy and their love: *Did not our hearts burn within us, they say later, while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?*

It is possible that we too may sometimes meet with discouragement and lack of hope because of effects that we cannot manage to root out, or of difficulties in the apostolate or in our work that seem to be insurmountable.... On these occasions, provided we allow ourselves to be helped, Jesus will not allow us to be parted from him. Perhaps it will be in spiritual direction, once we open our souls in all sincerity, that we will come to see Our Lord again.

In courtesy of Fr. Francis Fernandez



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:

Memorial Day Mass

Memorial Day is coming quicker than I thought! That is on Monday, May 29th, 2023. I would like to re-start the tradition of saying Mass at the cemetery on this important day of remembering our beloved dead. On this Monday, I will celebrate Mass at Wisner cemetery at 8:30 am and I invite you to join me. Then I will join Beemer's community for the Memorial Day celebrations at 10:00 am where I will say the benediction or prayers under the invitation of the Legion. Next year, Beemer will have Memorial Day Mass. We will be rotating as we always do.

No Priest... No Mass! June 3rd 2023 – Ordination Day in the Archdiocese of Omaha

On the first Saturday of June every year, we usually have ordinations of priests in Omaha. Unfortunately, due to lack of candidates, there has been no ordinations for the last two years. Seminarians go to the seminary for 7 years and then they are ordained to become Deacons. Then after 6 months, they are ordained to priesthood. We have not had any for 2 years. As a result, the archbishop has asked us to dedicate this regular day of ordination as a day of prayer for vocations in our parishes. Each parish can pick any other day close to the first Saturday of June and arrange their own prayer format. For our two parishes of Wisner and Beemer, we will do our prayers on Sunday, May 28th, from 4:00-5:00 pm at Holy Cross Church, Beemer. It will be exposition of Eucharist followed by holy hour or adoration, rosary, prayers and concluded by Benediction.

AAA (Archbishop's Annual Appeal) Update April 2023

In response to a good number of people who have been asking me, below is the summary of AAA as of today:

St. Joseph –	Target Goal - \$ 8,279.09
	Gifts received - \$ 10,100.00
Holy Cross –	Target Goal \$ 11,345:11
	Gifts received - \$ 10,685.00

Thank you all for contributing towards AAA of 2022-2023.

Updates on Priests Placement in our family Parish of West Point

It is now official that as from July 1st, 2023, we will have three priests in our family of 9 parishes. Fr. James Weeder of St. Mary's, West Point will remain as the Pastor. I will remain as an administrator of St. Joseph & Holy Cross parishes so far as I'm still around. Fr. Walter Jong-A-Kiem currently the Pastor of St. Stanislaus, Duncan & St. Joseph, Platte Center has been appointed into our parish family as from July 1st. Fr. Mathew Niggemeyer, the current Associate of West Point will be moving to South Sioux City. Fr. Stanley Schmitt the current pastor of Howells & Heun Churches and Fr. Matthew Gutowski the current pastor of Dodge, Olean, and Clarkson churches will both move to Humphrey and Lindsey.



Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer

Weekend of April 30th

WORD: Tom Peatrowsky
EMHC: Dennis Mostek
SERVER: Ben Oligmueller

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner

Weekend of April 29th & 30th

LEC: Richard Schultz
EMHC: Allison Kluthe
SERVER: Angel Ramirez-Lugo, Maddisyn Lampman, Lilly Good
OFF: Del Styskal
USHER: April Men's Group

LEC: Dave McGuire
EMHC: Janet Ludwig
EMHC2: Martha Schweers
SERVER: Kinsley Lueken, Charli Jacobs, Jace Hansen
OFF: Steve McGuire
USHER: April Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—April 16th, 2023	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$130.00
Plate (Easter):	110.00
Children:	20.00
Easter:	1,400.00
Works of Mercy:	565.00
Tithe.ly Online:	100.00
Total:	\$2,325.00

APRIL MOWING GROUP— CHAIR: Ron Guenther
 Members: Shane Coombs, Jesus Pena, Robert Praest, Tim Oligmueller, Dan Spenner

CONGRATULATIONS...

to Will Robertson & Bo Oligmueller for receiving their Serra Awards for serving. They are well deserved!

Also, for Asher Borgmann and Jude Carlson for receiving their First Communion this month.

We will be honoring our graduating Seniors on Sunday, May 7th.



MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, April 23rd —Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer
Sunday, April 30th—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore

MEN'S WORK GROUP—April 2023

Chair: Mark Porter
Co-Chair: Tony Wemhoff
Members: Chuck Ross, Tim Stalp, John Woerdemann, Eric VonSeggern, Jeff Phillips, Nathan Janke, Ken Knust, Jack Knust, Dayton Gentrup

MEN'S WORK GROUP—May 2023

Chair: Nick Heller
Co-Chair: Austen Godbersen
Members: Perry Albers, Roger Lampman, Todd Schroeder, Chad Ludwig, Lorin Batenhorst, Ray Johnson, Hayden Schroeder

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

Birthdays
 Art Fernandez April 23
 Austin Peatrowsky April 23
 Robin Hansen April 27
 Oliver Peatrowsky April 27

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—April 16th, 2023	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$805.00
Plate:	208.00
Children:	157.52
Heating/AC:	50.00
Works of Mercy:	20.00
Easter:	870.00
Tithe.ly Online:	220.81

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon through Fri			—	NO MASS
Sat	29	5:00 PM	SJ	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	30	8:30 AM	HC	+ Jayda Oligmueller
Sun	30	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Scott McManigal
SJ—St. Joseph's			HC—Holy Cross	
WCC—Wisner Care Center			CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer	

FIRST COMMUNION Congratulations to those receiving their First Communion today: James Bloedorn, Riggs Buhrman, Kasey Kilcoin, Karla Millan Rico, Nora Porter, Aiden Soto Good, and Aubrianna Ricardez Good. May they feel the warmth and comfort of the Lord's love with them every day.

THANK YOU... Parish Council and the parish as a whole would like to thank all those who keep our cemetery clean, mowed, and looking good. We appreciate you all so very much! Remember that you can designate funds directly to the cemetery fund at any time of the year. There are envelopes designated for this in your parish envelopes or talk to someone in the office. Thanks for supporting our parish and our cemetery.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS— Several children's books have been purchased and have been placed in a basket located in the back of church. Please let your kids enjoy them during Mass, then simply return them to the basket when Mass is over.

Religious Education

ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6
Grades K-6: The 4th grade class filled the tote bags, with necessities, that they will be delivering to The Bridge in West Point this Wednesday. The 2nd grade class finalized their lessons for First Communion. Final class will be May 3rd.

ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS— GRADES 7-12
Grade 7: Fr. Vincent discussed Eucharistic Miracles with the class and we watched a short video about the investigation of miracles. We then played Bible Trivia and the students did great. This week is our final class so we will have a short class along with pizza and ice cream.

Grades 8-10: Father came and talked to us and then we had an opening prayer. We had a worksheet to help us recognize our virtues and our vices. We read more about what they are and how to grow in virtue. We played Bible Trivia and ended with prayer. Pizza party next week for our last session of the season.

YOUTH MASS...was fantastic!! The children did an amazing job in their duties helping with Mass! Everything from reading, to serving, offertory, ushering and singing. So proud of all of you!! What a great group of kids!!

