

**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

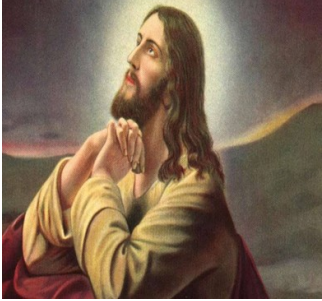
**7th Sunday of Easter  
May 21st 2023**

**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 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Year A**



Gospel: John 17:11b-19 - Just days ago, at the Ascension, we heard the messengers chide the apostles for standing and looking up as Jesus ascended into the heavens. They seemed to be implying –*there is still work to be done – look around you.*

The first reading indicates they did just that. They refilled their ranks and got on with the mission Jesus began. Through our baptism, we are called to be that replenishment in our time, to look around our world and to act.

The psalm reminds us to appreciate the blessings of each day so that prayer becomes the bedrock of a solid commitment to act.

The second reading reminds us why we act- *out of love*– and how to act- *lovingly*. The Gospel missions us to continue the great love story, to embrace the cosmic dimension of God's love for all.

***So, what do we see as we look around?***

Do we see what Jesus and the apostles saw in their time?

Do we see those in pain, grieving?

Do we see what is in danger of being destroyed – Earth, the dignity of its inhabitants?

Do we see those who have been left out, ignored, forgotten?

Do we see those imprisoned in mind and body, those different from us?

Are we ready to embrace the marginalized, include the forgotten and disenfranchised?

Are we willing to speak the truth, as Jesus did, that God's love is all encompassing?

***Will we take action?***

As we live out our baptism, the continuation of Jesus' mission, may we live in ways that God's love is truly manifest in us and through us. May God's love ease the discomfort we may feel of stepping into those different spaces so that we can joyfully share God's loving presence.

*In Courtesy of Sr. Dolores O'Dowd, GNSH*

**More Like Jesus**

Let us be more like Jesus  
In everything we do;  
Let's live a life of service,  
A life that's fresh and new.

Let's relinquish worldly things,  
And not be slaves to fashion;  
Let's fill our hearts with love,  
Forgiveness and compassion.

Yes, let's be more like Jesus,  
Being always in God's will,  
For if Jesus' light shines through us,  
Our earthly purpose we'll fulfill.

*By Joanna Fuchs*



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

**Let's learn something about our Catholic Faith**

*Continuation on Lesson  
22: The sacrifice of Mass*



***What is Mass?***

It is the renewal of the sacrifice of the Cross, the sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ offered in unbloody manner in appearances of bread and wine.

Were there sacrifices before Jesus? Yes, God appointed Aaron and his sons as priests to offer sacrifices for Him.

Who offered the first Mass? Jesus offered it on Holy Thursday when he changed the bread and wine into his body and blood.

Jesus offered the power to offer Mass to his apostles when he said: Do this in memory of me (Luke 22:19). Jesus is present on the altar during Mass in the person of the priest who is offering the Mass.

How can one offer to God perfect sacrifice? By taking part knowingly, devoutly and actively in the Mass, by praying and singing with others present.

**The Mass has** two parts: the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, which is an offering to the Father by Jesus and by us because we are also children of God.

***Here is why you should go to Mass especially on Sunday***

On Sunday, it is an obligation to attend Mass.

For Catholics, there is no other religious service more important. But the majority of baptized Catholics around the world simply don't see the need to attend. In France, there are more Muslims going to mosques on Friday than there are Catholics going to Mass on Sunday. In the U.S., at least according to one prediction, only about 12 percent of Catholics will regularly attend Sunday Mass in the next couple of years.

Of those who don't, the majority still believe that God exists, that Jesus is his Son, and that there is an obligation to give thanks. Some, remembering the truth of the *Catechism* that God is everywhere, don't see why they can't pray to God in private at home or wherever they are, whenever they want. Others see the value of going to church on Sunday but find the preaching, music, and programs better at a nearby Protestant church. With regard to Mass, they say they just don't get much out of it.

If we want to see these people come back to the table of the Lord, we can't merely quote Scripture and Church documents at them to prove they ought to go. The best approach, really, is to make them *want* to go. And the best way to do this is to be able to show how Mass offers a unique opportunity to encounter God that is not available anywhere else.



**Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer**

**Weekend of May 27th & 28th**

**WORD:** Tom Peatrowsky, Renae Carlson  
**EMHC:** Gerald Schlickbernd, Tom Peatrowsky  
**SERVER:** Sun: Bo Oligmueller

**Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner**

**Weekend of May 28th**

**LEC:** Dave McGuire  
**EMHC:** Alan Harms  
**EMHC 2:** Martha Schweers  
**SERV:** Emma Schroetlin, Ghia Bramble, Hailey Grenier  
**OFF:** Bob Feller  
**USHER:** May Men's Group

**Stewardship of God's Gifts  
 Holy Cross—May 14th, 2023**

Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,180.00
Plate:	96.00
Children:	12.00
Tithe.ly Online:	100.00
HELP/Fuel:	100.00
Building Fund:	100.00
Ascension:	100.00
Total:	\$1,688.00

**MONEY COUNTERS**

**Sunday, May 21st —Team #1** Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore  
**Sunday, May 28th—Team #2** Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder

**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

**MAY MOWING GROUP—** CHAIR: Mike Gentrup  
 Members: Sam Steffensmeier, Scott Ortmeier, Ethan Ortmeier, Brian Gentrup, Jeff Robertson

**Stewardship of God's Gifts  
 St. Joseph—May 14th, 2023**

Sunday Envelopes:	\$485.00
Plate:	62.00
Children:	12.00
Tithe.ly Online:	481.39
Cemetery:	100.00

**Celebrations:**

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

**Birthdays**

Henry Robertson May 23  
 Deb Schlickbernd May 25

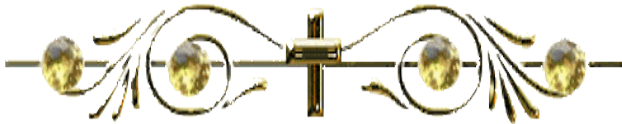
**Anniversaries**

Sam and Dana Steffensmeier May 27



**ST. JOSEPH PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION**

Voting takes place this weekend, and ballots are located in your pews. Adult parish members will vote for two men and two women to replace the four outgoing members. A second collection will be taken after communion to collect the ballots. Thank you for your valued participation.



**LADIES GUILD** will have a meeting on Tuesday, May 23, at 4:30 in the church basement. Topics discussed will be the Guild's Fall Fundraiser. Please join us and bring new ideas with you.

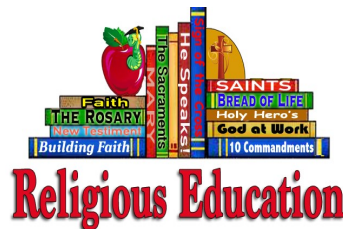


**HOWELLS PARISHES invite you to:**

**Save the Date:** June 5-6-7, at 7pm each evening, we will have a guest speaker, Deacon Patrick Simons, who will speak on the Eucharistic Revival. Last year, the US Bishops called for a 3-year revival of devotion and belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The Eucharistic Revival calls us to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ – particularly the transforming power and mercy of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. More info to come.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Mon through Fri				—	NO MASS
Sat	27	5:00 PM	HC		+ James V. Hetherington
Sun	28	8:30 AM	HC		Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of the Ray & Odelia Steffensmeier Family
Sun	28	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**

**TEACHERS NEEDED:**

Would you like to share your faith with the children of our parish? The Religious Education program is in need of 2 teachers for this fall semester starting in September. We would like to fill these 2 positions now. If interested, please contact Capri (402) 380-2925 or Sarah (402) 841-6144.

**ST. CROIX HOSPICE**

*There when you need us the most.*

ST. CROIX HOSPICE is looking for volunteers to serve our patients in the Wisner area! Please consider sharing your time and talents to provide emotional and practical support for our patients and their families. Whether it's an hour a week or an hour a month, we would love to have you!

St Croix Hospice Volunteers are provided training, support, and flexible scheduling.

For more information, please reach out to parish member, Kyla Miller, at 402-350-7916. Thank you!



**Prayer Chain info.....**St. Joseph prayer group is open to all men and women of the parish. The prayer request notifications come to you via text or phone call, and you are not asked to pass on the requests (like past prayer chains have required). You simply include the request in your regular prayers and there is no meeting involved.

If you or a loved one need extra prayers, please let us know. The information you give can be as general or specific as you'd like. All members of the prayer group are asked to keep the intentions confidential. To be added to the prayer group or to ask for special prayer requests, please notify Father Vincent or call or text Anne at 402-750-9616.