

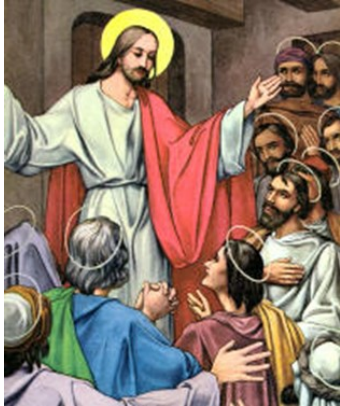
Saint Joseph's Parish
PO Box 623
1318 Ave G West
Wisner, NE 68791
Parish Office: 529-3891
www.stjosephwisner.org
Reconciliation: Saturdays before Mass
4:15-4:40 pm or by appointment

The 5th Sunday of Easter
May 7th 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: stjoe68791@gmail.com

The 5th Sunday of Easter – May 7th 2023



Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am going now to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too."

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7* and continues the description of the missionary preaching and missionary activity of Paul and Barnabas. For those who follow the reign of God as inaugurated in Christ, these apostles can promise nothing for sure but trials and hardships. And yet, the paradox of suffering and yet being joyful in the Holy Spirit is here expressed as it was in the ending of the readings from Acts last week.

The **Gospel** is from *St. John 14:1-12*. We may well wonder at the slowness of the Apostles in seeing in Christ nothing more than a man—a great man, a man with power from God, yes, but still a mere man. That He was the Messiah, they were convinced, but their idea of the Messiah was wrong. They thought He would free Israel from foreign domination (Lk. 24:21), and set up a new kingdom of God—a prosperous, earthly kingdom with God guaranteeing peace and plenty for all. If, therefore, He allowed His enemies to put Him to death, all their hopes would be dashed to the ground. Hence, the mention of His impending death at the Last Supper filled them with dismay and despair.

But we must not judge them too harshly. Christ had indeed often claimed to be God, but His words fell on deaf ears. It was only after His resurrection that they began to understand that He had spoken literally—it was only then they believed He was indeed the Son of God, in human nature.

For us today, the Incarnation is still a mystery, but it is not the "how" that should trouble us, we know that with God all things are possible. It is rather the "why" that should cause us amazement. Why should God go to that length for our sake—mere creatures, and sinful, ungrateful creatures at that? The infinite goodness and the infinite love of God are the answer, but still an answer which is mysterious to us. For we, with our limited capacity for love, can form no idea of infinite love.

God created us "in His own image and likeness" (a very limited likeness, granted) and intended, because of the spiritual faculties He gave us, which enable us to see and enjoy truth and beauty, to give us a share in His eternal life and glory. To do this, the Incarnation of the second Person of the Holy Trinity was God's plan. There must have been other ways of doing this, but God, we can be sure, chose the best way. Even with our limited intelligence, we ourselves can see what a perfect way this was for proving to us the infinite love, goodness and compassion of our Creator.

Sin entered the world of man, as God had foreseen, but notwithstanding this ingratitude on our part, God's Son came in our lowly, human nature and suffered, even though sinless, all the effects of men's sins. He suffered in our name, and because He was God, His sufferings in His human nature made infinite atonement for the sins of all mankind.

His Incarnation had made us His brothers and co-heirs to heaven. His death on the cross wiped out, and gave us the means of wiping out, our sins, so that we would be capable of possessing our inheritance.

Knowing the story of the Incarnation therefore, we know of the love and kindness of God toward us. We need not ask, with Philip, "show us the Father," we have seen Him in His riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! "How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable are His ways!" (Rom. 11:33).

"What return can I make to the Lord?" All the mortifications and good works of all the holy men and women that ever lived, or will live, would not be adequate a return to God for the miracle of love He has shown toward us. But He accepts the widow's mite, the little acts of love, the little proofs of gratitude, the willing acceptance of the crosses He sends us, to purify us. In one word, all He asks in return is that we try to live our Christian life day after day, ever thanking Him for the gift of Christ and the Christian faith.

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




From Fr. Vincent's Desk:
Memorial Day Mass

Memorial Day is coming quicker than I thought! This 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.

Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Both St. Joseph and Holy Cross parishes have an online giving option. The process is very simple. You may make a one time gift or sign up for something reoccurring and never have to remember your envelope again.

To sign up, visit your parish website and while at the home page, you will see a "Donate" button at the top right side. Click on it to create an account and set up how you would like to give to your parish. Brochures are available in the back of church. If you have any questions, call the parish office at 402-529-3891.




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.

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer
Weekend of May 13th & 14th
WORD: Doris Guenther, Marilyn Ortmeier
EMHC: Dawn Peatrowsky, Brenda Anderson
SERVER: Sun: Will Robertson

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—April 30th, 2023	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$375.00
Plate:	84.00
Tithe.ly Online:	100.00
Total:	\$559.00

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

 **class of 2023**
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES:
Gauge Bramble, Bo Oligmueller, Will Robertson, & Conner Robinson. We will honor them with coffee and rolls after Mass today. God Bless you in your future!



Celebrations:

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

Birthdays
Bev Francis May 8
Stella Guenther May 9

Anniversaries
Joe and Robin Hansen May 12

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon through Fri			—	NO MASS
Sat	13	5:00 PM	HC	+ Wayne Meier
Sun	14	8:30 AM	HC	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	14	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Leo & MaryAnn McGuire
SJ—St. Joseph's			HC—Holy Cross	
WCC—Wisner Care Center			CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer	

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!



Religious Education

ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6

Grades K-6: The afternoon started with an ice cream sundae party since the students reached the goal for the Rice Bowls. Prayer and attendance awards were given to the students. It was a fantastic year and the kids were great. Thank you to all the teachers, aides, and other volunteers that helped us throughout the year. Have a great Summer. Classes will resume in September. Pentecost Birthday Party is on May 31st from 8:00-2:00 so please sign up your child to attend.

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner
Weekend of May 14th
LEC: Joyce Stalp
EMHC: Kathy Johnson
EMHC 2: Capri McGuire
SERV: Leighton Porter, Maddisyn Lampman
OFF: Jeff Phillips
USHER: May Men's Group

MONEY COUNTERS
Sunday, May 7th —Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder
Sunday, May 14th—Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer

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

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—April 30th, 2023	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$720.00
Plate:	67.00
Children:	15.10
Tithe.ly Online:	293.34

ST. JOSEPH PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION... will take place weekend, May 20th & 21th. Nominees for this year are: Arvid Hass, Doug Oertwich, Chris Ruskamp, Norm Weber, Brenda Liermann, Janell Loberg, Annie McManigal, and Kyla Miller. On election day, parish members will choose two men and two women to replace outgoing members.

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.

4th Grade Service Project
A big thank you to everyone who donated items or cash to the Kids-in-Crisis bags. for "The Bridge. They met up with a representative at the fairgrounds in West Point to deliver bags filled with personal items. They spent a little time at the park, and had ice cream.



St. Joseph Pentecost Party

Wednesday, May 31st
8:00-2:00
Grades K-6

*Food, Fun, Fellowship, Games, Crafts, and more
For growing in Faith and Community.*

**RSVP to Capri 402-380-2925 or Sarah 402-841-6144
By May 10th, 2023
to ensure we have adequate supplies**

Grow in Faith & Community!!



