

Saint Joseph's Parish
PO Box 623
1318 Ave G West
Wisner, NE 68791
Parish Office: 529-3891
www.stjosephwisner.org
Reconciliation: Sundays after Mass
or by appointment

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 16th 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 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time



The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah 55:10-11*. The word of God which came to the Chosen People through the prophets, and the divinely inspired writers, came out of God's loving interest in His people. He wanted to prepare them for the inheritance, the real "promised land," that, when the messianic age (the "fullness of time") came, would be theirs, provided their lives on earth were lived as they should be.

The **Gospel** is from *St. Matthew 13:1-23*. Christ's description of His audience, that day in Galilee, is unfortunately as true today as it was then. His message of salvation has been preached to a great part of the world's population, but the proportion of those who accept it and live up to it, is about the same today as it was then. There are millions of men and women today, in what was once Christian Europe, who are like the seed sown on the unplowed path. They refuse to accept the message, they have no thought for their future, they are content to end in the grave after their few years of misery and hardship on this planet.

There are others who see the truth and the consolation of the Christian gospel, but when it comes to making sacrifices for it, they give up. The message did not sink into their hearts and minds. They are like the seed which fell on rocky ground because the faith had no deep roots in their lives. Others again, and they are legion, are like the seed that fell among the briars and thorns. They accepted the faith and it took root in them, but later on, "the cares of the world and the delight in riches chokes the word and it proves unfruitful,"—these are our Lord's own words.

The last class of Christians are like the seed sown on good soil. They not only accept Christ and his teaching, but they live up to it, and, come what may, they are faithful to it. These will produce fruit and will earn for themselves eternal happiness.

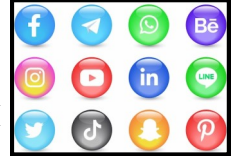
Each one of us can look into his own conscience today and discover to which class he or she belongs. Are some of us perhaps like the seed that fell on the rocky ground? While Christianity makes no very difficult demand, we are all for it, but when it demands mortification, the curbing of passion, real sacrifices for our neighbor, do we forget our Christian calling then and ignore its precepts? And how does our type of Christianity stand up to the temptations of the world—the desire to get all the enjoyment we can out of this life, licit or illicit, breaking God's commandments weekly or maybe daily? Are we chasing after wealth and power, using all our energies to rise in the world to be above our neighbor by fair or foul means? If the above are our aims in life, our Christianity has been or is being choked out of us.

There are millions of saints in heaven today, enjoying eternal happiness, who have had some, if not all, of our present failings. We, too, can be with them one day, provided we do what they do. They repented sincerely and remained God's close friends, until he called them to himself. May the merciful God give us the grace to imitate them while we yet have time.

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



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:
Social Media Today: Powerful and Popular Means of Communication



Sometime back in the 1990s, I heard for the first time this word called "Globalization" where the world would become like a village. It never made any sense to me then, since I was seeing it like it would take many years to happen as we were still struggling to communicate within our region and country. I remember saying to someone that it will not happen in our lifetime. But then the experts who promoted that term knew how fast technology was moving and to them it was so imminent. Indeed, it is here with us today.

Currently, "Threads" has come up as a strong competitor of "Twitter" and it is gaining ground every second. As a church, we are also trying to use social media even though at a snail's speed. Personally, I'm slow to change to new social media. Sometimes we are disadvantaged because we remain with old types like Facebook, whereas much of our congregation that we really need to target have moved to new and modern social media.

If you are gifted, kindly take advantage to promote your faith and our faith. As you post or share different things with your audience, remember always to use something spiritual even in a small way. For instance, quoting a certain Saint that is relevant to what you are putting across means a lot. Or even using words such as: "we are blessed in many ways...., God is so excited too with our new social media invention...." Or any Godly humor... and many others. We can use a little religious expression without being religious.

We are grateful that since a few months ago, we have been live streaming our Sunday Mass through the parish Facebook of St. Joseph Church in Wisner. We hope that we are serving those that can't attend Mass physically. If you are out of town over a weekend, remain connected to your parish through that. Please, visit the page and "like us".

When you open any social media, think about how many ads we come across. Those who are using social media to pass information are succeeding because they are moving where many people are. I welcome anyone one in our parish who can use some of these media for the good of our parishes and faithful. It is the modern trend, and we can't afford to miss out. I always prefer to start small and think globally but act locally. I'm sure many of you have heard about the young Italian Blessed Carlo Acutis, who as a teen, used his gifts of technology to promote the devotion to the Eucharist. He made powerful Power Point slides about the Eucharistic miracles that have happened all over the world and are moving around in the Church today. Carlo was born in 1991 and died of leukemia in 2006. He was exhumed and reburied in 2019 and the process of his canonization began. We are also trying to see if we can get these Eucharistic miracle panels here sometime.

Let us not be left behind but use these media too for the glory of God.



Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer

Weekend of July 23rd

WORD: Doris Guenther
EMHC: Brenda Anderson
SERVER: Ben Oligmueller

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner

Weekend of July 23rd

LEC: Sally Harms
EMHC: Martha Schweers
EMHC 2: Janet Ludwig
SERV: Jesa Montgomery, Hailey Grenier, Annamae Bloedorn
OFF: Tim Montgomery
USHER: July Men's Group

**Stewardship of God's Gifts
 Holy Cross—July 9th, 2023**

Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,010.00
Plate:	135.00
Children:	12.00
Tithe.ly Online:	100.00
Total:	\$1,257.00

MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, July 16th—Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer
Sunday, July 23rd —Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore

MEN'S WORK GROUP—July 2023

Chair: Alan Feller
Co-Chair: Blake Albers
Members: Derreck Marx, Dave Deitloff, Jeremy Schultz, Mike Stuhr, Norm Weber, Devon Schultz, Bowdy Bird

JULY MOWING GROUP— CHAIR: Doug Steffensmeier
 Members: Chris Black, Roy Liermann, Keith Anderson, Ron Stieren, Paul Schlickbernd

**Holy Cross
 Picnic in the Park**



Wednesday, July 19th
 6:00 P.M.
 At the Park
 (across from Colonial Haven)

Please bring a main and side dish or dessert.
 Water and tableware will be provided.
 BYOB if you would like other beverages.



In case of inclement weather—the picnic will be held in the Church basement

Splash pad and playground for the kids!
YARD GAMES & FUN!
Bring your lawn chair to relax.

**Stewardship of God's Gifts
 St. Joseph—July 9th, 2023**

Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,145.00
Plate:	125.00
Children:	15.00
Tithe.ly Online:	309.27
Insurance:	230.00

Religious Education

CO-DRE AND TEACHERS NEEDED:

Would you like to share your faith with the children of our parish? The Religious Education program is in need of a Co-DRE to share in coordinating our Rel Ed program. This is a part time paid position. We are also looking for volunteer teachers for grades 1st and 6th this fall semester, starting in September. We would like to fill these 3 positions as soon as possible. If interested, please contact Capri (402) 380-2925 or Sarah (402) 841-6144.

Celebrations:

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

Birthdays

Brian Gentrup July 16
 Jean Meier July 22

Anniversaries

Jeff and Trisha Robertson July 20
 Austin and Skyler Peatrowsky July 20
 Ron and Doris Guenther July 21

ST. WENCESLAUS LOTTER SUPPER: Friday, July 28th-Dodge Vets Club. Chicken Fried Steak Meal. Social Hour 6pm & meal served at 7pm. Carryouts available from 5:30pm-6:30pm only. \$125 per ticket (two meals per ticket). Grand Prize \$999. Other prizes – one \$500 – one \$250 – three \$100 – twenty \$50 – twenty-five \$25 & all others \$10. All sales end Thursday, July 27, 2023. Tickets available to purchase at – Stitches & Petals, Nebraska Bank, Dodge Insurance, Dodge Dental Office & St Wenceslaus Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS

Day	Date	Time	Location	Intention
Mon	17	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	18	9:30 AM	WCC	Care Center Residents
Wed	19	8:00 AM	HC	+ Natacia Gentrup
Thu	20	8:00 AM	SJ	+Gerald Ruskamp
Fri	21	9:30 AM	CHB	+ Russell Gentrup
Sat	22	—	—	NO MASS
Sun	23	8:30 AM	HC	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	23	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Mary Ann McGuire

SJ—St. Joseph's HC—Holy Cross
 WCC—Wisner Care Center CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer

The New Weekend Mass Schedule:

Weekend Mass	Sat.	Sun.
St. Boniface/St. Anthony (Until July of 2024)	4:30 pm	
Sts. Peter and Paul-Howells	5:00 pm	
St. Mary's-West Point	6:00 pm	
St. Aloysius-Aloys		7:30 am
Holy Cross-Beemer		8:30 am
St. Wenceslaus-Dodge		9:00 am
St. Joseph-Wisner		10:00 am
St. Mary's-West Point		10:00 am
St. John Nep.-Howells		10:30 am

