

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

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 13th, 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: stj068791@gmail.com

The 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Gospel is from *St. Matthew 14:22-33*. Our Lord sent His disciples to row across the lake, knowing that they would meet strong, gale-force head-winds and be in danger. He did this because He wanted to strengthen their faith and trust in Himself. He intended to come to them at the right moment, working two miracles — walking on the water and calming the storm. This He did and the

result was as He had intended — their faith in Him was strengthened, they declared He was the Messiah, the Chosen of God. Peter, already the recognized leader, and always the most daring among them, showed himself ready to risk drowning in order to prove his trust and confidence in Christ. While he trusted in Christ, all went well, but when his faith weakened, he would have been lost were it not for the outstretched helping hand of his master. This was also a very necessary lesson in the education of Peter and his companions.

For us, too, there is a necessary lesson in this incident. It is that we must continue to trust in Christ and his loving Father, even when God seems to have deserted us. Most of the troubles and trials of our lives are caused by the injustice and lack of charity of our fellowmen. The remainder can be attributed to our own defects and sins or to some weakness in our mental and bodily make-up. But God foresees all these misfortunes, and can prevent them. Instead, he lets them take their course, because they can and should be the means of educating us in our knowledge of life's true meaning and they should draw us closer to him.

Our trials and our earthly ailments are also foreseen by God and permitted by him (even if inflicted on us by a sinful fellowman) so that they will draw us closer to Him and help us on the road to heaven.

As in the first reading today, God may not be in the tornadoes or earthquakes or roaring fires, nor does He cause them perhaps, but He is ever near to His true children when such calamities occur. He has a purpose in every trial or tribulation which crosses the path of our lives, a purpose always to our eternal advantage if only we will see and accept his will in these trials.

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



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:
Encouraging Good News in the
West Point Family of Parishes

It is now one month since we began the new Mass schedule. For me it has been an exciting moment and at the same time an opportunity to move out of my comfort zone and reach out to others and meet new parishioners in our parish as well as in other parishes. I know to some of you, it is still hard maybe because your favorite Saturday or Sunday Mass time was taken away. I hope you understand what led us to make these changes and I trust that with time, you will be able to adjust. Change is never easy even for me. I'm still trying to adjust to the new schedule. I miss our Saturday congregation too in Beemer and Wisner where I didn't need to drive far. Now I have to make some good drives on every Saturday.

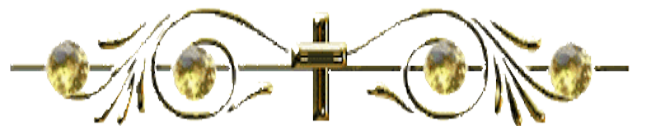
But these changes have come with some joy too. One thing that I have noticed for the last four weekends is that most of our Masses are well attended now. I have experienced that at Holy Cross, Beemer, during the Sunday Mass, St. Boniface, Monterey, St. Anthony in St. Charles as well as at St. Mary's Church in West Point. I'm aware it is because each parish lost a Mass and its congregation has to spread out to other Masses, but all in all, it is good to see our parishioners full in the church. It is even more motivating not only to me but all of us get excited to see that. I may not know our new parishioners from our neighboring family parishes but I ask our parishioners of Holy Cross and Wisner to reach out to anyone new and make them feel welcome. Talk to them and to make them comfortable.

Previously, we had many Masses that were unnecessary in some of our parishes. The congregation was always just a small fraction. Like our West Point priests had to do 4 Masses each on the weekends. That is a lot. To be productive, and effective, each priest is supposed to say a maximum of 3 Masses per weekend. Anything beyond that, has some negative ramifications in many ways. One of the main reasons for these changes was to have our people get together and have a balanced number of Masses for us priests.

We will keep our Family Mass schedule the way it is for some time. We will also keep the rotation of priests on the 4th weekend and the 5th weekend if there is one. But more changes will be done sooner or later especially on the parish administration and the running of schools. Then from what I learned from our recent meeting with the archbishop, is that before the end of the year, the Family Pastoral Planning Team (FPPT) coordinators from the Archdiocese will visit us to hear some feedback from us priests and a few parish leaders about the new arrangement.



West Point Parish Family 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



Welcome to St. Josephs Church
and Holy Cross Parish

We welcome all our guests and new members to our parishes. There are many opportunities for experiencing the peace and joy of our loving God in liturgy, groups, committees and volunteer service to the church. If you would like to join our parish family, contact the parish office or send an email to:
 For St. Joseph—stjo68791@gmail.com
 For Holy Cross—renaecarlson@hotmail.com

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer

Weekend of August 20th

WORD: Tom Peatrowsky
EMHC: Mary Mostek
SERVER: Vanessa & Preston Praest

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner

Weekend of August 20th

LEC: Gayle Lampman
EMHC: Anne Ausdemore
EMHC 2: Capri McGuire
SERV: Jace Hansen, Abraham Millan Jr.
 Aubrianna Good
OFF: Dane Miller
USHER: August Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—Aug. 6th, 2023	
Sunday Envelopes:	315.00
Plate:	117.00
Children:	26.00
HELP/Fuel:	15.00
Tithe.ly Online:	100.00
Total:	\$573.00

MONEY COUNTERS
Sunday, August 13th—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore
Sunday, August 20th —Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder

MEN'S WORK GROUP—August 2023

Chair: Arvid Hass
Co-Chair: Matt McGuire
Members: Brook Andersen, Tim McGuire, LaVern Houghton, Mitch Schweers, Steve McGuire, Jack Godbersen

AUGUST MOWING GROUP— CHAIR: Alan Batenhorst
 Members: Gary Batenhorst, Heath Harrison, Tom Peatrowsky, Ron Francis, Gerald Schlickbernd

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—Aug. 6th, 2023	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$4,630.00
Plate:	116.00
Children:	38.00
Tithe.ly Online:	170.81
Heating/AC:	240.00
Mission Coop:	20.00



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

Birthdays
 Mary Kate Guenther August 14
 Gary Batenhorst August 15
 Gabrielle Borgmann August 15
 Jaxon Knoell August 18

Anniversaries
 Keith and Brenda Anderson August 13
 Dennis and Mary Mostek August 13



This year the Ladies Guild will be hosting a **Harvest Picnic** in place of the Fall Dinner. Please join us September 17, 2023 from 11AM-1PM. Lunch will be available for dine in or carry out. We will have more details on food being served later. We will be selling Mums this year. Sign up sheets for food, committees, and mums are in the back of the church along with an envelope for flower payments. The mums are \$20 each, and you will have the choice of purple, red, yellow and orange on the day of the Harvest Picnic. Please contact Lori Ruskamp @ 640-7209 or Lindsey Burki @ 340-5017 with any questions.

Assumption Day Mass Schedule

Tuesday, August 15th

8:30 am at Holy Cross Parish—Beemer
 5:30 pm at St. Joseph Church—Wisner

LINDSAY HOLY FAMILY PARISH ANNUAL BAZAAR
Sunday, August 20th—Serving 4:00pm—7:00pm
 Roast Beef & Sausage with all the trimmings including their famous dressing.
 Inflatable Toys and Carnival Games starting at 3:00pm
See flyer in the back of church for more details.

Religious Education

—August 20th-27th—Open Registration for all students grades K-12. Forms in the church basement.
 —Sept. 10th—Opening Mass, Sunday, at 10:00 am
 —Sept. 13th—First day of class for all grades K-12
 —Still need volunteers to help with various aspects of the program.

Questions, please contact Capri (402) 380-2925 or Sarah (402) 841-6144.

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	14	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	15	8:30 AM	HC	Assumption Day + Alvin Dinslage
Tue	15	5:30 PM	SJ	Assumption Day +Lori Hollman Ruskamp
Wed	16	9:30 AM	WCC	Mass at WCC not at HC Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Thu	17	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Gerald Ruskamp
Fri	18	9:30 AM	CHB	+ Charles F. Hetherington
Sat	19	—	—	NO MASS
Sun	20	8:30 AM	HC	+ Norbert Ruskamp
Sun	20	10:00 AM	SJ	Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of Ron & Mary Ann Wemhoff
SJ—St. Joseph's		HC—Holy Cross		
WCC—Wisner Care Center		CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer		

A Prayer for Back to School

God of wisdom and might,
 we praise you for the wonder of our being,
 for mind, body, and spirit.
 Be with us as we begin a new school year.
 Bless us and the teachers and staff at our school.
 Give strength and grace to our growing bodies,
 wisdom and knowledge to our minds
 as we search for understanding,
 and peace and zeal to our hearts.
 We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
 Amen.

