

**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

**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**August 20th, 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 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**



The Gospel is from *St. Matthew 15:21-28*. Many people have told me in the past that they struggle with today's Gospel response of Jesus to the foreign woman who needed some help for her daughter who was ill. Many take it to be an insult for Jesus to have used an analogy of giving children's food to dogs in reference to the woman who was not a Jew. In the first

glance of the readings, the above can be the assumption. I agree. But looking at the deeper, meaning of the passage, Christ wanted to use this foreign woman's faith and persistence to teach us about prayer and persistence. It is a narrow interpretation to capitalize on the issue of the dog. You miss the point. Let us look at the entire passage in totality and what message Jesus wanted to put across. Sometimes in life, we are distracted by a small negative thing and go with it and miss the larger portion of positivity.

There is a lesson, a very necessary one, for all of us in this episode of Christ's public life. It is the necessity of perseverance in our prayers of petition. Prayer is an essential part of our Christian life, and the essential part of prayer is that of adoration and thanksgiving, but prayer of petition has a big part in our daily prayers. We have so many spiritual and temporal needs, needs which we cannot provide by ourselves. Christ himself has told us to ask Him for these needs: "ask and you shall receive."

As Christians we know that our particular request may not always be for our good, or for the final good of the person for whom we are praying. In that case, the good God will not grant what would be to our eternal disadvantage. But if our prayer is sincere and persevering, we shall always get an answer, and one which is better than what we asked for.



**From Fr. Vincent's Desk:**  
**The 2023-2024 Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Program**

It is now time to register new candidates for this year. Help us to pass this announcement to anyone interested in taking the program. Our classes will begin in September. Who should join the RCIA program?

Any adult who has never been baptized, any adult who was only baptized as a catholic while young and never had an opportunity to go through catechism and receive First Holy Communion as well as Confirmation, or anyone baptized as a Christian and would like to be welcomed into the Catholic faith. You may reach out to me at 402-529-3531, or my cell 402-657-7093, or email me at [vsunguti2018@gmail.com](mailto:vsunguti2018@gmail.com).

**A Life Changing Experience**  
**Trip to Indianapolis in 2024**



NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic Revival**

My first experience of Eucharistic Congress was when I was 14 years old as a Parish youth. We did travel as youth to the Diocesan city stadium for the three day Eucharistic Congress Conference. It was a life changing experience that has stayed with me ever since. I remember all in gratitude to my faith especially in Eucharist.

*What is a Eucharistic Congress?*

Eucharistic Congress is a powerful manifestation of the unity of the Church where a large number of Catholics gather to worship our Lord in Eucharist through the communal celebration of Mass. This gathering reaffirms and re-emphasize the source and summit of our faith in the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

The United States has not done a National Eucharistic Congress since WWII. If you can join this one-time congress, it will be an historical event in your life. The congress will be centered on experience of prayer among many other activities that are lined up.

*Where will it be held:* At Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, IN

*When:* July 17 – 21, 2024

*With:* 80,000 Joyful Catholics from the entire nation.

*Registration:* Open to anyone. If you are interested, send me an email: [vsunguti2018@gmail.com](mailto:vsunguti2018@gmail.com). Our plan and hope is to go as a family of parishes of West Point. Our means of transportation will be by bus, and hopefully that we can get more people to register. The more we are, the cheaper the transportation cost. Once we have a few interested people, we will get the cost quotation of the entire trip and more information.

Talk to your friends. Start a movement. Let us make this a pilgrimage of our parishes to celebrate our love of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.



**TITHE.LY**

**Reminder: Make use of Online Giving**

Just a reminder that our parishes have an online giving option and you can set it up by visiting your parish website and click on the donate button. We use "Tithe.ly" as our carrier. Consider using this system since it provides many benefits to our parish and makes giving easier and more convenient for you as an individual parishioner. For more information on online giving, please take a brochure that can be found on the vestibule announcement tables.

<b>West Point Parish Family Weekend Mass Schedule:</b>		
<b>Weekend Mass</b>	<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Sun.</b>
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

*believe*

**Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer**  
**Weekend of August 27th**

**WORD:** Doris Guenther  
**EMHC:** Dawn Peatrowsky  
**SERVER:** Kris & Kim Pena

**Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner**  
**Weekend of August 27th**

**LEC:** Alan Harms  
**EMHC:** Tammie Batenhorst  
**EMHC 2:** Shane Batenhorst  
**SERV:** Chloe Schroetlin, Sydney Porter,  
 Averi Buhrman  
**OFF:** Keith Schroetlin  
**USHER:** August Men's Group


<b>Stewardship of God's Gifts</b>	
<b>Holy Cross—Aug. 13th, 2023</b>	
Sunday Envelopes:	635.00
Plate:	85.00
Children:	26.00
Assumption:	100.00
Building Fund:	200.00
Tithe.ly Online:	100.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,146.00</b>

**MONEY COUNTERS**  
**Sunday, August 20th —Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder**  
**Sunday, August 27th—Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer**

**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

<b>Stewardship of God's Gifts</b>	
<b>St. Joseph—Aug. 13th, 2023</b>	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$650.00
Plate:	209.00
Children:	32.00
Tithe.ly Online:	481.39
Heating/AC:	10.00




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

**Birthdays**  
 Jeff Robertson August 23  
 Linda Robinson August 26

**Anniversaries**  
 Tim and Tracy Oligmueller August 17  
 Mel and Sue Niewohner August 20  
 Shane and Brooke Combs August 26

**LINDSAY HOLY FAMILY PARISH ANNUAL BAZAAR TODAY!!**, 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.**

**Harvest Picnic:**  

**September 17, 2023 from 11AM- 1PM.**  
 This year the Ladies Guild will be hosting a **Harvest Picnic** in place of the Fall Dinner. If there are parishioners willing to donate fresh produce to the Country Market on that day, please contact either Lori Ruskamp at 640-7209 or Lindsey Burki at 340-5017 with any questions.

<b>MASS INTENTIONS</b>				
Mon	21	—	—	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tue	22	9:30 AM	WCC	Care Center Residents
Wed	23	8:00 AM	HC	Lvng & Dec'd Members of the Ray & Odelia Steffensmeier Family
Thu	24	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Herb Albers
Fri	25	9:30 AM	CHB	+ Eugene Mestl
Sat	26	—	—	<b>NO MASS</b>
Sun	27	8:30 AM	HC	+ Georgia Batenhorst
Sun	27	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		

**CHURCH DIRECTORIES:** The directories are in and will be available for pick up in the back of church after Mass on Aug. 20th and 27th. After that they will be at the parish office for pick up. Directories are free to those that had pictures taken or submitted a photo. For anyone else that would like a copy, the cost is \$10.00.

## 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.

**TEACHERS MEETING**  
 Wednesday, September 6th, at 5:00 pm  
 In the church basement

<b>Saint Joseph Parish Council Members 2023-2024</b>	
Trevor Cyboron—Pres.	Arvid Hass
Carmen Godbersen	Brenda Liermann
Matt McGuire	Kyla Miller
Holly Schroeder	Chris Ruskamp
For contact information, please see the parish directory	

<b>Holy Cross Parish Council Members 2023-2024</b>	
Mike Guenther—Pres.	Trisha Robertson—Sec.
Mike Gentrup	Karen Spenner
Robert Praest	Michelle Borgmann
For contact information, please see the parish directory	

**ST. CROIX HOSPICE** is looking for volunteers to serve our patients in the Wisner area!  
*There when you need us the most.* 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!