

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 3rd, 2023

Administrator: Rev. Vincent Sunguti
402-529-3531
Email: vsunguti2018@gmail.com

Holy Cross Parish
PO Box 212
517 N Fraasier
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 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



The **Gospel** is from *Matthew 16:21-27*. From all eternity this was God's plan for mankind. But because sin had entered into the world before the Incarnation took place, the Son of God in his human nature had to suffer the violent death of the cross at the hands of sinners. In this very suffering he became the Lamb of God who took away the sins of the world.

This daily carrying of our Christian cross can be, and is for many, a prolonged martyrdom. Poverty, ill-health, cruelty and hardheartedness met with in the home and in one's neighbors, are heavy crosses which only a truly Christian shoulder can bear. But, if we were offered health, happiness, peace, wealth and power for the next fifty or seventy years on this earth, in exchange for an eternal heaven after death, what rational one among us would accept that offer?

Christians know that this life is a period of training, which makes us ready hereafter to receive the eternal reward which Christ has won for us. Every trainee knows that one must endure certain hardships and sufferings in order to merit graduation into one's chosen profession or trade. On our Christian graduation day, we shall, please God, hear the welcome words: "Well done good and faithful servant; because you have been faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater, come and join in your Master's happiness" (Mt. 25: 21). May God grant that every one of us will hear these words of welcome.

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



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:
Just for Today: Forgiving is a Struggle but Liberates

Jesus at one time said that unless we become like little children, we will not enter the kingdom of heaven. We learn a lot from children in terms of practicing the virtue of forgiveness. At one point in life, you and me like those kids, we fought (whichever way) among ourselves, forgave each other, forgot about it and played together again. What happened in between as we grew into adulthood? I don't have all the answers as to why we struggle to forgive but let's seek the solution together by looking at our personalities. We know our lives better than anyone else. No one will ever change your personality but you can start working on a few things that define who you are to become a better person. I think certain traits in our personalities are from our genes, others we acquire from our families depending how we were brought up and we acquire others from our social environment. All these factors affect how each one approaches forgiveness.

Some of us are quick to say 'I'm sorry' to make peace. They don't care whether they are the ones responsible or not but if it will bring peace, let it be. For them, their goal is to create a peaceful environment and it doesn't matter who wins or loses. They are peacemakers. To others, saying sorry is so difficult. Perhaps is because they were told to say sorry is to admit weakness. You must be powerful and win all the time. May be their social environment also taught them that the best way to succeed in life is to be strong and flex your muscle as a winner. These are things



within our sub conscience and they come out quietly through our personalities. Once someone offends you, that first reaction without much thinking and reflection is what comes from the sub- conscience. It is who we are. Our anger, frustrations, sadness, revenge feelings, disappointments, or even embarrassment especially if in public, all are expressed internally and immediately after the action. Then later on, our present conscience with our knowledge and faith comes in to console that sub -conscience child in us who is mad about the offense. Many of us are able to handle this so well but some of us take long to calm our inner child.

I will offer suggestions: acknowledge first your anger. Do not present that all is well when it's not. Secondly, take time to reflect about the issue and weigh all the options. Is it worth talking about or it is something to ignore and move on with life. Then bring it to prayer and invite God to come in. In your prayer, tell God why you are angry. Then listen to God through some reflection. You can then choose to finish it with a prayer or share it with someone you trust like a close friend, spiritual director or even in confession. Just remember if you bring it into the forum of confession, there is not much discussion on both sides. This forum just doesn't allow that. Rather, go to confession as the last thing after all other consultation avenues. It is a healing sacrament to set you free again. Some people like to talk to themselves through journaling. In the journal, it is good to state what happened, how you felt about it (be honest to yourself) and write where you desire to be and how you will get there.

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 any Nation Eucharistic congress since WWII. If you can join this one-time congress, it will be a 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: 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. Our plan and hope are to go as a family of parishes of West Point. Our means of transportation will be by a Bus hopefully that we can get more people to register. The more we are, the cheaper the transportation cost. Once we have few interested people, we will get the cost quotation of the entire trip and more information soon.

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

From Fr. Vincent's Desk continued on back page.....

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer
Weekend of September 10th

WORD: Renae Carlson
EMHC: Ann Bausch
SERVER: Vanessa & Preston Praest

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner
Weekend of September 10th

LEC: Youth
EMHC: Anne Ausdemore
EMHC 2: Richard Schultz
SERV: Youth
OFF: Youth
USHER: Youth

Stewardship of God's Gifts Holy Cross—Aug. 27th, 2023	
Sunday Envelopes:	1,265.00
Plate:	73.00
Children:	30.00
Assumption:	30.00
Tithe.ly Online:	150.00
Building:	10.00
Insurance:	20.00
GA/CC:	30.00
Total:	\$1,608.00

MONEY COUNTERS
Sunday, September 3rd —Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore
Sunday, September 10th—Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder


MEN'S WORK GROUP—September 2023
Chair: Rick Jacobs
Co-Chair: Chet Beckmann
Members: Randy Jensen, Dave McGuire, Tom Feller, Ryan Schulz, Jordan Feller, Tim Montgomery

SEPTEMBER MOWING GROUP— CHAIR: Brad Schulz
Members: Mike Guenther, Melvin Niewohner, Joe Hansen, Alex Schulz, Tom Peterson

HOLY CORSS BIBLE STUDY will be held Wednesday Sept. 6, 2023 at 5:00p.m. at the church rectory. Everyone is welcome to study the gospel for the coming Sunday.

Stewardship of God's Gifts St. Joseph—Aug. 27th, 2023	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$285.00
Plate:	53.00
Children:	37.00
Tithe.ly Online:	293.34

ST. JOSEPH PARISH COUNCIL meeting will be held Thursday, September 14th, at 7:00 pm in the church basement.



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

Birthdays
 Bee Seeman September 10
 Pia Fernandez September 14

Anniversaries
 Curtis and Renae Carlson September 6
 Ben and Michelle Borgmann September 10
 Ken and Joyce Schlickbernd September 16

RELIGIOUS ED OPENING MASS
September 10th at 10:00 am

A welcoming for families and blessings for a year filled with wisdom, guidance and knowledge.

Students, Parents, and Teachers required to attend.

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	04	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	05	9:30 AM	WCC	Care Center Residents
Wed	06	8:00 AM	HC	Friends and Family of Duane Neesen
Thu	07	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Keith Schroeder
Fri	08	9:30 AM	CHB	+ Barb Albers
Sat	09	—	—	NO MASS
Sun	10	8:30 AM	HC	Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of the Henry & Eleanor Spenner Fam.
Sun	10	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

—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.

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

From Fr. Vincent's Desk Continued:

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 vsun-guti2018@gmail.com.

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.

THE WOMEN OF ST. JOSEPH AND HOLY CROSS PARISHES are invited to the Christ Lutheran Church Women's Guest Night, Monday evening, September 18. The meal will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by a Humanities Nebraska program--a musical living history presentation of a family's journey from Russia to Nebraska in the 1870s. Using the Nebraska State Seal and Flag as a backdrop, Paul Siebert will tell the story using original and period music, accompanied by different acoustic instruments, including the hammer dulcimer, guitar, banjo, and button accordion. If you are able to attend, please RSVP by September 15th, to LaRayne Topp at (402) 529-6310 or email at topplarayne@gmail.com

