

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

**28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 15th, 2023**

Administrator: Rev. Vincent Sunguti
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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 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Isaiah 25:6-10a*. In today's reading Isaiah describes under the image of a great banquet, the blessings, the contentment and happiness that the messianic kingdom will bring.

The **Gospel** is taken from *Matthew 22:1-14*. How foolish the Pharisees were in not listening to our Lord's warnings.

He gave them every opportunity to turn away from the false path which their pride had chosen for them. His divine heart was ever ready to embrace them if only they would say "mea culpa." "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets, and stone them that are sent to you, how often would I have gathered together your children, as the hen does her chickens under her wings, and you would not" (Mt. 23:37)? "God created us without our cooperation," says St. Augustine. "But he cannot save us unless we cooperate."

We too could make the Pharisees' mistake. We have the invitation to the wedding feast; in fact, we are already in the banquet hall, since our baptism; but are we wearing the wedding garment of virtue and grace? If not, we are no better off than those who rejected the invitation. The king may come in at any moment and cast out those who are not properly dressed. Being a member of the Church on earth is a wonderful privilege, and a sure guarantee that we will reach heaven, if we do what is expected of us. But the same obstacles which prevented the Pharisees from entering the kingdom—love of this world, its wealth and its pleasures—can impede us too, unless we are on our guard. The world with its allurements is very close to us; heaven seems very far away. Thus, we must be prepared to do violence to our ordinary inclinations, to go against them whenever and wherever "the things that are Caesar's" tend to blot out or make us forget "the things that are God's."

This implies a daily carrying of the cross, a daily struggle against our evil inclinations, a daily endeavor to acquire true love of God and neighbor. This may sound superhuman, but Christ did not ask anyone to do the impossible. He led the way, and millions have followed him to eternal glory. He has called us too and has placed within our easy reach in his Church all the grace we need. If we fail to use these divine helps, if we are found without the wedding garment, we will have no one to blame but ourselves. We have been called with the many. We can be among the "chosen."

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



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:

**Announcement reminder for CCD Parents:
Family of Faith Formation 2nd session**

Towards the end of August, I sent you a letter about the above. Then last month, I met with few of you and it was successful. Thank you to the parents who attended. Our next session will be on October 25th at 7 pm, in the church here at St. Joseph. We usually spend one hour with different activities including learning a new prayer and a new saint of the month, "Lectio Divina" and watching a faith-based video followed by discussions.



Announcement on Infant Baptism in the Parish & Baptism Sponsorship in Other Parishes

This was an announcement of last week, but due to those who may have not read it, I'm publishing it once again. In true and proper sense, a Catholic is a person who is baptized in catholic faith. If one is not baptized and still comes to Church regularly and attends Mass, we consider such a person as desiring to be baptized.

Infant baptism is administered to the children and babies from the age of 7 and below. Anyone as from the 8th year of birth, has to go through the Catechism session before entering the church by baptism. Baptism can be done to anyone who desires to become Catholic. However, to create some sense of order and responsibility, each parish has some guidelines on this. For our two parishes of Wisner and Beemer, we have very few baptisms per year but then I can also administer baptism to the parish members or family members who grew up here and moved elsewhere and requests to be baptized in their home town church. Parish membership means one is registered in the parish and is active in the faith and fully participating in our parish as well as offering support. The hard truth is, if one does not meet those simple requirements, he or she needs to have conversation with me before even asking of baptism.

With regard to being a godparent in another parish and you need a letter from me, ensure that you are active in the parish. If you bring me a form to sign and I don't see you on Sundays or in any parish activity, all I can say is that I will be honest in filling out your form. If you are reading this, help me to pass out this important information.

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

PADRE'S PONDERINGS

SPIRITUAL INSIGHT— *[The Kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding feast.] Why would people ignore an invitation to an incredible feast? Why would some react with violence to the bearers of such a pleasant invitation? Why feel annoyed and threatened by this extraordinarily generous king? Their behavior exemplifies the irrationality of sin, a false understanding of freedom, and the refusal to let ourselves be loved and feted by our Creator and Redeemer. Nonetheless, God will never cease preparing and providing this rich feast of his Son. For true happiness comes when we realize, with Saint Paul, that "There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength" (Magnificat, October 2023). Will you accept the invitation?*

WITH ALL THAT IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD TODAY

it is good to know that "the holy rosary, according to Lucia of Fatima, is so powerful that it can solve any problem, material or spiritual, national, or international" (Blessed Gabriele Allegra). During this month of October dedicated to our Blessed Mother, may we join in praying the rosary for peaceful solutions to the world's struggles and continue to pray for vocations.

In Christ, Fr. Weeder

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer
Weekend of October 22nd

WORD: Rita Eichelberger
EMHC: Ann Bausch
SERVER: Kris & Kim Pena

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner
Weekend of October 22nd

LEC: Maci Batenhorst
EMHC: Martha Schweers
EMHC 2: Shane Batenhorst
SERV: Giddean Andersen, Paislie Burki, Joel Good
OFF: Jeff Phillips
USHER: October Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—Oct. 8th, 2023	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$970.00
Plate:	168.00
Children:	25.00
Tithe.ly Online:	150.00
HELP/Fuel:	100.00
GA/CC:	1,000.00
Total:	\$2,413.00


MONEY COUNTERS
Sunday, October 15th—Team #4 A.J. Burki, Lindsey Burki, Chris Liermann, Brenda Liermann
Sunday, October 22nd—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore

MEN'S WORK GROUP—October 2023
Chair: Dave Oligmueller
Co-Chair: Dane Miller
Members: Steve McManigal, Jeff Albers, David Dinklage, Del Styskal, Steve Gerken

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

HOLY CROSS will have coffee & rolls next Sunday after Mass.

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—Oct. 8th, 2023	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,685.00
Plate:	126.00
Children:	22.00
Tithe.ly Online:	380.08
Heating/AC:	100.00




Celebrations:

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

Birthdays

Mary Gentrup October 15
 David Steffensmeier October 15
 Sue Niewohner October 20

..... **TODAY** **PARISH COFFEE—**

 St. Joseph Parish Council will host coffee and rolls after Mass today. Stop for just a few minutes to grab a bite and visit with all those in our faith community. Everyone is welcome.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR GRIEF support group sessions will meet on Mondays from Oct 2nd-Nov 20th from 5:30-7:00 pm. Meetings will be held at Franciscan Healthcare in West Point on the second floor in the Bonaventure Conference Room. Registration is required as space is limited and for material purposes. Register by phone or email to Tom Manhart at 372-6708 or tmanhart@franhealth.org.

THE LADIES GUILD would like to say "Thank You" to all those that helped make the Harvest Picnic a success. We couldn't have done it without you. We appreciate the time you put in to help with this event. Also, thanks to all who purchased mums, donated items for the country market, made pies or bars, chaired a committee, and the monetary donations.

HOWELLS CRAFT SHOW! Saturday, October 21 from 9:00 am—3:00 pm at the Howells Ballroom. Admission \$2.00. For more details, see the flyer in the back of church.

Religious Education

ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6

Grades K-6: The classes met individually and we ended the afternoon by gathering in church with Capri McGuire leading us in the Rosary. Students will recite prayers this week so please help your child/children learn their prayers.

ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS— GRADES 7-12

Grade 7-9: Girls: Lesson 3 began with a game of "emotion charades." It showed us how we use our body language to express what we feel. We then discussed what emotions are hardest for us to express and why


Grade 7-9: Boys: Watched the lesson 3 video which shows how we communicate with our body language. I can become what I was created to be since I was created in God's image and likeness.

We began the evening with a talk by Fr. Vincent & Deacon Thierry Mazimpaka, his guest All grades ended in closing prayer as Fr. Vincent & Deacon Mazimpaka led the Rosary.

ST. MARY'S (WEST POINT) FAMILY FUN DAY
 "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" is Sunday November 5th. Serving from 10:30am to 1:00pm a roast beef/pork, sausage, sauerkraut and dumplings dinner. Price for tickets will be \$15.00 for 12 & over and \$5.00 for 11 and under, 3 & under free. There will be a country store, raffle tables, cake walk, games, silent auction & a big auction starting at 1:00pm. Please join us.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF CHRIST WISNER
 Craft Bazaar & Lunch served on Saturday, Oct. 21st, from 10am - 1 pm. Quilt Drawing at 1 pm.



 **From Fr. Vincent's Desk Continued:**
Update as of Oct. 11th - 2023-2024 AAA - Commitment weekend
 Today is a commitment weekend. If you received the Archbishop's appeal letter, kindly let us use this Sunday and current week to commit our donations to support our Church. If you didn't receive the appeal letter, we have some at the announcement table at the back of the church. I already submitted mine. Prayerfully consider submitting yours this week.

Thank you to all who have already supported this Annual Appeal through prayer and meaningful gifts. By pledging our commitment this weekend, we will be joining our fellow parishioners in an expression of gratitude. Every gift, no matter how large or small, makes a difference. Our parish of Wisner has currently committed \$6,700.00 towards our goal of \$8,268.17. Help us reach our participation goal of 28%. We are currently at 11 donors. Thank you for your generosity.

Our other Parish of Beemer has currently committed \$4,625 towards our goal of \$11,396.77. Help us reach our participation goal of 49%. We are currently at 8 donors.

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	16	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	17	9:30 AM	WCC	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Wed	18	8:00 AM	HC	+ Casper Gentrup Jr.
Thu	19	8:00 AM	SJ	Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of Ron & Mary Ann Wemhorr
Fri	20	9:30 AM	CHB	Lvng & Dec'd Family of Frank Wuestewald
Sat	21	—	—	NO MASS
Sun	22	8:30 AM	HC	+ Eric Wellman
Sun	22	10:00 AM	SJ	+ John Davies

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