

**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

**27th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
October 8th, 2023**

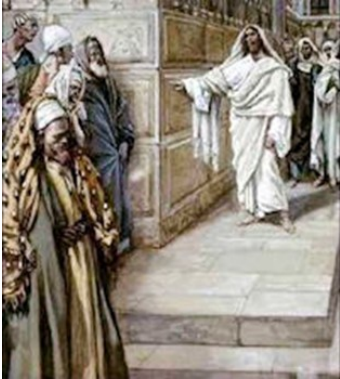
**Administrator: Rev. Vincent Sunguti**  
402-529-3531  
Email: vsunguti2018@gmail.com

**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: stjoe68791@gmail.com**

**The 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**



The Gospel is from *Matthew 21:33-43*. There are two leading thoughts that come to the mind of any true believer on hearing this parable: the infinite goodness, patience and mercy of God in His dealings with mankind, and the unsounded depths of wickedness and ingratitude to which men can sink. To His Chosen People of the Old Testament, God

had given a fertile and fully-equipped vineyard — His revelation, His protection, a homeland of their own in Canaan, and all this in order to prepare them for the future Messiah, who would bring them an eternal home in God's own Kingdom. All He asked in return was their cooperation.

But they had other plans; they wanted their kingdom on earth. Yet God was patient with them; again and again He pardoned their infidelities. He sent them prophet after prophet to recall them to their senses, but they maltreated these messengers of God and refused to heed their warnings.

Then "the fullness of time" came and He sent His divine Son on earth in human form. He took His human nature from one of their race, lived among them and preached His gospel of love and peace to them. He tried to soften their hard hearts, and made them the final offer of the Father's mercy and pardon. But instead of accepting God's offer of mercy the chief priests and elders only made it an occasion of an even greater sin. To their crimes of infidelity and injustice they added the murder of God's Messiah and Son.

In God's plan of love and mercy the tragedy of Calvary turned out to be the great "triumph of failure." That death brought life to the world and opened the gates of God's eternal kingdom for all nations and races. The Gentiles rallied around the standard of Christ. A new vineyard was set up in which all men could work for their Father in heaven and for their own eternal interests.

We Christians today are the successors of the first Gentile followers of Christ. We too have been called to work in God's vineyard. Are we working honestly and devotedly? Are we producing the grapes and the wine that our divine Master expects of us? If our answer is "yes, I am living a true Christian life, I am working for God's honor and glory and for my own eternal salvation," then we can say a heartfelt "thank you" to our merciful Father, and ask him to keep us ever on this right path. But if our answer is "no," then let us pay heed to today's lesson. What happened to the chief priests and elders can and will happen to unfaithful Christians if they persevere in their infidelity and disobedience. But we can still put ourselves right with God. Let us do it today — tomorrow may be too late.

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



**From Fr. Vincent's Desk:**  
**Announcement on Infant Baptism in the Parish**  
**& Baptism Sponsorship in Other Parishes**

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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

**AAA 2023-2024 Updates as of Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Through our participation in the Archbishop's Annual Appeal, we are invited to take the Holy Spirit up on the gifts that are being offered to us. Our parish of St. Joseph, Wisner has currently committed \$2,475.00 towards our goal of \$8,268.17. Help us reach our participation goal of 28%. We are currently at 7 donors. Our other parish of Holy Cross, Beemer has committed \$400 towards our goal of \$11,396.77. Help us reach our participation goal of 49%. We are currently at 3 donors.....Thank you for your generosity.



**PADRE'S PONDERINGS**

The owner of the vineyard is looking for good fruit. The vineyard produced wild grapes. What kind of grapes are we producing Jesus asks us? Are we producing sour grapes that give us sour wine or sweet grapes that give us sweet wine? We can look at the fruit of our lives. Gal 5:22 talks about the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. That is the fruit we look for when we make a choice whether we move to a new place or not, whether to take a certain job, whether we are doing well in the spiritual life and so on. Jesus sends us His Holy Spirit to help us with His Mother Mary. We pray in the Hail Mary: *Blessed is the fruit of your womb Jesus*. The real fruit that we are to produce with God's grace is Jesus, to become another Christ. That is only possible if He is the cornerstone of our life, or actions. If He is not the cornerstone of our lives then we can easily fall astray and become unlike Jesus: the fruit can be impatience, pride, fear, selfishness, greed, restlessness, shame, guilt. When we go against Jesus and don't follow His commandments to love as He loves and our neighbor then we fall apart. But He has saved us and we can go to Him for mercy. For when we seek His mercy, we stop being the cornerstone and let Him be the cornerstone; together we can act and love and labor to be transformed by His Spirit more and more into Jesus.

Fr. Walter Jon-A-Kiem

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer  
Weekend of October 15th

WORD: Renae Carlson  
EMHC: Dennis Mostek  
SERVER: Ben Oligmueller, Stella Guenther

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner  
Weekend of October 15th


LEC: Steve McGuire  
EMHC: Janet Ludwig  
EMHC 2: Madonna Servi  
SERV: Angel Ramirez-Lugo, Hailey Grenier, Ghia Bramble  
OFF: Austen Godbersen  
USHER: October Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts Holy Cross—Oct. 1st, 2023	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,005.00
Plate:	117.00
Children:	4.00
Tithe.ly Online:	150.00
HELP/Fuel:	30.00
Total:	\$1,306.00

**MONEY COUNTERS**  
Sunday, October 8th—Team #3 Steve McGuire, Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer  
Sunday, October 15th—Team #4 A.J. Burki, Lindsey Burki, Chris Liermann, Brenda Liermann


**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




**Celebrations:**  
Holy Cross Parish wishes happiness and God's blessings to the following:  
**Anniversaries**  
Scott and Ann Ortmeier October 8

Stewardship of God's Gifts St. Joseph—Oct. 1st, 2023	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,150.00
Plate:	40.00
Children:	20.00
Tithe.ly Online:	70.81
Heating/AC:	130.00

 **TITHE.LY** Online Giving with Tithe.ly  
Both St. Joseph and Holy Cross parishes have an online giving option. The process is very simple. You may make a one time gift or sign up for something reoccurring and never have to remember your envelope again.

To sign up, visit your parish website and while at the home page, you will see a "Donate" button at the top right side. Click on it to create an account and set up how you would like to give to your parish. Brochures are available in the back of church. If you have any questions, call the parish office at 402-529-3891.

 **PARISH COFFEE—** St. Joseph Parish Council will host coffee and rolls after Mass on Sunday, October 15th. Everyone is welcome. Stop for just a few minutes to grab a bite and visit with all those in our faith community.

**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.

**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.

**ROSARY RALLY FOR VOCATIONS...**Please help the Archdiocese of Omaha pray the rosary for vocations in the month of October. The GOAL is to pray 50,000 rosaries for young adults discerning priesthood and consecrated life. To participate, scan the QR code available on the flyer in the back of church.

## Religious Education

**ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6**  
**Grades K-6:** Class photos were taken. The 4th grade is still reviewing the 4 parts of the Apostles Creed. We ended the afternoon by celebrating Mass with Fr. Vincent.


**ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS— GRADES 7-12**  
We started the evening with all gathering in church and celebrating Mass with Fr. Vincent.

**Grade 7-9: Girls:** We finished Lesson 2: Who Are You? Finished discussing original sin, how God sent Jesus to save us and how we see God.

**Grade 7-9: Boys:** Who Are You? We watched the video which shows us that we have to know our identity and that we were created in God's Image and likeness. God is love.

**Grade 10-12:** Word for the week was "Kindness". We shared experiences on acts of kindness from the past week and did an activity about getting on fire for God.

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	09	—	—	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tue	10	9:30 AM	WCC	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Wed	11	8:00 AM	HC	+ Lorenz & Elizabeth Ruskamp
Thu	12	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Gerald Ruskamp
Fri	13	9:30 AM	CHB	+ Paul Stalp
Sat	14	—	—	<b>NO MASS</b>
Sun	15	8:30 AM	HC	+ Robert & Violet Yosten
Sun	15	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Herb Albers
SJ—St. Joseph's		HC—Holy Cross		
WCC—Wisner Care Center		CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer		



**Prayer Chain info.....**St. Joseph prayer group is open to all men and women of the parish. The prayer request notifications come to you via text or phone call, and you are not asked to pass on the requests (like past prayer chains have required). You simply include the request in your regular prayers and there is no meeting involved.

If you or a loved one need extra prayers, please let us know. The information you give can be as general or specific as you'd like. All members of the prayer group are asked to keep the intentions confidential. To be added to the prayer group or to ask for special prayer requests, please notify Father Vincent or call or text Anne at 402-750-9616.

