

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

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent
 December 24th, 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: stjoe68791@gmail.com

The 4th Sunday of Advent



This year (2023) Advent is very short with Sunday being the only day in the fourth week. In the General Roman Calendar, today is the last day of Advent, Christmas Eve, and also (beginning with the vigil Mass) is the first day of Christmas time. The liturgical texts express wholehearted confidence in the imminent coming of the Redeemer. There is much joyous expectation. Most families have their own observances, customs that should be preserved from generation to generation. Today is the last day of our Christmas Novena.

The **Gospel** is from *Luke 1:26-38*. At the moment our Lady said: "be it done to me according to thy word" the most stupendous event that ever happened, or ever could happen on earth, took place on this planet of ours. The Son of God took on human nature in the womb of the Blessed Virgin. We are familiar with this story from childhood. We often say the Angelus in which this tremendous act of God's love is described. Although familiarity, in this case, does not breed contempt, it does help to blunt the real impact on our minds of such an extraordinary occurrence.

If God had created a very special child, and made him into an outstanding saint, so that he could intercede with God for us, this would be a great act of love for us on God's part. Or, if he had sent an angel from heaven in human form, to teach us all about God and to help us to lead holy lives, this would deserve our deepest gratitude. But neither a saintly man nor a holy angel could do for us all that God wanted. No man or angel could make us adopted sons of God and heirs of heaven. It was necessary, in God's plan for us, that his divine Son should become man, should share our humanity so that we could share his divinity.

Today is a suitable occasion to look right into our hearts, to see how we stand with God. During the week we shall be keeping the feast of Christmas. The Baby in the manger will remind us of what God has done and is still doing for us. What are we doing in return?

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



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:
Just For Today: Immanuel, God Is With Us

What a beautiful reflection on the essence of Christmas and the significance of goodwill and intentionality in our actions! In today's first reading, it is remarkable to hear how King David's intentions to honor God and restore the temple emphasizes the importance of genuine motives in our endeavors. Indeed, our modern culture often glorifies individual success and material pursuits, but the deeper truth is that true fulfillment comes from a compassionate and open-hearted approach to our neighbors and communities.

The idea that our generosity should spring from a place of genuine compassion and empathy rather than mere material sharing is profound. Christmas, at its core, is about expressing and embodying God's love for others—a sentiment that transcends mere gift-giving and encompasses the essence of who we are.

We are aware of the prevailing bad aspects of the world that can easily water down the importance of focusing on the good intentions and actions that resonate deeply. It's crucial to not be consumed by the negativity around us but instead to let the goodness within us and in others shine forth. Like king David, your faith in the rewarding nature of good intentions, even before they're realized, is inspiring and offers hope in challenging times.

Is there anything specific you're considering in fostering this sense of goodwill and compassion in your community during this holiday season?

Fr. Vincent



*Unto Us
 a Child is Born*



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve	Christmas Day
4:00 pm St. Anthony's St. Charles	7:30 am St. Aloysius Aloys
4:00 pm St. Wenceslaus Dodge	8:30 am Holy Cross Beemer
5:00 pm St. Mary's West Point	9:00 am St. Wenceslaus Dodge
5:30 pm Sts. Peter and Paul Howells	10:00 am St. Mary's West Point
5:30 pm St. Joseph Wisner	10:00 am St. Joseph Wisner
7:00 pm St. Boniface Monterey	10:30 am St. John's Howells
Midnight Mass St. Mary's West Point	

Saint Joseph Parish Council Members 2023-2024	
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	

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

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer
Weekend of December 31st

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

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner
Weekend of December 31st

LEC: Bonnie Styskal
EMHC: Janet Ludwig
EMHC 2: Richard Schultz
SERV: Chesney Ruskamp, Aubrianna Good,
Aidan McBride
OFF: December Men's Group
USHER: December Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts
Holy Cross—Dec 17th, 2023

Sunday Envelopes:	\$491.00
Plate:	118.00
Children:	33.00
Tithe.ly Online:	150.00
Immaculate Conc.:	5.00
Thanksgiving:	10.00
Total:	\$807.00

MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, December 24th—Team #2 Norm Weber,
Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder
Sunday, December 31st—Team #3 Steve McGuire,
Chad Ludwig, Dave Oligmueller, Kris Brahmer

MEN'S WORK GROUP—December 2023

Chair: Marvin Seier
Co-Chair: Greg Schlautman
Members: Tony Lampman, AJ Kluthe, Rich Bodwell,
Russ Loberg, Chris Liermann, Ken Duncan, Gavin
Lampman, Tycin Lampman, Austin Kluthe

MEN'S WORK GROUP—January 2024

Chair: Jeff Recker
Co-Chair: Dan Kane
Members: Terry Soden, Ron Machacek, Shawn Davie,
Doug Oertwich, Bernie Ruskamp, Adam Brahmer,
Tyler McBride, Preston Hansen, Andrew Hansen

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

Birthdays
Joe Hansen December 24
Michelle Borgmann December 29

Anniversaries
Stan and Marilyn Ortmeier December 29

MASS INTENTIONS

Tue	26	9:30 AM	WCC	NO MASS
Wed	27	8:00 AM	HC	+ Francis Oligmueller and Jim Sapp
Thu	28	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Tim Svoboda
Fri	29	9:00 AM	CHB	+ Fred & Rita McNamara
Sat	30	—	—	NO MASS
Sun	31	8:30 AM	HC	+ Paul Mestl + Ron Ruskamp
Sun	31	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Edwin & Edna Knievel
Mon	01	9:00 AM	HC	+ Mike McTaggart

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

Stewardship of God's Gifts
St. Joseph—Dec 17th, 2023

Sunday Envelopes:	\$2,435.00
Plate:	111.00
Children:	20.00
Heating:	200.00
Tithe.ly:	70.81

ST. JOSEPH PARISH—POINSETTIAS

If you would like to purchase a Poinsettia for
the Christmas Season in memory of a loved
one(s), the sign up sheet and envelope are
in the back of the church. You may also put
an envelope in the collection basket, or mail
it to the church at PO Box 623. Be sure to include the
name of your loved one(s) and \$20 for each Poinsettia.



Thank you! St Joseph Environment Committee

THE LADIES GUILD work group list for 2024-2026 is
available in the back of church. Please pick them up.

Religious Education

In our Rel Ed classes, grades K-6, we
have a total 61 students, 8 teachers, and
2 aides. All but two students were able to
attend the Christmas program.

We feel truly blessed with such
amazing students and volunteers.

Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year to all!!

January 10th -
Classes resume for all grades



Merry Christmas

