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

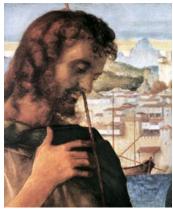
The 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time January 14th, 2024

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

Holy Cross Parish PO Box 212 517 N Fraisier Beemer, NE 68716 Phone: 528-3475 www.holycrossbeemer.org **Reconciliation: Sundays** 8:00-8:20 am or by appt.

Bulletin and Office Email: stjo68791@gmail.com

The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



The First Reading is taken from the First Book of Samuel 3:3-10; 19 and gives an account of Samuel's vocation to take over the leadership of the Chosen People.

The **Gospel** is from the Gospel of St. John 1:35-42 and gives an account of the vocation of the first four Apostles who followed Jesus. It was a momentous event in the history of salvation. It was the beginning of a

stream of vocations that would grow and spread down through the ages until the end of the world. It was momentous, firstly, in that Christ, who had come to open heaven for all men and who could find means of bringing them all to that eternal home without help from any man, decided instead to let men co-operate with him in this divine task. He decreed to set up a kingdom in this world—his Church—which would be run by mere mortals for their fellow-mortals, but which would be under his protection and assisted by his divine aid until the end of time. Christ chose this very human way, in order to make his Church more acceptable to our limited, human understanding and more approachable for sinful, human nature.

Today, let us thank our blessed Lord who provided so humanly—and yet so divinely for our eternal welfare. In the Church, which he founded on the lowly but solid foundation of simple fishermen of Galilee, he erected an institution against which the gates of hell, the power of all the enemies of our salvation, cannot prevail, for his divine guidance and help will be with it forever. It has had enemies and opposition from the beginning; they may be more numerous and more destructive than ever today. But the promise of Christ still holds good, his word cannot fail. Therefore, neither the opposition of materialistic enemies from without, nor the even more insidious attacks from faint-hearted and worldly-minded members from within, can affect the safety and permanence of the building which Christ built on the Rock. "If God is with us," it matters not "who is against us.

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



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:

2024 Rel Ed Parents: Family Faith Formation

— 2nd session

We have once again a wonderful opportunity for parents of Rel Ed families to come together and deepen FAMILY Tormotion their faith. I'm inviting you again.



This part of the year's meetings will be done on the third Wednesday of the month. Our next session will be January 24th, at 7:00 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 some discussions. Help me in supporting your children in their faith formation.

Fr.'s Desk continued on the next column.....

St. Joseph Church Improvement Projects - Jan. 2024

I would like to let you know that myself, St. Joseph Parish council together with the Finance Council have approved the following two projects to take place in 2024:

- 1. Church vestibule bathroom In the current reconciliation room as well as what acts as the cry room, a section of it will be constructed into a bathroom with a handicapped accessible door. We will still have a small room for the sacrament of reconciliation as well as a cry room. The bathroom project is expected to start this week or so.
- 2. Concrete work on the front church steps We will be replacing the front church steps. The current one is well worn with many cracks and other issues that in the past, we have repaired from time to time. It has also been recommended by Catholic Mutual Insurance which is the insurance company that covers our churches. Work on the steps is scheduled to begin this spring. When this work commences, it is possible that we may need to relocate Sunday Mass to the church basement hall.

If there is anything specific you would like to discuss, or if you have any questions related to these projects, feel free to contact myself or any member of the Parish or Finance councils.



SPIRITUAL INSIGHT from Fr Walter

Samuel was taught by the Lord to listen to Him. And do you know what is so encouraging? The Lord called Him not once, not twice, not thrice, but four times before he learned how to listen to Him. That means I don't have to get it right the first time. God is very patient with us and He loves to teach us to listen to Him. Are we willing to learn? How teachable am I? This is what I need to reflect upon. Why is this so important? God wants a living, loving, dynamic, real relationship with me and this relationship is not really alive, active, dynamic if I don't know how to listen to Him. Doesn't Jesus tell us in the Our Father Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven? That means that we listen to the Father like all the angels and Saints do in Heaven this very moment of our lives on earth. That means that Jesus tells us we have the capability and the gift given to us to hear His voice. Why is this believable? We are His adopted children at baptism and a loving Father communicates with us as much as possible to show us how much He loves us. St Ignatius of Loyola tells us:

It is true that the voice of God having once penetrated the heart, becomes strong as the tempest and loud as a thunder. But before reaching the heart it is weak as light breath that scarcely agitates the air. It shrinks from noise and is silent amid agitation.

We can hear God's voice much easier when it is silent and when we expect in faith to hear a loving voice. How does He communicate to us? He can talk to us via thoughts, feelings, desires, hearing, images. Holy Spirit teach me to listen to God; Mary pray that I have a listening heart to do His will for that leads to deep joy and union with God.

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer Weekend of January 21st

WORD: Rita Eichelberger EMHC: **Tom Peatrowsky**

SERVER: Vanessa & Preston Praest

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—Jan. 7th, 2024	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,355.00
Plate:	41.00
Children:	34.00
Tithe.ly Online:	150.00
Solemnity of Mary:	45.00
Christmas:	3,400.00
Total:	\$5,025.00

COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS next week after Mass. If you wish to take a poinsettia, please do so after Mass today or next week.

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP at Holy Cross will now meet 6-7 am on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month. All men are welcome. No commitment.

Celebrations:

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

Birthdays

Susan Steffensmeier January 14 Shane Combs January 15 Jean Batenhorst January 16 Chris Black January 18

Anniversaries

Ron and Bev Francis January 14

MACCINITATIONS						
MASS INTENTIONS						
Mon	15	_	_	NO MASS		
Tue	16	9:30 AM	WCC	NO MASS		
Wed	17	8:00 AM	HC	NO MASS		
Thu	18	8:00 AM	SJ	NO MASS		
Fri	19	9:00 AM	СНВ	NO MASS		
Sat	20	_	_	NO MASS		
Sun	21	8:30 AM	HC	Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of the Henry & Eleanor Spenner Fam.		
Sun	21	10:00 AM	SJ	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish		
			Center	HC—Holy Cross CHB—Colonial Haven Beemer		



_et it snow, let it snow!!











Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner Weekend of January 21st

LEC: Sally Harms EMHC: Martha Schweers **EMHC 2:** Anne Ausdemore

Jesa Montgomery, Ty Montgomery. **SERV:**

Myles Lampman OFF: Rick Jacobs

USHER: January Men's Group

MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, January 14th—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore Sunday, January 21st—Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder

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

Stewardship of God's Gifts St. Joseph—Jan. 7th, 2024				
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1270.00			
Plate:	123.00			
Children:	43.00			
Tithely:	172.12			
Heating/AC:	5,120.00			
Maintenance:	5,000.00			
Christmas:	20.00			

PARISH COFFEE: The Parish Council will be hosting a coffee TODAY, January 14th, after Mass in the church basement. Join them for refreshments and fellowship!!





THE NEXT LADIES GUILD meeting will be Tuesday, January 23rd, at 4:30 in the church basement. All ladies of

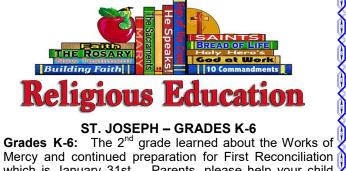
the parish are encouraged to attend.

MUSIC BINGO NIGHT

Friday, February 9th Get your tables signed up ASAP Return your raffle tickets for a chance to win \$500



For more info, call Paige Godbersen 402-604-0406 All proceeds go to St. Josephs Endowment Fund



Mercy and continued preparation for First Reconciliation which is January 31st. Parents, please help your child prepare for First Reconciliation by using the guide that was sent home in December.

ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS- GRADES 7-12 Grade 7-12: Class was cancelled due to weather.



















