

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 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 21st, 2024

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: stj068791@gmail.com

The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time has been designated as the "Sunday of the Word of God" (the Sunday usually falls between January 21-27).

The **First Reading** is taken from the *Book of the Prophet Jonah* 3:1-5, 10 and tells the story of Jonah's call from God to go to a pagan city and preach repentance to the sinful people there.

The **Gospel** is from the *Gospel of Mark* 1:14-20. Jesus came to announce to all men the good news of God's eternal plan for them. He spent his public life convincing the Jews of Palestine of the truth of this message, and he died on the cross because he claimed to be that he was God's divine Son, who had come in human nature to raise all men to the standing and status of adopted sons of God. That very death, cruel and unjust though it was, was part of the divine plan. He conquered death and was raised from the grave to prove that we too, if we accept his divine gospel and live by it, will be raised from the dead and reign with Christ in the kingdom of his Father forever.

He is without limit, his goodness and love are limitless as is his nature. What God can see in creatures has ever been a puzzle to thinking man. One of the psalm-writers said centuries ago: "What is man that you should spare a thought for him, the son of man that you should care for him" (Ps. 8 :4)? Many a saint too, has repeated this remark ever since.

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 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.

Online Giving Enhancement

I would like to ask you to consider using this system to support your parish. You can find it on the back page of the bulletin under the "Tithe.ly" online giving announcement. We have added codes for both parishes of St. Joseph and Holy Cross. Simply scan the code using your smartphone QR reader or camera. It will guide you with the rest of the instructions on how to sign up. With this type of giving, it has many advantages, the money goes directly into the parish account; parish support is guaranteed regardless of your Sunday presence or not; it lessens the work of money counting. We really need your support to keep our churches running. As you know, recently most of us missed Mass physically due to bad weather, that means we missed the entire Sunday collection. Hopefully it will come the next week, and not affect the budget. Utilizing online giving will benefit us under such circumstances. Happy Sunday.

From Fr. Vincent's Desk Continued:

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 will begin anytime soon.
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.



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

We start telling lies around the age of three, the experts tell us. It's understandable. Lying is a god-like power. Whatever I want, I need only say it, and the world rearranges itself accordingly. It's amazing at first. But soon reality snaps back and I'm faced with a dilemma. If I remain committed to my lie I start to fracture into pieces. My words and reality drift apart, and I find myself lost in a lonely world of further falsehoods and fear of being found out. How marvelous, then, that Jesus begins his ministry by proclaiming: "Repent!" We tend to think it means "stop doing bad things" but it doesn't. It literally means "go beyond the mind you have." Think in a new way. It's painful to admit, but some portion of my mind is addicted to lie-telling, usually to protect my ego or make life easier. To repent means to admit this tendency, to say, "I'm done lying," and to move beyond my split mind into a complete commitment to the truth. Perhaps that's why at Mass we together proclaim, "I have sinned in my thoughts, and in my words..." Repentance and truth-telling work together. Those who know the twelve-step process of addiction recovery know this process well. The fourth step requires radical truth-telling: listing our moral defects. This isn't being scrupulous. Rather it is freedom from falsehood, and entrance into the real world. This week, I invite you to join me in this practice. Get your phone or piece of paper. Answer the question: what are your true moral defects? Write them down. Remember, the Lord knows them already and loves you. We have a sacrament where this truth-telling is celebrated: Confession. Perhaps it is finally time to go beyond our childish lies.

— Father John Muir

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer
Weekend of January 28th

WORD: Tom Peatrowsky
EMHC: Ann Bausch
SERVER: Kris & Kim Pena

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner
Weekend of January 28th

LEC: Diane Davies
EMHC: Kathy Johnson
EMHC 2: Richard Schultz
SERV: Henry Jacobs, Clair Flack, Bentley Sateren
OFF: Tim Montgomery
USHER: January Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts
Holy Cross—Jan. 14th, 2024

No collection due to weather.



COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS TODAY after Mass. Please join us!

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

Tanya Oligmueller January 23
Diana Dinslage January 27

Anniversaries

Paul and Deb Schlickbernd January 21
David and Susan Steffensmeier January 24

Stewardship of God's Gifts
St. Joseph—Jan. 14th, 2024

No collection due to weather.



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.

ST. JOSEPH 2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are completed and available in the back of church.

ST. JOSEPH 2024 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES are in the back of church. Please pick them up at your earliest convenience. Thank you.



TITHE.LY

Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Both St. Joseph and Holy Cross parishes have an online giving option. For additional ways to contribute, QR codes have been made for both parishes, or you may still sign up under the parish websites. If you have any questions, call the parish office at 402-529-3891.



Holy Cross
Beemer



St. Joseph
Wisner

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

MASS INTENTION ENVELOPES:
St. Joseph and Holy Cross.

There are envelopes available in the back of church. If you would like to have a Mass said for a loved one, complete the envelope and place in the collection basket or contact Sarah at the parish office 402-529-3891, or email the info to stj068791@gmail.com. The suggested donation is \$10.00 per Mass.



Religious Education

ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6

Grades K-6: The 3rd grade finished their Circle of Grace Lessons. The 2nd grade discussed the parts of the Mass and the Prayers of the Faithful.

ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS— GRADES 7-12

Grade 7-9 Girls: We began with prayer for the unborn and their parents as we remember all life is sacred and a gift from God. Our video on Lesson 5 told us about the difference between love and lust and why it is so important to know as you set your goals in life. We ended with prayer asking Mary to guide us.

Grade 7-9 Boys: Discussed what the best part of their Christmas was. They talked about using technology respectfully and how we should not use our phones or other devices to bully or hurt the feelings of others.

Grade 10-12: We watched a short video on a retreat and discussed the opportunity for the youth of our parish to go. It is a Steubenville retreat, July 12-14 in St. Louis, MO. Several expressed an interest and we would love for them to have the experience. We also talked about New Year resolutions specifically regarding church and kindness. Our word for the week is "Pace"...urgency and hurry are very different.

MASS INTENTIONS

Day	Date	Time	Location	Intention
Mon	22	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	23	9:30 AM	WCC	+ Keith Schroeder
Wed	24	8:00 AM	HC	Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of the Ray & Odelia Steffensmeier Family
Thu	25	8:00 AM	SJ	+ Wayne & Mary Wiese
Fri	26	9:00 AM	CHB	+ Fred & Rita McNamara
Sat	27	—	—	NO MASS
Sun	28	8:30 AM	HC	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	28	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Jayda Oligmueller

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