

**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 Third Sunday of Lent  
March 3rd, 2024**

**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: stj068791@gmail.com**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent



The Gospel is from *St. John 2:13-25*. The Gospel is about Jesus entering the temple and driving out those who were doing business inside. On this particular visit he made it clear to them that he was someone special, someone close to God whose house they were desecrating, and whom he even called his Father. In hidden language he told them that they would put him to death but that that would not be the end, for he would rise again. Some of them seem to have remembered this saying of his after they had put him to death, for they asked Pilate to place a guard on his tomb lest his disciples should remove the body and pretend he had risen for: "we recall," they said, "that this impostor said while he was still living, 'after three days I shall rise again'" (Mt. 27: 63). But even the miracle of his resurrection did not affect the majority of them. They had made up their minds and "there are none so blind as those who will not see."

The reasons for their blindness were the same as those that keep millions of the neo-pagans of today from accepting and living the Christian faith. These, like the priests and Pharisees of Jerusalem in the year 28, are so immersed in the affairs of this world that they can give no thought to their own future. Their eyes are so fixed on the earthly objectives that they have set themselves, that they can see nothing else. The priests and Pharisees wanted more than political freedom from Rome. They had hopes that their Messiah would give them a great world empire, and with it wealth and power without limit. Our contemporaries' aims may not go so far, but worldly aims are important enough in their eyes to make them exclude from their minds the thought of anything higher. Yet, they have more than enough reminders whichever way they turn to recall their minds to the historical facts of Christianity.

The agnostics and free-thinkers of our day should start to think about the real facts of life—the central ones of which are that Christ, who was the Son of God, took our human nature and lived for some time on this earth, so that he would raise us up to sonship with God. He suffered crucifixion, because the world was full of sin when he came. But his death made atonement to the heavenly Father for all the sins of the world. His resurrection from the dead was the prelude and the guarantee that we shall all rise to a life of glory in heaven, if only we have followed him faithfully during our years on earth.

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

**Welcome to St. Josephs Church  
and Holy Cross Parish**

We welcome all our guests and new members to our parishes. There are many opportunities for experiencing the peace and joy of our loving God in liturgy, groups, committees and volunteer service to the church. If you would like to join our parish family, contact the parish office or send an email to:  
For St. Joseph—[stjo68791@gmail.com](mailto:stjo68791@gmail.com)  
For Holy Cross—[renaecarlson@hotmail.com](mailto:renaecarlson@hotmail.com)



**From Fr. Vincent's Desk:**

**2023-2024 RCIA Scrutinies Sundays**

On the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of Lent, our Mass will have a special rite called Scrutinies. The Scrutinies are three special rites that help prepare the Elect, those participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), to enter the Catholic Church. They take place during the period of RCIA formation known as Purification and Enlightenment, near the end of their formation.

The season of Lent involves a more intense period of examination and preparation for the Elect, and hopefully for those of us already living the Catholic faith. Though they are meant for the RCIA Elect, the Scrutinies can help all Catholics seeking to live a life of continuous conversion.

Our RCIA Candidates (baptized) and Catechumens (unbaptized) of this year are:

- St. Joseph, Wisner – 1) Amber Soto  
2) Anthony John Kilcoin

Holy Cross, Beemer - 1) Skyler Peatrowsky

We thank them for their perseverance and dedication to go through this program.



**SPIRITUAL INSIGHT**—As we begin the 3rd week of Lent it is a good time to ask, how is it going? Have I been faithful to my Lenten observances or do I need more resolution. The readings this Sunday help us to ponder just that. In the Gospel, Jesus drove out those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves and the money changers from the temple. Relating that to us, He desires to drive out those things that hold us back from a deeper relationship with Him. Moreover, he desires to drive out the sin within the temple of our bodies and replace with His love. Turning to 1st reading, the Ten Commandments are repeated and we can use them to examine our own life. Sometimes it can be daunting when we recognize how much we struggle keeping them. While we want to follow all of them, lent is a good time to choose one that seems to cause the most struggle and ask God for the extra graces needed to follow it better. While we may be three weeks into lent, it's not too late for a redo so we can be ready for the glory of Easter.

In Christ, Fr. Weeder

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer  
Weekend of March 10th

WORD: Doris Guenther  
EMHC: Mary Mostek  
SERVER: Ben Oligmueller, Stella Guenther  
USHER: Mike Gentrup

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner  
Weekend of March 10th

LEC: Jeff Phillips  
EMHC: Anne Ausdemore  
EMHC 2: Richard Schultz  
SERV: Kinsley Lueken, Cooper Schultz, Jace Hansen  
OFF: Chris Ruskamp  
USHER: March Men's Group


Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—Feb. 25th, 2024	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,305.00
Plate:	189.00
Children:	11.00
Tithe.ly Online:	150.00
Easter Flowers:	60.00
Total:	\$1,715.00

**MONEY COUNTERS**  
Sunday, March 3rd—Team #4 AJ Burki, Lindsey Burki, Chris Liermann, Brenda Liermann  
Sunday, February 10th—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore

**MEN'S WORK GROUP—March 2024**  
Chair: Tim Stalp  
Co-Chair: Eric VonSeggern  
Members: Jeff Phillips, Nathan Janke, Ken Knust, Mark Porter, Nate Phillips, Chuck Ross

**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.

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—Feb. 25th, 2024	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,035.00
Plate:	219.00
Children:	13.00
Tithely:	293.34



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

**Birthdays**  
Kevin Lueshen March 4  
Leo Schulz March 4  
Tom Conrad March 9  
Kimberly Pena March 9

**Men's Lenten Breakfast**  
At the United Methodist Church of Christ

Men and boys of all ages are encouraged to attend this event each Thursday during Lent. Breakfast is served at 6:45 a.m. followed by a short message at 7:00. A free-will donation is accepted, and the proceeds go to the Wisner Ministerial Association to help members in our community who are in need. The St. Joseph's men are scheduled to serve on February 29th and March 14th.

**LENTEN SERVICES**  
Adoration 5:30pm followed by Stations of the Cross 6:00pm  
At Holy Cross—Beemer  
Fridays, Feb. 16th— Mar. 22nd  
\*\*\* Everyone is welcome to attend! \*\*\*

**Religious Education**

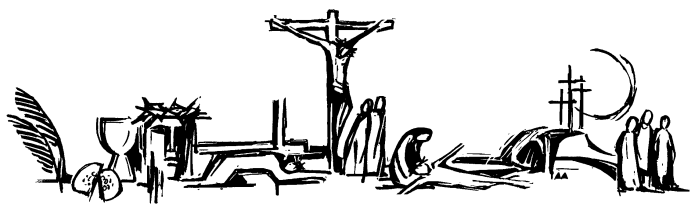
**ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6**  
Grades K-6: Grades 3-6 celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation with Fr. Vincent. Grades K-2 were finishing up their Circle of Grace lessons.

**ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS—GRADES 7-12**  
All students celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation with Fr. Vincent.


**Grade 7-9 Girls:** We began class with prayer and we then finished our lesson 6 and learned what Jesus meant love to be between spouses and others.

**Grade 7-9 Boys:** Started lesson 7 of Theology of the Body that talks about Vocations.

**Grade 10-12:** Started watching "The Passion". Our word this week was "Invest". Discussed not to invest in the material things to fill our home on earth, but instead, to invest in what matters to God and his heavenly home.



**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 stjo68791@gmail.com. The suggested donation is \$10.00 per Mass.



**UNDERSTANDING YOUR GRIEF** support group sessions will meet on Tuesdays from March 5th-April 23rd from 6:00-7:30 pm. Meetings will be held at Franciscan Healthcare in West Point on the second floor in the Clare Conference Room. There is no fee to attend this 8-week grief group. 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.

MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	04	—	—	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tue	05	9:30 AM	WCC	+ Bill Murphy
Wed	06	8:00 AM	HC	+ Eric Wellman
Thu	07	8:00 AM	SJ	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Fri	08	9:00 AM	CHB	+ Henry Steffensmeier
Sat	09	—	—	<b>NO MASS</b>
Sun	10	8:30 AM	HC	+ Irvin Schlickbernd + Elaine Throener
Sun	10	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Nyla Borgmann

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

