

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

**Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28th, 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 5th Sunday of Easter



The Gospel is from *St. John 15:1-8*. The words of consolation and encouragement which our Lord spoke to his Apostles on Holy Thursday night were intended to console and encourage all his followers for all time. They encourage and console us today, and we need encouragement to persevere on the road to heaven. Living a truly

Christian life is never easy. We have always the attraction of the world, and the temptations by the agents of evil, to make that life less easy still. But in our own day these difficulties have increased a hundredfold. The attractions of this world have been multiplied by the increased comforts, pleasures and means of self-indulgence which science and technology have put within our reach. Human nature, always inclined to choose the easiest way out, has been given so many means of escape from the strain of self-control that even for a fervent Christian it is frequently very difficult to avoid these worldly allurements.

Having the ordinary comforts of life and the possession of some of this world's goods is not wrong or anti-Christian, but the natural temptation is to get more and more of these comforts and riches, and the point is soon reached where this becomes the only purpose in life. When this sad stage is arrived at, God and our future life are forgotten; this world becomes our idol and our prison. The temptations which the agents of evil put in Christ's way are also multiplied today. The communications media are now very technically improved and perfected and can be, and sometimes are, a means for good. Unfortunately, more frequently, they are the channels of bad example. The evil deeds of men have more "news value" than their good deeds. And it is so much easier to follow the bad example! Permissiveness, rejection of authority, glorification of unlawful sexual indulgence, drug addiction, and other such crimes are placed before the minds and the eyes of the youth of today, and are unfortunately copied by far too many.

It is indeed hard to swim against the current; it is so much more pleasant to allow oneself to be carried along without effort by the rushing tide. But when there are rocks and shoals ahead, the thoughtless and ease-seeking swimmer will end in grief. Our Lord has warned us today, as he warned his first followers, to abide in him, to remain closely united with him, as is the branch to the vine, if we hope to bear fruit worthy of heaven. He promises us that if we remain closely united to him, that is, if we strive daily to keep his commandments, he will be ever ready to answer our requests, and to heed all our prayers. The sincere prayer today of every man who is trying to lead a Christian life is for the grace to overcome the allurements of the world, the flesh and the devil. Let us take courage, then. Christ has promised to remain beside us during life if only we stay close to him. While we remain healthy branches of the vine, Christ, we will be on the road to heaven. Our daily tasks, our work as well as our prayer, our recreation as well as our rest, our joys as well as our sorrows, will give glory to God and prove that we are worthy to be called disciples of Christ.

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

SUNDAY REFLECTION:

"I'm the vine, you are the branches"

Our state of Nebraska is well known in the Nation when it comes to turning up to support our teams. This is always a motivating factor to the players as well as a boost to the entire team. Every win is because of the chain of cooperation where each one plays his or her role effectively. But we can't do all these without the head coach. He is the driving force of every energy in a team. Just as a team relies on its coach for direction and motivation, we too rely on our connection to Jesus for guidance and strength. That is why we are here in the church every Sunday.

The idea of Jesus as the vine and we the branches is a powerful metaphor for our connectedness. It highlights the importance of staying connected to one's faith and source of spiritual nourishment in order to bear good fruits that we do daily.

Acts of kindness and support for others that we do our parish and town communities is manifestations of this connection to Jesus. It is amazing how our people usually turn up in big numbers to support each other in need within our towns. I have seen it in social events, families, schools and in our churches. It is a beautiful reminder of the potential for goodness that exists among us as a result of our roots of faith.

Many times, we are already living saints without knowing it. Our good fruits are a reflection of the vine (Jesus) with its rich roots that are grounded in God. Let us continue to build on this strength. It is a powerful spirit that we have.

Fr. Vincent



West Point Parish Family Weekend Mass Schedule:		
Weekend Mass	Sat.	Sun.
St. Boniface/St. Anthony (Until July of 2024)	4:30 pm	
Sts. Peter and Paul-Howells	5:00 pm	
St. Mary's-West Point	6:00 pm	
St. Aloysius-Aloys		7:30 am
Holy Cross-Beemer		8:30 am
St. Wenceslaus-Dodge		9:00 am
St. Joseph-Wisner		10:00 am
St. Mary's-West Point		10:00 am
St. John Nep.-Howells		10:30 am

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer
Weekend of May 5th

WORD: Rita Eichelberger
EMHC: Dawn Peatrowsky
SERVER: Kim Pena & Stella Guenther

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner
Weekend of May 5th

LEC: Diane Davies
EMHC: Anne Ausdemore
EMHC 2: Capri McGuire
SERV: Brodrick Burki, Giddean Andersen, Ghia Bramble
OFF: Sid Kneifl
USHER: May Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts
Holy Cross—April 21st, 2024

Sunday Envelopes:	\$1,005.00
Plate:	116.00
Children:	25.00
Tithe.ly Online:	200.00
Works of Mercy:	50.00
Total:	\$1,396.00

MAY MOWING GROUP- Chair: Mike Gentrup
Co-Chair: Ethan Ortmeier; Members: Scott Ortmeier, Tim Oligmueller, Gerald Schlickbernd, Josh Bramble

COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS next week to honor our graduate and those who have received their 1st Communion.

MANY THANKS to those who donated for our Easter flowers: Bernie Oligmueller in memory of Ben & Elizabeth Wordekemper, Bill & Johanna Oligmueller, Renae Carlson in memory of Brent Carlson, Robert & Violet Yosten, Robert Praest in memory of Marcella Praest & Marcia Janzig, Marjorie Gentrup in memory of Adolph & Eunice Behrens, Casper Gentrup Jr., Natacia Gentrup, Casper & Margaret Gentrup, Brad & Anne Schulz in memory of Marilyn Schulz, Ron & Bev Francis in memory of family members, Dave & Sue Steffensmeier, Doug Steffensmeier in memory of Ray & Dee Steffensmeier, Stan Ortmeier in memory of Alois & Anna Ortmeier, Dave & Barb Deitloff & Fred & Kay Schultz in memory of Francis Oligmueller, Jim Sapp, and Holy Cross Council of Women. Your donations were greatly appreciated!

MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, April 28th—Team #4 AJ & Lindsey Burki and Chris & Brenda Liermann
Sunday, May 5th—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore

MEN'S WORK GROUP—May 2024

Chair: Keith Schroetlin
Co-Chair: Trevor Cyboron
Members: Alan Harms, Chad Dixon, Devon Dixon, Brad Cornell, Sid Kneifl, AJ Burki, Craig Kreikemeier

Stewardship of God's Gifts
St. Joseph—April 21st, 2024

Sunday Envelopes:	\$950.00
Plate:	242.00
Children:	18.00
Tithe.ly Online:	393.34
Heating/AC:	50.00
Works of Mercy:	180.00
Easter:	100.00

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION: The council election will take place the weekend of Sunday, May 19th. Each registered adult member of St. Joseph's Church will vote for 2 men and 2 women from the ballot. Parishioners on this year's ballot are: Chad Ludwig, Matt McGuire, Doug Oertwich, Todd Schroeder, Amanda Albers, Lynndsy Beckmann, Paige Godbersen, and Amber Good.



Celebrations:

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

Birthdays

Farrah Lierman May 2

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon	29	—	—	NO MASS
Tue	30	9:30 AM	WCC	NO MASS
Wed	01	8:00 AM	HC	NO MASS
Thu	02	8:00 AM	SJ	NO MASS
Fri	03	9:00 AM	CHB	NO MASS
Sat	04	—	—	NO MASS
Sun	05	8:30 AM	HC	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish
Sun	05	10:00 AM	SJ	+ Edwin & Edna Knievel

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

Prom Mass 2024

Mass was attended by many from our community. It is always a blessing to have them here on such a special night!!



Prom Night!

Religious Education

ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6

Grades K-6 The classes finished up year-end tests. The 3rd grade learned about Zacchaeus and being peacemakers. This week (May 1st) will be the final class for the spring.

ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS– GRADES 7-12

Grade 7-12: To start the evening, the kids enjoyed taco bags, pizza and dessert. We then had a corn hole tournament and prizes were given to the top team along with some fun consolation prizes. This was our last class for the Spring. Enjoy the Summer and see you back in September.



Amazing turn out for Youth Mass on April 14th! The kids did great participating in many parts of the Mass as well as singing the song they had been practicing all year!!