

## Saint Joseph's Church

PO Box 623

1318 Ave G West

Wisner, NE 68791

Parish Office: 529-3891

[www.stjosephwisner.org](http://www.stjosephwisner.org)

Reconciliation: Sundays after Mass  
or by appointment

## Sixth Sunday of Easter May 5th, 2024

Administrator: Rev. Vincent Sunguti

402-529-3531

Email: [vsunguti2018@gmail.com](mailto:vsunguti2018@gmail.com)

## Holy Cross Parish

PO Box 212

517 N Fraiser

Beemer, NE 68716

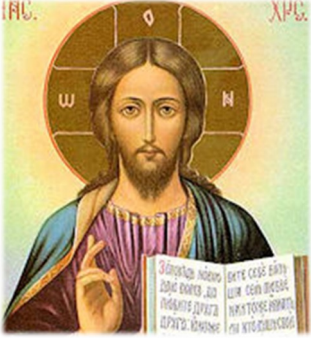
Phone: 528-3475

[www.holycrossbeemer.org](http://www.holycrossbeemer.org)

Reconciliation: Sundays  
8:00-8:20 am or by appt.

Bulletin and Office Email: [stjo68791@gmail.com](mailto:stjo68791@gmail.com)

### The 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter



The Gospel is from *St. John 15:9-17*. It is only a few weeks since Good Friday when we commemorated the agonizing death of Christ on Mount Calvary. This was an excruciating, shameful death even for hardened criminals who deserved it. But for our loving Savior, the innocent lamb of God, one who had never offended God or neighbor, it was something of which the whole human race should be ashamed forever. What caused Christ that torment and death on the cross was our sins, the sins of all mankind and not the spite and hatred of his Jewish opponents, who were only instruments in the tragedy. Atonement had to be made to God for the sins of the world, so that men could reach the eternal inheritance which the incarnation made available to them. However, not all the acts of the entire human race could make a sufficient atonement to God. A sacrifice, an expiration of infinite value was needed. The death of the Son of God in his human nature was alone capable of making such an expiation.

That Christ willingly accepted crucifixion for our sakes, that he gave the greatest proof of love which the world has ever known, by laying down his life for his friends, did not make his sufferings any less, did not ease any of the pains of Calvary. His agony in the Garden before his arrest shows this: he foresaw all the tortures and pains which he was to undergo and sweated blood at the thought of what awaited him. But he was to keep his father's commandment "not my will but thine be done." We Christians must have hearts of stone, hearts devoid of all sense of gratitude, when we forget what Christ has done for us and deliberately offend him! Alas, this is what all of us do sometimes, and many of us do all the time. Christ died to bring us to heaven but we tell him, by our sins, that he was wasting his time. We do not want to go to heaven, we are making our happiness here!

How far can human ingratitude and thanklessness go? Christ told us, through the disciples on Holy Thursday night, that he had made us his friends, his intimates. We are no longer servants in the household, who merely earn their daily wage and have no intimacy with the family and no hope of ever sharing in the family possessions. Instead, we have been adopted into the family by Christ becoming man, we have been guaranteed all the rights of children intimacy with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and the future sharing in the eternal happiness of that divine household. Christ's incarnation made us God's children; Christ's death on the cross removed sin. Sin is the one obstacle that could prevent us reaching our eternal inheritance.

Because God gave us a free will we can in a moment of folly, a moment of madness really, deprive ourselves of the privileges and possessions which Christ has made available to us. We can choose to exchange an eternity of happiness for a few fleeting years of self-indulgence on earth. We can fling Christ's gift of love back in his face and tell him we don't want it. God forbid that we should ever act like this, that we should ever forget God's purpose in creating us. It is a marvelous thing to be alive, if we have hope in a future life. If nothing awaited us but the grave, then to live on this earth, which is a valley of sorrow and tears for the vast majority, would be the cruelest of jests. But of this we need have no fear. Life on earth is but a short prelude to our real existence. If we use this brief

period as Christ has told us how to use it, death for us will be the passage into the eternal mansions. Be grateful to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; love the Blessed Trinity; prove your love by loving your fellowmen. By doing this you are fulfilling the whole law and the prophets; and you are assuring yourself of the place in heaven which Christ has won for you.

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

**SPIRITUAL INSIGHT**—On May 1st we celebrated the Memorial of St Joseph the Worker. Recognizing that spring planting is upon us and the work that all undertake, I thought it would be good to reflect upon what the church writes about this topic. The following is taken from The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World which was written during the Second Vatican Council. It reminds us that God has commissioned us to work for the building up of the kingdom and that it is to be directed by Him.

"Throughout the course of the centuries, men have labored to better the circumstances of their lives through a monumental amount of individual and collective effort. To believers, this point is settled: considered in itself, this human activity accords with God's will. For man, created to God's image, received a mandate to subject to himself the earth and all it contains, and to govern the world with justice and holiness; a mandate to relate himself and the totality of things to Him Who was to be acknowledged as the Lord and Creator of all. Thus, by the subjection of all things to man, the name of God would be wonderful in all the earth."

"This mandate concerns the whole of everyday activity as well. For while providing the substance of life for themselves and their families, men and women are performing their activities in a way which appropriately benefits society. They can justly consider that by their labor they are unfolding the Creator's work, consulting the advantages of their brother men, and are contributing by their personal industry to the realization in history of the divine plan."

"Hence, the norm of human activity is this: that in accord with the divine plan and will, it harmonizes with the genuine good of the human race, and that it allow men as individuals and as members of society to pursue their total vocation and fulfill it" (Gaudium et Spes, 33-35). With this in mind, as we commence our work may we allow it to be directed by God and for His glory. St Joseph the Worker, pray for us.

- Fr Weeder

### 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)

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer  
Weekend of May 12th

WORD: Marilyn Ortmeier  
EMHC: Mary Mostek  
SERVER: Ben Oligmueller  
USHER: Gerald Gentrup

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner  
Weekend of May 12th

LEC: Dave McGuire  
EMHC: Steve Ausdemore  
EMHC 2: Richard Schultz  
SERV: Aubrianna Good, Abraham Millan Jr.  
Joel Good  
OFF: Chris Liermann  
USHER: May Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
Holy Cross—April 28th, 2024	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$251.00
Plate:	229.00
Children:	12.00
Tithe.ly Online:	150.00
Building Fund:	15.00
Total:	\$657.00


**MONEY COUNTERS**  
Sunday, May 5th—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore  
Sunday, May 12th—Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder

**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

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

**CONGRATULATIONS KRISTOPHER PENA** who is graduating from High School. We are honoring him and also Max Guenther and Elam Woodbury who received their First Communion with coffee and doughnuts after Mass today. Please join us!

Stewardship of God's Gifts	
St. Joseph—April 28th, 2024	
Sunday Envelopes:	\$625.00
Plate:	79.00
Children:	60.00
Tithe.ly Online:	70.81
Heating/AC:	50.00




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

**Birthdays**  
Beverly Francis May 8  
Stella Guenther May 9

**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, Alfredo DeCostanzo, Doug Oertwich, Todd Schroeder, Amanda Albers, Lynndsy Beckmann, Paige Godbersen, and Amber Good.

**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.



**Ascension Mass Schedule**  
*Holy Day of Obligation*

**Holy Cross**—Wednesday, May 8th at 5:30 pm  
**St. Joseph**—Thursday, May 9th 8:00 am


MASS INTENTIONS				
Mon	06	—	—	<b>NO MASS</b>
Tue	07	9:30 AM	WCC	<b>NO MASS</b>
Wed	08	5:30 PM	HC	Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of Ray & Odelia Steffensmeier
Thu	09	8:00 AM	SJ	Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of Ron & MaryAnn Wemhoff
Fri	10	9:00 AM	CHB	<b>NO MASS</b>
Sat	11	—	—	<b>NO MASS</b>
Sun	12	8:30 AM	HC	+ Jayda Oligmueller + Eric Wellman
Sun	12	10:00 AM	SJ	Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish

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

**Religious Education**

**ST. JOSEPH – GRADES K-6**  
**Grades K-6** The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade did a scavenger hunt in the church and the 4<sup>th</sup> grade did a stained-glass window project and studied the sacramentals. Sarah and Capri distributed awards for attendance, prayers and also to Mass servers. This was the final class so have a safe and fun summer.

**Pentecost Party:** A flier was sent home with all the students inviting them to a Pentecost Party at church on May 29th. More details will be mailed next week.



**Prayer Chain info.....** St. Joseph prayer group is open to all men and women of the parish. The prayer request notifications come to you via text or phone call, and you are not asked to pass on the requests (like past prayer chains have required). You simply include the request in your regular prayers and there is no meeting involved.

If you or a loved one need extra prayers, please let us know. The information you give can be as general or specific as you'd like. All members of the prayer group are asked to keep the intentions confidential. To be added to the prayer group or to ask for special prayer requests, please notify Father Vincent or call or text Anne at 402-750-9616.

