

## 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 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time June 23rd, 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 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Gospel is from *St. Mark 4:35-41*. There is a very important lesson for every one of us in today's gospel story. Our lives are really a journey across the sea of time to the shore of eternity. During that crossing all who come to the use of reason encounter some storms. There is no smooth, calm crossing for anyone. This is the will of God. Our Lord knew that a storm was going to blow up that night in the Sea of Galilee.

He allowed his disciples to face that terrifying ordeal, because he wanted his future Church to have confidence in his divine power and assistance, when tribulations and persecutions would seem to be on the point of ending her forever. Down through the centuries the Church of God has had to face storms and trials which would have swamped her if she had not a divine Founder and Protector. Christ, however, kept his promise — the gates of hell cannot prevail against her. She survived the storms and as a consequence of them gained new vigor and strength.

That same divine guarantee which Christ gave his Church will be with her until the last human being on earth has entered heaven. It is with her today. It will save her from internal weaknesses which could do more damage to her spiritual vitality than open persecution from without could ever do. We know Christ is in the barque of Peter. He is waiting to be called. If we realize that of ourselves, we are not able to weather this storm, and call on him, he will rebuke the winds of pride and calm the waves of turbulent self-assertion. The barque of Peter will enter calm waters once more.

What is true in the life of the Church is true also in the life of each member of the Church. God foresees all our life's storms. He permits them, because he is to use them as means to help us in our struggle to reach heaven. If we use these storms or trials of life to come closer to Jesus, to throw ourselves on his mercy, they will serve the purpose for which he permits them. Unfortunately, there are Christians who question not only the goodness of God, but his very existence, when some heavy seas break across their life's barque. "How could God, if he be good," they ask, "allow me to suffer like this, I who have been so faithful? Why should he let me bear all this poverty, all these pains, all this dishonesty of my fellowmen, when a small act of his will could remove it all and make me healthy, happy and prosperous?"

What such a Christian forgets is that God's purpose in creating him was not to make him healthy, happy and prosperous in this life, but to give him a share in his own eternal happiness in heaven. If this life were the end and sum-total of man, if all ended with death, then certainly that complaint would have some foundation. However, our human intelligence, and divine revelation, prove to us conclusively that this life is not an end for man but a means with which to attain his real end, perfect happiness.

Therefore, we must not expect to get from life what it cannot give. Instead, we must use what it gives us, the unpleasant as well as the pleasant, the rain as well as the sunshine, the pain as well as the pleasure, as means which will help us to reach our perfect ending, our eternal dwelling-place in heaven. Too often like the disciples that night in the storm, we think that God has forgotten us, that he is not interested in us when storms break around us. In fact, it is then that he is nearest to us. We think he is sleeping and that all is lost, when he is but using this storm to rekindle our faith and make us realize that we are pilgrims on our way across this earth and not permanent residents here.

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



From Fr. Vincent's Desk:

### Praying with Dementia Patients and Alzheimer's Patients By Karen Barber

There is an article on praying with dementia and Alzheimer's patients that has simple prayer ideas that can be used by caregivers, family members, clergy and church members to actively engage their loved ones in prayer.

Doing simple prayer activities with memory care patients can stimulate memories and enable them to connect with God despite their limitations. It also enables us to give loved ones the peace, encouragement and strength of prayer.

If you would like this prayer article, send me an email and I will get it to you: [vsunguti2018@gmail.com](mailto:vsunguti2018@gmail.com) or call if you need a hard copy 402-529-3531.

### Choose Life

The Conference of Nebraska Bishop's sent all the clergy a letter and below I have shared a portion of it with you. It is helpful for us to be aware of legitimate prolife group before make sign of approval.

"Recently, a third abortion-related ballot initiative was launched. This effort, under the name Choose Life Now, seeks to provide protection in the state constitution for unborn children from the moment of conception. While the goal is one, we all share, we are not going to allow signature collection at parishes on this third initiative. This ballot initiative effort is confusing for pro-lifers, and some of its promoters are opposing the bishops' clear guidance on the pro-life initiative already in circulation. This is not conducive to uniting Catholics against the pro-abortion proposal, which must be defeated. Our focus has been and continues to be on urging Nebraskans to defeat the pro-abortion ballot initiative proposal and helping Catholics understand that they can support the Protect Women & Children pro-life ballot initiative proposal".

### Reflection on the 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Stormy Life with Hope

I was wondering if there is any day, if not week or a month or a year with only good news. I can imagine how this can impact our lives positively. We have so many positive things that happen daily but unfortunately most media airs the bad news rather than the good news. Yes, we sail in stormy life of news but in reality, there is so much calmness and peace among many of us.



In the Gospel of today, Jesus takes a nap while on the boat and that is the time the storms are almost overturning this vessel. Why did it happen to the disciples yet they were with a VIP? You could expect nature to know who Jesus is but it didn't. In this case, we see a powerful metaphor for life's challenges and the presence of faith. Despite Jesus being with the disciples, they still faced a fierce storm. Despite how close we are to God, storms will still try to overpower us but when we turn to him for help, he comes to our aid. Many of us have had such experience of this but we are assured that sometimes he appears dead asleep yet in reality He is awake. Divine timing is not our own moment. Otherwise, we would be God. Jesus' response, though seemingly delayed, comes at the right moment, teaching trust in divine timing.

Can we play that part of Jesus in life for those with weak faith? Our levels of water of life are at different levels to each of us. To some, the water is so low, and others half way and others almost at the brink. Jesus' today is inspiring us to be a beacon of hope to those almost drowning. We can lead this life of hope in what we do and how we do it. We are all invited not only to recognize the good in the world but also to be active participants in spreading and embodying positivity and hope. Fr. Vincent.

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer  
Weekend of June 30th

WORD: Doris Guenther  
EMHC: Mary Mostek  
SERVER: Kim Pena and Stella Guenther  
USHER: Marvin Gentrup

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner  
Weekend of June 30th

LEC: Chris Ruskamp  
EMHC: Kathy Johnson  
EMHC 2: Richard Schultz  
SERV: Bentley Sateren, Kinsley Lueken,  
Autumn Chohon  
OFF: Todd Schroeder  
USHER: June Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts  
Holy Cross—June 16th, 2024

|                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| Sunday Envelopes: | \$890.00   |
| Plate:            | 175.00     |
| Children:         | 19.00      |
| Tithe.ly Online:  | 150.00     |
| Total:            | \$1,234.00 |

**JUNE MOWING GROUP-** Chair: Dave Steffensmeier  
Co-Chair: Jeff Robertson; Members: Ron Guenther, Tom Peterson, Keith Anderson, Gerald Wellman

**JULY MOWING GROUP-** Chair: Alan Batenhorst  
Co-Chair: Robert Praest; Members: Roy Liermann, Chris Black, Ron Francis, Gary Batenhorst



**COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS** after Mass today to say "Good Bye" to Father Vincent. Please join us in wishing him the best in his new assignment.

**MONEY COUNTERS**

Sunday, June 23rd—Team #4 A.J. & Lindsey Burki, Chris & Brenda Liermann  
Sunday, June 30th—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore

**MEN'S WORK GROUP—June 2024**

Chair: Blake Albers  
Co-Chair: Derreck Marx  
Members: David Deitloff, Jeremy Schultz, Mike Stuhr, Norm Weber, Matt Albers, Alan Feller, Bob Feller

**MEN'S WORK GROUP—July 2024**

Chair: Matt McGuire  
Co-Chair: Tim McGuire  
Members: Mitch Schweers, Steve McGuire, Jack Godbersen, Alfredo DiCostanzo, Arvid Hass, LaVern Houghton

Stewardship of God's Gifts  
St. Joseph—June 16th, 2024

|                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| Sunday Envelopes: | \$2,435.00 |
| Plate:            | 94.00      |
| Children:         | 35.00      |
| Tithe.ly Online:  | 170.81     |

**Celebrations:**

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

**Birthdays**

Jeanette Lueshen June 25  
Judy Guenther June 29

**ACCOMODATIONS FOR FAREWELL RECEPTIONS**

**Holy Cross, Beemer:**

Sunday June 23rd \*\* Sacrament of reconciliation at 7.30 am. \*\*Mass at 8:00 am (not the usual 8:30 am) followed by reception in the basement hall.

**St. Joseph, Wisner**

Saturday June 29th - Sacrament of reconciliation at 3:00 pm - 3.30 pm  
Sunday June 30th - Mass at 10:00 am followed by reception in the basement hall.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Please mark your calendar for Sunday, June 30 after the 10:00 Mass. St Joseph's Parish will be serving pork sandwiches, chips, salads and cake to wish Father Vincent farewell. Everyone from Wisner and Beemer parishes are welcome to attend. Serving until 1:00 PM.



**MUMS PRESALE ANNOUNCEMENT**

It's that time of year again! The Ladies Guild will be selling mums to brighten up your gardens this fall. To ensure you get your mums, please sign up in the back of the church for presales.



**Important Dates:**

**Sign-Up Deadline:** July 15th

**Payment Deadline:** July 15th

Don't miss out on this opportunity to support the Ladies Guild and add some beautiful mums to your home. Sign up and pay by July 15th to guarantee your delivery.

Thank you for your support!

**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

For Holy Cross—renaecarlson@hotmail.com

**MASS INTENTIONS**

|     |    |          |     |  |
|-----|----|----------|-----|--|
| Mon | 24 | —        | —   | <b>NO MASS</b>                                   |
| Tue | 25 | 9:30 AM  | WCC | + Paul Kass                                      |
| Wed | 26 | 8:00 AM  | HC  | + Doug Temple<br>+ Mel Tomka                     |
| Thu | 27 | 8:00 AM  | SJ  | + John Davies                                    |
| Fri | 28 | 9:00 AM  | CHB | + Gary Servi                                     |
| Sat | 29 | —        | —   | <b>NO MASS</b>                                   |
| Sun | 30 | 8:30 AM  | HC  | + Ray & Odelia Steffensmeier<br>+ Marilyn Schulz |
| Sun | 30 | 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**

Looking for Co-DRE. This is a paid position which involves helping coordinate the program for K-12.

Also, needing a volunteer teacher for Grade 3.

Please contact Capri or Sarah if you are interested in either position.

Thank You!!

**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.

