

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

**Third Sunday of Advent
 December 15th, 2024**

Pastor: Fr. James Weeder
 402-372-2188
 Email: jmweeder@archomaha.org

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.

Associate Pastors: Fr. Walter Jong-a-Kiem and Fr. Matthias Sule

St. Joseph and Holy Cross Bulletin and Office Email: stjo68791@gmail.com

**ST. JOSEPH FAMILY OF PARISHES
 Weekend Mass Schedule:**

| Weekend Mass | Sat. | Sun. |
|-----------------------------|---------|----------|
| St. Boniface—Monterey | 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 |

3rd Sunday of Advent

“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.” (PHILIPPIANS 4:6) St. Paul reminds us that God is an abundant God – He is the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give us all that we need. Remember, that we are created in God’s image and likeness. We, too, are made to be generous with all of our gifts as well. Placing our trust in God frees us from being a slave to possessions. It allows us to gratefully and generously share ourselves and our goods with others.



THIRD SUNDAY
 OF
Advent



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

| Christmas Eve | Christmas Day |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 4:00 pm St. Boniface Monterey | 7:30 am St. Aloysius Aloys |
| 4:00 pm Sts. Peter and Paul Howells | 8:30 am Holy Cross Beemer |
| 5:00 pm St. Mary's West Point | 9:00 am St. Wenceslaus Dodge |
| 6:00 pm St. Joseph Wisner | 10:00 am St. Joseph Wisner |
| 6:00 pm St. Wenceslaus Dodge | 10:00 am St. Mary's West Point |
| Midnight Mass St. Mary's West Point | 10:30 am St. John's Howells |

SPIRITUAL INSIGHT—

Dear brothers and sisters,

We have reached the 3rd Sunday of Advent also called Gaudete Sunday or Rejoice Sunday. And as we light the rose-colored candle on the Advent wreath, our hearts are invited to shift their focus toward joy. Yet, as we look around at the state of the world, finding reasons to rejoice can sometimes feel like a daunting task. Natural disasters wreak havoc on communities, leaving countless lives in disarray. Wars and acts of violence carve deep scars into nations and communities. Injustice, hatred, systemic racism, and political discord loom large, casting shadows over our collective hope. In the face of such overwhelming brokenness, it is only human to question: What is there to rejoice about? How do we embrace joy when suffering seems to overshadow everything? The answer lies in the profound gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. His coming brings light into our darkness, offering us new hope, renewed joy, and a transformative call to live in communion with one another. From His incarnation— God entering human history— to His quiet yet powerful presence in our everyday lives, and to the long-anticipated promise of His second coming, Jesus is the source of hope in a world longing for redemption.

This Gaudete Sunday, the Scriptures give us permission to rejoice. Not with a shallow, surface-level happiness, but with a deep and defiant joy rooted in the promise of God’s love. Emmanuel. God with us. Those are not just comforting words—they’re the truth of our faith. God is with us in the heartbreak, the waiting, the mess of it all. He is the reason we can find joy even when life feels impossible.

So, as we move through the remaining days of Advent, let us carry that truth in our hearts. Let us rejoice. Not because life is easy, but because God’s love is stronger than anything we will ever face.

Advent Blessings, Father Michel N’DO

Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross, Beemer
Weekend of December 22nd

WORD: Doris Gentrup
EMHC: Ann Bausch
SERVER: Elijah & Easley Woodbury
USHER: Brad Schulz

Liturgical Ministers—St. Joseph, Wisner
Weekend of December 22nd

LEC: Steve McGuire
EMHC: Kathy Johnson
EMHC 2: Steve Ausdemore
SERV: Jentrye Frederickson, Hiley Grenier, Jerick Lueken
OFF: Ruth Bloedorn
USHER: December Men's Group

Stewardship of God's Gifts
Holy Cross—December 8th, 2024

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Sunday Envelopes: | \$445.00 |
| Plate: | 44.00 |
| Children: | 12.00 |
| Tithe.ly Online: | 150.00 |
| Thanksgiving: | 550.00 |
| Christmas Flowers: | 105.00 |
| Christmas: | 400.00 |
| Building: | 100.00 |
| Insurance: | 20.00 |
| HELP/Fuel: | 100.00 |
| Immaculate Conception: | 55.00 |
| All Saints: | 5.00 |
| Total: | \$1,986.00 |

MONEY COUNTERS

Sunday, Dec. 15th—Team #1 Mary VonSeggern, Chris Ruskamp, Lori Ruskamp, Steve Ausdemore
Sunday, Dec. 22nd—Team #2 Norm Weber, Shane Batenhorst, Todd Schroeder

MEN'S WORK GROUP—December 2024

Chair: Gary Godbersen
Co-Chair: Duane Mendlik
Members: Blaine Johnson, Nick Schultz, Scott Mendlik, Dave Ebel, Dixon Godbersen, Gerald Gentrup

BABY JESUS SHOWER (newborn items) & eyeglasses are being collected in the baskets by church entrance. Donation envelopes and calendars for 2025 are there also. Every adult couple or single registered in the parish will receive a box of envelopes.

Stewardship of God's Gifts

St. Joseph—December 8th, 2024

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Sunday Envelopes: | \$1,865.00 |
| Plate: | 199.00 |
| Children: | 14.00 |
| Tithe.ly Online: | 481.39 |
| Christmas: | 500.00 |
| Immaculate Conception: | 10.00 |



Celebrations:

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

Last weeks celebrations were inadvertently missed, So, they are posted this week.

Birthdays

Kailey Pena December 18
Dan Spenner December 19
Betty Guenther December 20

No Anniversaries

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES ARE READY FOR PICK UP IN THE BACK OF CHURCH... Several factors have inspired us to try something different in 2025. With the implementation of Tithely (online giving), the increase in cost, and with many envelope boxes not being used, we decreased the number of boxes ordered.

- If you have used envelopes within the past 2 years, you will continue to receive a box for 2025.
- If you are an online giver, there will be a small box of special collection envelopes with your name on it. It will include things like Easter, Christmas, utilities, Rel Ed, Cemetery, Holy Days, etc.
- All others, including newly registered members that would like an envelope box, please call the parish office.

For any questions, or concerns, please contact Sarah at 402-529-3891.

ST. JOSEPH PARISH—POINSETTIAS

If you would like to purchase a Poinsettia for the Christmas Season in memory of a loved one(s), the sign up sheet and envelope are in the back of the church. You may also put an envelope in the collection basket, or mail it to the church at PO Box 623. Be sure to include the name of your loved one(s) and \$20 for each Poinsettia.



MEN'S GROUP SCHEDULE: The 2025 St. Joseph Men's group schedule is complete. Please pick up your envelope in the back of church before January 1st.

MASS INTENTIONS

| | | | | |
|-----|----|----------|-----|---|
| Mon | 16 | — | — | NO MASS |
| Tue | 17 | 8:00 AM | HC | Lvng & Dec'd Mbrs of the Henry & Eleanor Spenner Fam. |
| Wed | 18 | 9:30 AM | WCC | Members of St. Joseph & Holy Cross Parish |
| Thu | 19 | 8:00 AM | SJ | Lvng & dec'd Mbrs of Ron & MaryAnn Wemhoff |
| Fri | 20 | 9:00 AM | CHB | + Fred McNamara |
| Sat | 21 | — | — | NO MASS |
| Sun | 22 | 8:30 AM | HC | + Brent Carlson |
| Sun | 22 | 10:00 AM | SJ | + Herb Albers |

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

Religious Education

ST. JOSEPH & HOLY CROSS – GRADES K-12

Grades K-6: The Christmas Program was held on Wednesday evening and was followed by a soup supper hosted by the Ladies Guild. The students did an awesome job with their parts and skits. The program was very well attended by family and friends.

Grades 7-12: On December 8th the students enjoyed an afternoon of friends, food and bowling at their annual Christmas Bowling Party at Tornado Alley.

Have a Blessed Christmas Season and a Happy New Year!

January 8th - Classes resume for all grades



Nativity Cast 2024 - Grades K-2