

PARISH INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, December 12th

Third Sunday of Advent

-4: 00pm Mass -†Terry Miller
Ushers: Volunteers
Lector: Volunteer

SUNDAY, December 13th

Third Sunday of Advent

-8:30am Mass -Our Parish Family
Ushers: Volunteers
Lector: Volunteer

MONDAY, December 14th

St. Ambrose

-5:30pm Mass -†Henry Becker

TUESDAY, December 15th

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

-5:00 pm Adoration
-5:30pm Mass -†Jennifer Clements

THURSDAY, December 17th

Weekday

-8:30 am Mass -†Marian Roesler

SATURDAY, December 19th

Third Sunday of Advent

-4: 00pm Mass -†Thomas McGowan
Ushers: Volunteers
Lector: Volunteer

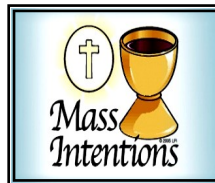
SUNDAY, December 20th

Third Sunday of Advent

-8:30am Mass -†Carol and Frank Seabauer
Ushers: Volunteers
Lector: Volunteer

Mass Intentions

We have openings for weekday intentions beginning Dec. 28, 2020, First Saturdays beginning Feb 6, 2021 and weekends beginning Sept 5, 2021. For questions contact the parish office 788-1646 or sjrp2601@gmail.com.



St. Peters, Middle Ridge

Adoration: Wed. 7:30-9:00 PM

Weekend Mass: Sat. 8:00 PM and Sun. 10:00 AM

Weekday Mass: Wed. and Fri. 8:00 AM

Options to support the Parish:

- Use the online giving portal set up by the Diocese: <https://diolc.org/st-joseph-parish-st-joseph-ridge/> (processing fees will be deducted from your contribution, which average 3% for debit and credit cards and \$.75 for EFT, ACH)
- **Drop off** a contribution at the church during private prayer time
- **Mail in** your weekly/monthly offering to parish office (W2601 State Rd 33, La Crosse, WI 54601)
- If you use online banking and would like make your contribution using **bill pay**, set up St. Joseph Ridge Parish as a payment and the bank will mail it directly to the parish (if possible, use your envelope number as the account number).

PARISH CALENDAR

- **December 12/13** ~ Special Collection for Retirement Fund for Religious during Mass
- **December 16** ~ Religious Ed Class
Grades 1-5 & 8 (6-7:00pm), grades 6,7 & 9 (7:15-8:30)
- **December 23** ~ NO Religious Education Class
- **December 24** ~ **Christmas Eve Mass: 4 PM & 7 PM**
St. Peter Parish 5 PM & 8:30 PM
- **December 25** ~ **Christmas Day Mass: 8:30 AM**
St. Peter Parish 10:30 AM
- **December 30** ~ NO Religious Education Class
- **December 31** ~ *Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God* Mass - 5:30 PM, **NO 8 AM Mass this day**
- **January 1** ~ Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- **January 6** ~ Religious Education Class,
Grades 1-5 & 8 (6-7:00pm), grades 6,7 & 9 (7:15-8:30)

Confessions—Available by appointment.

Please call or message Father directly.

Special time—at St. Peter Parish on
Dec. 16, 2020 from 6 to 9 PM



HIS CHURCH
IS STILL HERE † IT STILL PROVIDES
IS YOU AND ME

WE ARE THE DIOCESE	DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2020-2021	Diocesan Annual Appeal 2020-2021	
		12/10/2020	Total Pledged
	Pledged/Received	\$12,830.00	\$11,970.00
	Target Amount	\$20,615.00	\$20,615.00
	Under Target	(\$7,785.00)	(\$8,645.00)
	Number of families contributing: 35		
	Percent goal pledged: 62.24%/Received: 58.06%		

GIFT'S RETURNED TO GOD

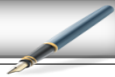
Week of Dec 6th-182 envelope holders



Adult Env.(26 Rec'd):	\$2165.00
Offertory:	\$154.00
Votive Lights:	\$48.35
RRR(1):	\$25.00
Retirement Fund for Rel(1):	\$10.00
Christmas Flowers(1):	\$40.00
Christmas(2):	\$510.00
Immaculate Concept(5):	\$110.00
Book Donations:	\$5.00

Thank You!

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN



Gaudete Sunday

The Third Sunday of Advent has traditionally been called "Gaudete" Sunday. "Gaudete" is Latin for "rejoice". The rose-colored vestments and rose candle on our Advent wreath remind us that we are halfway through the Advent season. For many of us this Advent of 2020 might not make us feel like rejoicing. You may wonder what do we have to rejoice in in this time of the world-wide pandemic?

I believe in the midst of this time of fear and uncertainty Christmas reminds us how much we are loved by our God. Because God came down as a defenseless infant to teach us how to love and live. Perhaps the "rejoicing" we need to do this Advent in the midst of uncertainties and fear, in the face of financial concerns and a troubled world, of not knowing exactly how we should celebrate Christmas this year, is that we might rejoice in what Christmas promises us...A Savior. "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord" (Lk 2:8-11). Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us (John 1:14). God is with us. As this Advent 2020 quickly moves along, I encourage you to take some time for quiet in your life to reflect upon the great mysteries we celebrate at this time of the year.

Some journeys need no roads, only a willing heart!

Wish you Gaudete Sunday!

Live Jesus, Fr. Biju



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Reminder: If your child will be absent, please contact Teresa Brown or your child's teacher. Thank you for your cooperation. Also, please do not send your child if they are not feeling well or under quarantine due to contact with a COVID positive person.



Unfortunately, for everyone's safety and the rise in COVID cases the Christmas Program for this year has been canceled.

PARISH NEWS

Signup to Attend Christmas Mass



If you are planning to attend Mass for Christmas, please signup for a Mass in the back of church. For safety reasons we need to keep the crowd to the 25% capacity or 70 Persons. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Liturgical Ministry Volunteers

Fr. Biju needs your help! **Please sign up to help with Christmas Mass by signing up** in the back of church or by contacting Teresa Brown at 608-787-0883 or email her at: dbrown039@centurytel.net We have the following openings:

Dec. 24—4 PM

Lector: _____
Eucharistic Minister: _____
Ushers: Joe Shikonya and _____
Servers: _____ and _____

Dec. 24—7 PM

Lector: _____
Eucharistic Minister: Polly Hilby
Ushers: _____ and _____
Servers: _____ and _____

Dec. 25—8:30 AM

Lector: Donna Clements
Eucharistic Minister: _____
Ushers: David Hanson and La Verne Clements
Servers: _____ and _____

Make a difference.

"Every dollar make a difference in covering our expenses," says a Tappist abbot. Hundreds of US religious communities struggle to provide for aging members because most senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little pay. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps these communities bridge the gap, offering support for medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

2021 Contribution Envelopes

Please pick up your 2021 Contribution Envelopes from the back of church after Mass or stop by during open prayer times. Thank you for your continued support of St. Joseph Parish.



Activities for Advent and Christmas



Christmas Baking: There are many recipe books available to find great traditional Christmas baking ideas. Choose what to bake, then prepare and bake as a family.

Place Candles in all of your windows: let your lights say "welcome" to all who are without the things of this world that your family has. As you light them, remind your family that Christ, the light of the world, is coming soon.



DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS

Daily Advent Reflections – 3 great choices. Choose from one of the following:

- Chris Stefanick – Unshakeable Joy Sign up for a FREE 26-day Advent retreat with Chris Stefanick and Cardinal Cantalamessa. With 26 days of joy-filled videos and daily reflections, made specifically to fit your busy schedule, we know that YOU can unlock the secret to Unshakeable Joy TODAY. Go to coaching.reallifecatholic.com/unshakeable-joy to register for FREE.
- Bishop Robert Barron – Daily Gospel Reflections Sign up for free daily reflections by Bishop Barron by clicking here: adventreflections.com/
- Matthew Kelley – Dynamic Catholic with Daily Gospel Reflections Sign up for free video meditations on the Gospel Reading for each day of Advent. Go to dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever



Advent Parish Mission

Prepare for the Birth of the Christ Child through the eyes of St. Joseph. Presentations live at 7 PM each Sunday of Advent (Dec. 13 and 20) or later as recordings at diolc.org/advent

Marriage Preparation Retreats

The La Crosse Deanery, which consists of 14 area parishes, will be offering Married Love: Two Becoming One, a marriage preparation retreat for engaged couples, on February 6, April 24, and July 10, 2021. These retreats will take place at Mary Mother of the Church Parish in La Crosse. Couples must register at least one month prior to the retreat. To register for a retreat, please email Mari at mnerickson95@gmail.com or leave a voice message at 608-518-7655.

Donate to Project Milk, Help the Children of Casa Hogar in Peru

The Father Joseph Walijewski Legacy Guild and Rural Life Committee ask you to help support Project Milk. Help us send 800 bags of Wisconsin milk each year to Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II in Lurin, Peru – home to 72 children, families and staff. Casa Hogar also trades milk for needed resources and donates milk to local soup kitchens and families across greater Lima. Last year more than 40 sites and hundreds of people received nutritious milk from Wisconsin. For more information and to give, visit diolc.org/project-milk.

In Search of Young Adults!

SPIRITUS is seeking Catholic young adults, 21-29 years of age, to join the SPIRITUS missionary team this August. SPIRITUS ignites the faith in thousands of young Catholics through retreats and parish youth ministry each year! Missionaries live in community and travel to parishes and schools throughout Wisconsin; they receive training, formation, spiritual direction, lodging, food, a monthly allowance, health insurance and a \$2,000 stipend upon completion of the 9-month program. It is a unique opportunity to serve our Lord and help young Catholics grow in faith. Visit www.spiritusministries.org/ beamissionary, contact Rachel at recruiter@spiritusministries.org, or (920) 722-8918 x113 for more information.



KIDS CORNER

The Messenger of Peace Word-find

V Y E A R P O O R B
 I C S P I R I T R O
 N A A N N O U N C E
 D P K G F C E S L N
 I T G O A L H E I T
 C I L D V A E N B I
 A V A N O I N T E D
 T E D A U M R T R I
 I S L O R D E D T N
 O R E L E A S E Y G
 N P R I S O N E R S

See if you can find the words in CAPITALS from today's first reading in the puzzle. Use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks in the reading.

The SPIRIT of the Lord God is upon me, because the LORD has ANOINTED me; he has SENT me to bring GLAD TIDINGS to the POOR, to heal

the _____, to PROCLAIM LIBERTY to CAPTIVES



and RELEASE to the PRISONERS, to ANNOUNCE a YEAR of FAVOUR from the Lord and a day of VINDICATION by our GOD.

Answer to word-find: Brokenhearted

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- For Paula Skoy-Evenson who is battling cancer.
- All those who are suffering from the Coronavirus and those who are working tirelessly to help the ill recover.
- All the military men and women who are supporting our freedom.
- All political leaders, may their decisions be made for the good of all citizens, born and unborn.
- Anyone fighting cancer, especially Rhonda McGowan diagnosed with multiple myeloma cancer.
- For Mora Mikshowsky and all children suffering with life threatening conditions and illnesses.
- For all Religious in our Diocese, especially Matt Kotek.
- The intentions listed in our parish book of prayer.

To add a request call 608-788-1646 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com