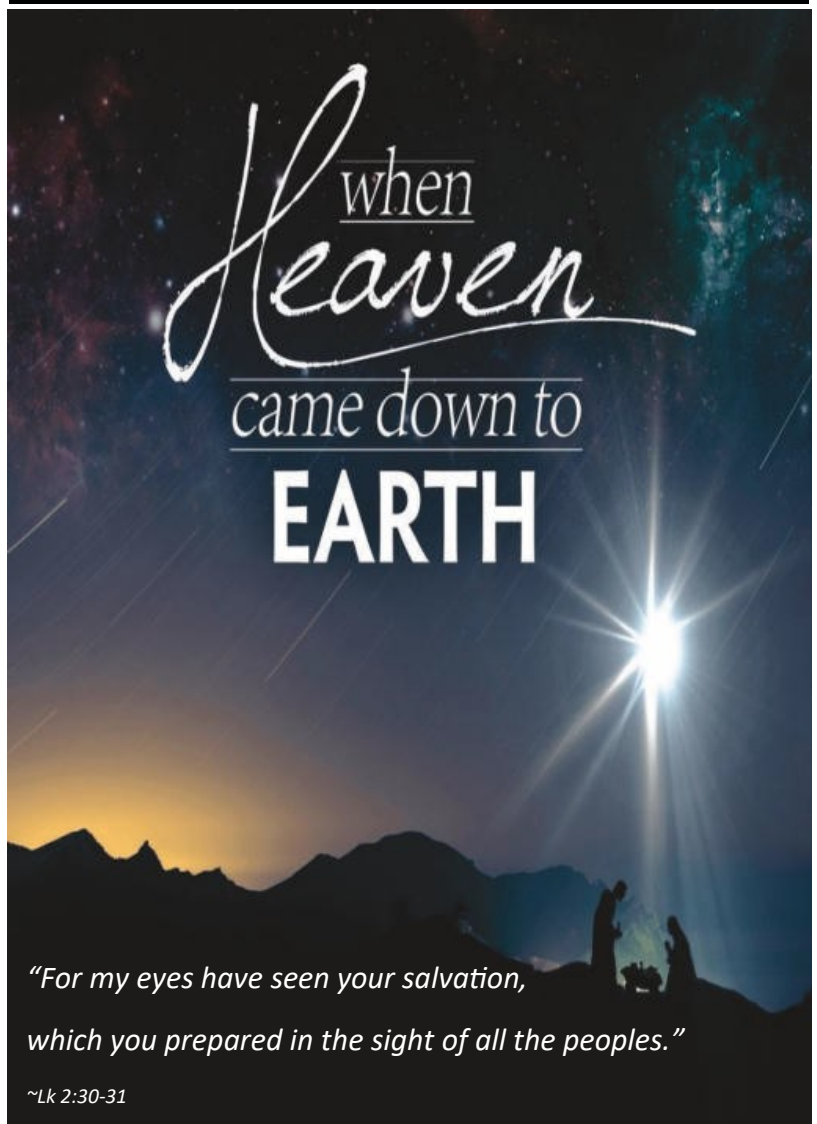


W2601 State Rd 33 • La Crosse • Wisconsin • 54601
December 25 and 27, 2020

Fr. Biju Chennala Kunjukutty, MSFS...715-495-2338
danielchennala@gmail.com

Saturday.....4:00pm
Sunday.....8:30am



PARISH INTENTIONS

THURSDAY, December 24th

Christmas Eve—NO 8:30 AM Mass

- 4:00 PM Mass -†George and Evelyn Miller
Lector: Jim Weber or Kathy Shikonya
Eucharistic Minister: Volunteer
Ushers: Joe Shikonya and Volunteer
- 7:00 PM Mass -Our Parish Family
Lector: Sally Miller
Eucharistic Minister: Polly Hilby
Ushers: Rick Mikshowsky and Steve Miller

FRIDAY, December 25th

Christmas Day

- 8:30 AM Mass -†Allen and Joe Gerke
Lector: Donna Clements
Eucharistic Minister: Volunteer
Ushers: Dave Hanson and La Verne Clements

SATURDAY, December 26th

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

- 4:00pm Mass -†Ralph and Evelyn Mikshowsky
Lector: Volunteer Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, December 27th

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

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

MONDAY, December 28th

The Holy Innocents

- 5:30pm Mass -

TUESDAY, December 29th

St. Thomas Becket

- 5:00 pm Adoration
-5:30pm Mass -†Cecelia Robinson

THURSDAY, December 31st

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God Vigil—NO 8:30 AM Mass

- 5:30 PM Mass -†Kathleen Malzacher

SATURDAY, January 2nd

SS Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen-First Saturday

- 8:30 AM Mass -†Allen and Joe Gerke

SATURDAY, January 2nd

The Epiphany of the Lord

- 4:00pm Mass -†Kenny Hess
Lector: Volunteer Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, January 3rd

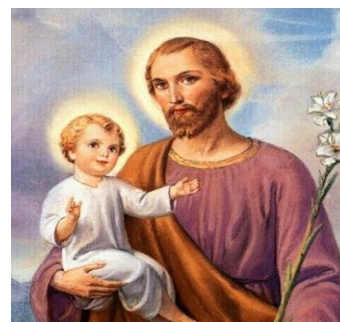
The Epiphany of the Lord

- 8:30am Mass -Theresa Hess and Rob Dowiasch
Lector: Volunteer Ushers: Volunteers

PARISH CALENDAR

- **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 8:30 AM Mass this day**
- **January 1 ~ Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**
8:00 AM Mass at St. Peter Parish
- **January 6 ~ Religious Education Class,**
Grades 1-5 & 8 (6-7:00pm), grades 6,7 & 9 (7:15-8:30)
- **January 11 ~ PCCW Meeting 6:30 PM in School Hall, all women of parish are welcome**
- **January 12 ~ Finance Council Meeting, 7 PM**
- **January 13 ~ 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.



**Year of
St. Joseph**

May 1, 2020 to
May 1, 2021

Diocese of La Crosse



Diocesan Annual Appeal 2020-2021

	12/22/2020	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Received		\$13,720.00	\$12,885.00
Target Amount		\$20,615.00	\$20,615.00
Under Target		(\$6,895.00)	(\$7,730.00)
Number of families contributing: 40			
Percent goal pledged: 66.55%/Received: 62.5%			

GIFT'S RETURNED TO GOD

Week of Dec 20th-182 envelope holders

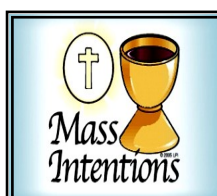


Adult Env.(33 Rec'd):	\$3783.19
Offertory:	\$127.00
ACH (12/21/20):	\$295.00
Retirement Fund for Rel(6):	\$180.00
Christmas Flowers(4):	\$150.00
Christmas(4):	\$165.00
Immaculate Concept(1):	\$20.00
Other/Postage:	\$20.00

**Thank
You!**

Mass Intentions

We have openings for weekday intentions beginning Dec. 28, 2020, First Saturdays beginning Feb 6, 2021. Saturday and Sunday Masses in 2021 are fully booked. For questions contact the parish office 788-1646 or sjrp2601@gmail.com.



FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN



Gloria in Excelsis Deo

This year with pandemic the entire global family was thrown into a sea of confusion. The rich Easter liturgies and our Sunday obligations were suspended. In the history of the Church, we had to sign up to attend the Holy Eucharist, wear face masks, and practice social distancing to keep each other safe. Though the vaccines are out, U.K. reported a newly identified variant of the coronavirus that appears to be more contagious than first one. In the midst of fear and pandemic, we are going to celebrate Christmas. I wish everyone Merry Christmas.

On the first Christmas Eve two thousand years ago, something beautiful and earthshattering happened. The eternal Son of God entered the world as a baby. Angels rejoiced on that day, shepherds exulted, Joseph was in awe and Mary was filled with adoration. All our thoughts are focused on the beautiful gift of Child Jesus. One of the most remarkable features of Christmas is its family character. It brings us together, friends and relatives and indeed the whole community of the faithful, too. Not only our families are brought together, but God made us all brothers and sisters in Jesus. In his recent encyclical, *Fratelli tutti*, Pope Francis reminds us that we are all sisters and brothers to each other, ultimately linked together in Jesus Christ who is Son of God and Son of Mary.

This weekend we will be celebrating yet another feast which shows the important of the family. The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. As we celebrate, I invite you to pray for our families. Let's keep in our mind parents, children, young, elderly, family members in hospital, prison, and nursing homes. Let's take them to our blessed mother as we honor her on first January Mary the mother of God. Pray for our parish family, too. Together, we shall continue to grow in faith and we shall all focus on the things that really matter; the things that will strengthen our bond as a family; the things that will invite others to our faith community without any inhibitions.

As we come to the close of the year 2020 there are a lot of reasons to be thankful. I like to thank you for all the support given to our faith community. Thanks to Ushers, Lectors, Altar servers, Extraordinary ministers of Eucharist, Sacristans, CCD teachers, music directors and choir. Thanks to members of the different councils, too. Thanks to all volunteers during COVID-19. Thanks to all those who decorated the Church for Advent and Christmas. I want to let everyone know that you have been in my thoughts and prayers. Thanks for all the Christmas cards and presents sent to me.

Wish you Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Live Jesus, Fr. Biju



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

PARISH NEWS

Welcome the New Year with Holy Mass!

What a perfect way to ring in the New Year! Come to thank God for the many blessings of 2020. Join in prayer to welcome the New Year. Jesus waits to join you. Come to pray for our families and for peace in our nation and world. New Year's Eve Mass will be at 5:30 PM and New Year's Day Mass will be at St. Peter Parish at 8:00 AM

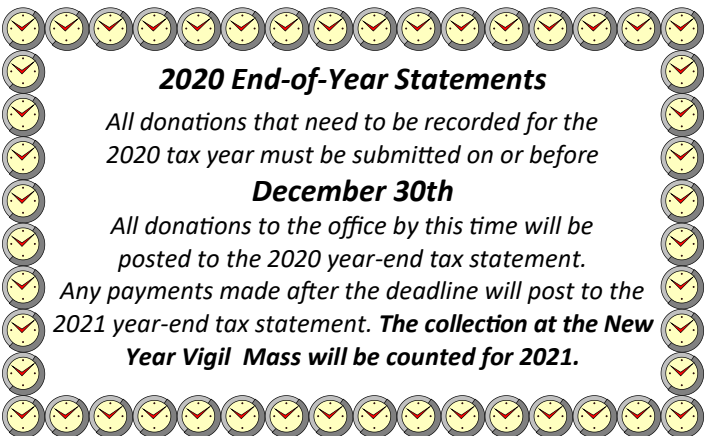
The Power of Prayer

Amazing news came to the parish office today. For the past two years you have been praying for Rhonda McGowan who has been battling multiple myeloma cancer. The prayers have worked! Rhonda reports she is in deep remission according to the doctors. Thank You!

2021 Contribution Envelopes

2021 Contribution Envelopes are in the back of church. Please stop after Mass or during open prayer times to pick up your box. If you know of a neighbor or friend who is unable to come to the church, please help by delivering their box to them.





2020 End-of-Year Statements

All donations that need to be recorded for the 2020 tax year must be submitted on or before

December 30th

All donations to the office by this time will be posted to the 2020 year-end tax statement.

*Any payments made after the deadline will post to the 2021 year-end tax statement. **The collection at the New Year Vigil Mass will be counted for 2021.***

The Word Among Us and Living Faith Devotions

Feel free to take a copy of either or both home with you today. The Jan/Feb issue of *the World Among Us* theme is "Show Me the Way, Lord." The *Living Faith: Daily Catholic Devotions* covers the months of January, February, and March.

Thank You for Supporting your Church:

Thank you for continuing to make contributions to the Church. We cannot survive without your generous support!

- 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 Road 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).

DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS cont.

Bishop Callahan's recorded Christmas video message is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kklmq9L3rho&feature=youtu.be>

March for Life – Jan. 2 in Madison, Jan. 29 in Washington, D.C. While the Diocese of La Crosse is not taking pilgrims to the March for Life this year, you can choose to participate in the March for Life in Madison on Jan. 2 or the march in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 29. For more information on both, visit <https://www.prolifewi.org/marchforlife>. If you plan to attend the March for Life in Madison, please email cruff@diolc.org or crogers@diolc.org and we will discuss a rendezvous point for pilgrims from our diocese.

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.

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.



Spiritual Practices for Living With Depression: A Retreat with Monica A. Coleman (via Zoom)

January 9, Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon, Investment: \$30 to register call 608-791-5295. We will discover beliefs and spiritual practices that support and empower individuals who experience depression. If cost is a barrier to attending, please call our office manager Laurie Swan at 608-791-5279 to request a confidential scholarship. This event is sponsored by The Mental Health Coalition of the Greater La Crosse Area.

Overcoming Challenges with Grit and Grace (Via Zoom)

January 16 • Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Presenters: Kao Kalia Yang, Lisa McCormick, Carolyn Bostrack and Sarah Johnson Investment: \$50. Our second annual celebration of inspirational, resilient and spiritual women features keynote speaker Kao Kalia Yang. Kalia will reflect on her spiritual journey into writing and explore what it means to reclaim something that is no more, in an entirely new language and in a new land. This virtual retreat day also will include talks by three local women. Note: This event was rescheduled because of COVID-19. Previous registrations will be honored. If this new date doesn't work for you, please call 608-791-5295 to request a refund or to gift your registration to a friend.

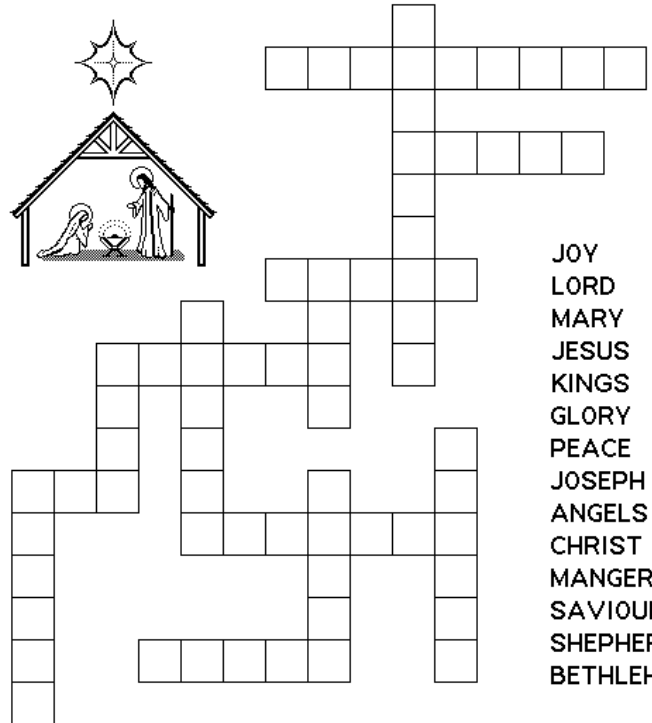
KIDS CORNER

Catholic Christmas Movie Recommendations: there are so many Christmas movies with a Catholic/Christian theme! Watch one to celebrate the Christmas season (Yes, the Christmas season goes until January 10th)

- * *It's A Wonderful Life:* an oldie but goodie
- * *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe:* based off the C.S. Lewis books, this movie is overt with Christian messages. Who do you think Aslan is?
- * *A Christmas Carol:* another classic that reminds us of the true meaning of Christmas...you can watch the old one or the newer one with Jim Carrey.
- * *A Charlie Brown Christmas:* another story that reminds us of what Christmas is all about.

Christmas Crossword

Make all the words fit into this crossword.
Each word is only used once.



JOY
LORD
MARY
JESUS
KINGS
GLORY
PEACE
JOSEPH
ANGELS
CHRIST
MANGER
SAVIOUR
SHEPHERDS
BETHLEHEM

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.
- For those fighting cancer, especially members of our parish.
- 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