

PARISH INTENTIONS

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

MONDAY, January 4th

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
-5:30pm Mass -†Curtis Strittmater

TUESDAY, January 5th

St. John Neumann
-5:00 pm Adoration
-5:30pm Mass -

THURSDAY, January 7th

St. Raymond Penafort
-5:30 PM Mass -†Marian Roesler

SATURDAY, January 9th

The Baptism of the Lord
-4: 00pm Mass -†Thomas McGowan

Lector: Volunteer
Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, January 10th

The Baptism of the Lord
-8:30am Mass -Our Parish Family

Lector: Volunteer
Ushers: Volunteers

PARISH CALENDAR

- **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)
- **January 20** ~ Religious Education Class, Grades 1-5 & 8 (6-7:00pm), grades 6,7 & 9 (7:15-8:30)
- **January 27** ~ 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.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held each Tuesday from 5:00pm until Mass at 5:30pm.

DID YOU KNOW?

If you are 70 ½ or older, you can do a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) of up to \$100,000 a year from your IRA directly to a charity. The distribution won't show up in your adjusted gross income and CAN count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD). The QCD allows you to be more strategic with your RMD.

Consult your tax advisor before making any decisions. If a QCD is for you, please consider St. Joseph Parish as your charity of choice.

GIFT'S RETURNED TO GOD

Week of Dec 27th-182 envelope holders



Adult Env.(28 Rec'd):	\$1,685.00
Offerory:	\$1,094.00
Votive Lights:	\$40.55
Christmas Env(48):	\$3,480.00
Christmas Offerory:	\$262.00
Solemnity(1):	\$5.00
Initial Offering(3):	\$6.00
Easter(1):	\$10.00
Book Donations:	\$10.00
Christmas Flowers(1):	\$50.00

Thank You!

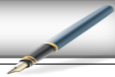
WE ARE THE DIOCESE	DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2020-2021		
	12/29/2020	Total Pledged	Total Payments
DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2020-2021	Pledged/Received	\$13,745.00	\$12,910.00
	Target Amount	\$20,615.00	\$20,615.00
	Under Target	(\$6,870.00)	(\$7,705.00)
	Number of families contributing: 41		
Percent goal pledged: 66.67%/Received: 62.62%			

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



Let Us Seek Him

Wish you happy Feast of the Epiphany. Several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," or "manifestation" including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana. Today, we celebrate the visit of the Magi. The visit of the Magi occurs just before the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. We hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. They also represent our search for Jesus. They had gifts for the new born king. The gifts of the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—have come to be understood as symbols of Christ's royalty, divinity, and eventual suffering and death. The visitation of the Magi reveals that in Jesus, salvation is open to all. Epiphany is about inclusion. Be blessed to know that I have a place in Him. On this day lets also reflect am I grateful to the Lord who came to save me? Do we still seek him? What gifts do we take to our Lord?

Next weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord and the completion of the Christmas season. We then return to Ordinary Time in the Church's calendar on January 11 until the Season of Lent arrives with Ash Wednesday on February 17.

I wish you Happy New Year and happy Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

Live Jesus,
Fr. Biju



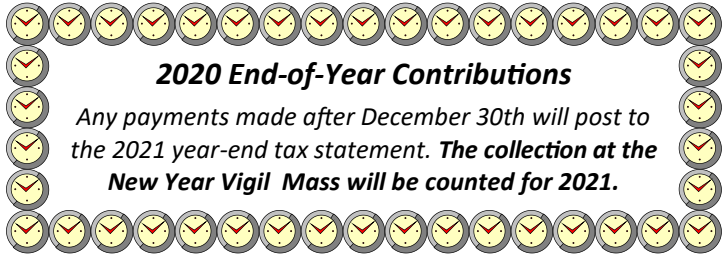
St. Peters, Middle Ridge

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

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.



2020 End-of-Year Contributions

Any payments made after December 30th will post to the 2021 year-end tax statement. **The collection at the New Year Vigil Mass will be counted for 2021.**

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).



Thank you to all who donated toward Christmas flowers and decorations. An updated list is posted in the back of church.



DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS

Speaker Series – January 7th

Dr. Petroc Willey will be speaking on the six ways that Christ is to be the center of all teaching, which is called Christocentricity. Petroc does this by way of Sacred Art. Dr. Willey is a gifted speaker, who makes everything understandable. He is a Director of the Catechetical Institute and a Professor of Catechetics. Further, he is a consultant for the Pontifical Council for the New Evangelization. This presentation will be well worth your time, and will give you a spiritual lift in the Christmas Season. There is no cost for the ZOOM presentation on Thursday, January 7th, 2-3 p.m., but registration is necessary. Send an email to Paula at pboyle@diolc.org All are welcome.

DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS cont.

KIDS CORNER

Diaconate Discernment Retreat

Are you a man at least 35 years of age who feels a yearning to give yourself more radically to the service of God and the Church – preaching the Gospel, serving those in need, assisting at the altar? If you think God may be calling you to be a deacon, talk to your pastor about attending the Diaconate Discernment Retreat at St. Mary’s Church in Altoona on February 27th, 2021. Then contact Deacon Bryan Hilts, Director of the Office for the Diaconate at bhilts@diolc.org. A new deacon formation class will begin in the fall of 2021 and attendance at the Discernment Retreat is a prerequisite.

January 30 – Pro-Life Virtual Afternoon of Reflection: “Walking with Mom’s in Need” Some people accuse pro-lifers of caring only about the child in the womb and not women in need. Not true at all, as you will see from this virtual afternoon of reflection on January 30, 2021, with keynote speaker Bob Perron, Executive Director of JMJ Pregnancy Center in Orlando, FL. You will also hear about the fourteen Pregnancy Care Centers in the Diocese of La Crosse and what you can do to help one near you. More details coming soon!

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.

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)

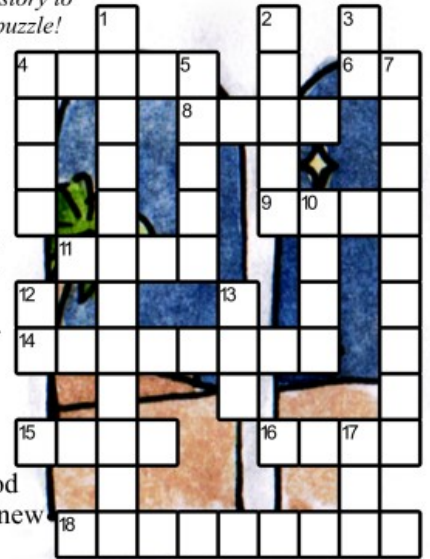
January 16 • Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Presenters: Kao Kalia Yang, Lisa McCormick, Carolyn Bostrack and Sarah Johnson Investment: \$50. Featuring keynote speaker Kao Kalia Yang. This virtual retreat day also will include talks by three local women. Note: This event was rescheduled because of COVID-19. 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.

EPIPHANY CROSS-WORD

Fill in the blanks in the story to find the words for the puzzle!

Around the time that _____ (2d) was born, some wise men from the _____ (8a) saw in the sky a special _____ (9a) at _____ (13d) rising, and followed it to _____ (11a) the newborn Saviour. First they came to Jerusalem where _____ (10d) went to ask _____ (15a) Herod if he knew where the new King would be born.

_____ (12d) Herod did not know, he called the priests and scribes, who told them that the Baby would be born in _____ (18a). Then Herod told a _____ (17d) and said that he wanted to go and honour the Baby King too, and told the men to return once they had found him and tell him where the Baby was. The men were _____ (7d) when they found Jesus with his mother _____ (4d), and they did him homage, giving their gifts of _____ (16a), _____ (1d) and _____ (4a). But _____ (3d) night an angel appeared _____ (6a) them and told them to _____ (14a) go home by another road, since King _____ (5d) wanted to kill Baby Jesus.



Answers: Across: 4.myrth 6.to 8.East 9.star 11.find 14.secretly 15.king 16.gold 18.Bethlehem Down: 1.frankincense 2.jesus 3.at 4.Mary 5.Herod 7.overjoyed 10.they 12.as 13.it's 17.lie

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