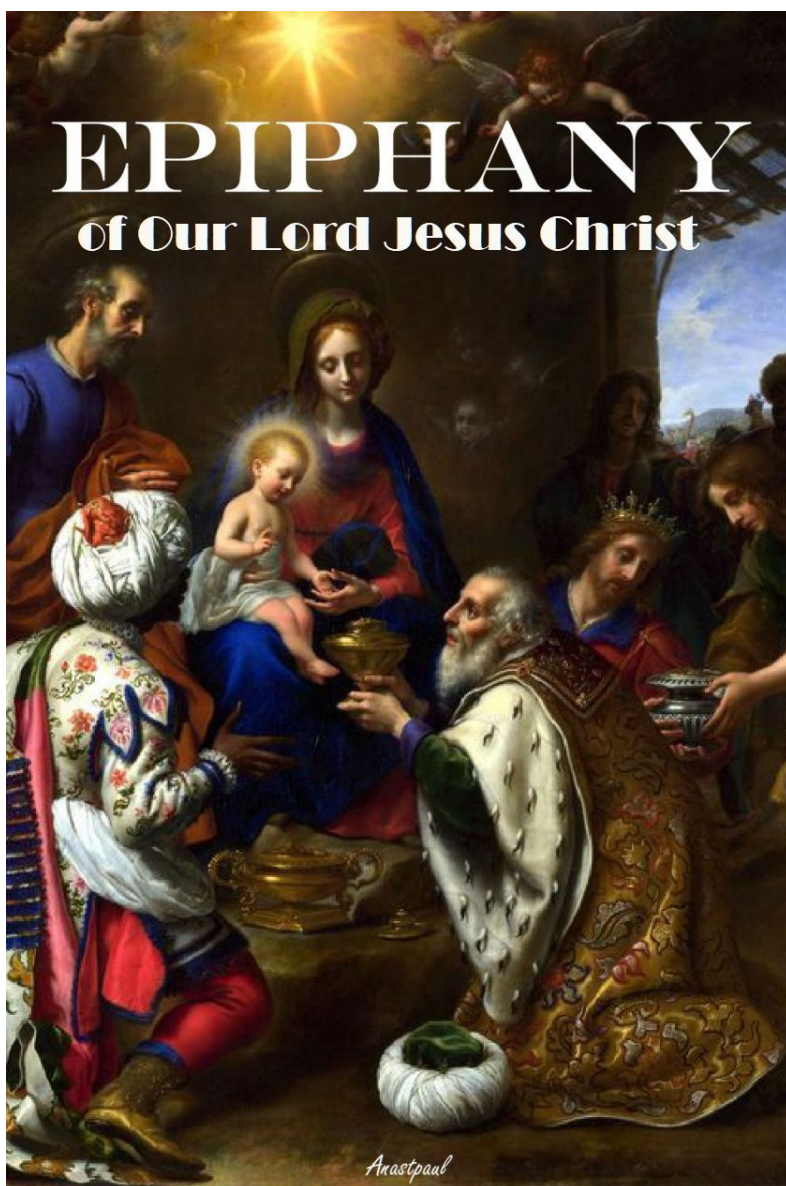


St. Joseph Ridge Parish

W2601 State Rd 33 • La Crosse • Wisconsin • 54601

January 2, 2021



EPIPHANY of Our Lord Jesus Christ

They were overjoyed at seeing the star,
and on entering the house they saw the
child with Mary his mother. They
prostrated themselves and did him
homage. They opened their treasures
and offered him gifts of gold,
frankincense, and myrrh.—Mt2:10-11

PASTOR

Fr. Biju Chennala Kunjukutty, MSFS...715-495-2338
bchennala@diolclergy.org

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

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

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

First Saturday Mass.....8:30am
Monday5:30pm
Tuesday.....Adoration5:00 pm
Mass.....5:30pm
Thursday.....8:30am

CONFESSIONS

First Saturday after Mass or by appointment

PARISH OFFICE

Amy Stafslie, Admin. Assist.....608-788-1646
Bulletin deadline:Wednesday
sjrp2601@gmail.com
Open most Tuesdays and Fridays

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Coordinators: Stacy Burns and Paula Silha

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Mary Jo Hess (Secretary), Terry Dickman, Dave
Brown (B&G and Cemetery Rep), Barb Braun and Dan
Steiger

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Dave Brown (Cemetery Rep), Teresa Brown, Lori
Clements (PCCW Rep), Stan Clements, Ann Degen-
hardt, Terry Dickman (Finance Council Rep), Bob
Kotek, and Bill Weber (Secretary), Stacy Burns and
Paula Silha (CRE's)

PCCW - Parish Council of Catholic Women

Lori Clements (President), Mary Jo Hess (Treasurer),
Jill Murphy (Secretary), Polly Hilby (Funeral Prep)

CEMETERY SEXTON

Dave Brown608-792-1006
dbrown039@centurytel.net

MUSIC

Stacy Burns, Coordinator.....608-769-8828
jsburns0093@gmail.com
Leland Gregorich, Accompanist

CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR:

- Joining the Parish
- Weddings or Baptisms
- Anointing of the sick (also call Fr. Biju cell phone)
- If you are home-bound & would like to be visited

PARISH INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, January 1st

The Epiphany of the Lord

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

SUNDAY, January 2nd

The Epiphany of the Lord

-8:30am Mass
Lector: Paula Silha Ushers: Volunteers

MONDAY, January 3rd

The Most Holy Name of Jesus

-5:30pm Mass -†Bill Silha

TUESDAY, January 4th

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

-5:00pm Adoration
-5:30pm Mass -†Rosella Kammel

THURSDAY, January 6th

St. Andre Bessette

-8:30am Mass -For a successful surgery and recovery

SATURDAY, January 8th

The Baptism of the Lord

-4:00pm Mass -Members of the Gerke and Meyers Families

Lector: Volunteer Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, January 9th

The Baptism of the Lord

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

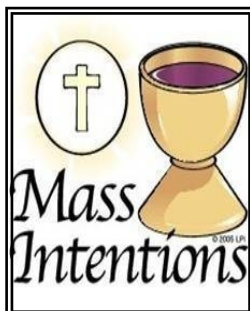
Confessions

First Sat. after Mass or by appointment (contact Fr. Biju directly to set up a time).



Mass Intentions 2022

We have openings for **weekday** intentions: Apr 4 & 18. May 2, 9, 16, 19, 23, & 30. We have open **First Saturdays**, 8:30 AM beginning March 5th. Next **Weekend** Mass openings: May 28 or 29. Jun 11 or 12 and 18. For questions contact the parish office 788-1646 or sjrp2601@gmail.com. Mass Intentions envelopes are in the back of church.



Donations: Here are some ways to contribute:

- 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 in the church donation box
- **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.

PARISH CALENDAR

- **January 5 ~ RE Class** (Gr 1-5, 6-6:55 PM; Gr 6-10, 7:00-8:15 PM)
- **January 12 to February 7 ~ Fr. Biju on Vacation** in India visiting family
- **January 12 to February 7 ~ No weekday Mass** Weekend Mass as scheduled
- **January 12 ~ RE Class** (Gr 1-5, 6-6:55 PM; Gr 6-10, 7:00-8:15 PM)
- **January 19 ~ RE Class** (Gr 1-5, 6-6:55 PM; Gr 6-10, 7:00-8:15 PM)
- **January 26 ~ RE Class** (Gr 1-5, 6-6:55 PM; Gr 6-10, 7:00-8:15 PM)
- **February 2 ~ RE Class** (Gr 1-5, 6-6:55 PM; Gr 6-10, 7:00-8:15 PM)
- **February 8 ~ Weekday Mass resumes**, 5:00 Adoration and 5 PM Mass
- **February 9 ~ RE Class** (Gr 1-5, 6-6:55 PM; Gr 6-10, 7:00-8:15 PM)
- **February 15 ~ 8:30 AM Weekday Mass**, No Adoration at 5:00 PM and NO 5:30 PM Mass this day. Fr. Biju has a Deanery Meeting.

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



WE ARE THE DIOCESE	Diocesan Annual Appeal 2021-2022		
	12/31/2021	Total Pledged	Total Payments
	Pledged/Received	\$17,605.00	\$15,400.00
	Target Amount	\$21,850.00	\$21,850.00
	Under Target	(\$4,245.00)	(\$6,450.00)
	Number of families contributing: 44		
	Percent goal pledged: 80.57%/Received: 70.48%		

GIFT'S RETURNED TO GOD

Last Week in Giving—182 envelope holders

Adult Envelopes(33):	\$2,473.25
Offertory:	\$241.00
Christmas Env.(58):	\$6,680.00
Christmas Offertory:	\$435.00
December ACH:	\$680.00
Initial Offering(2):	\$52.00
Christmas Flowers(1):	\$15.00
Retirement Fund for Rel(1):	\$20.00
Gun Raffle Ticket Sales:	\$250.00
Cash Raffle Ticket Sales:	\$140.00
Other (cover mailing exp):	\$20.00



Thank You!

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN



Happy New Year to All!

January 1 is New Year's Day to most of the world, but in the Catholic Church it is also the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God. Also, this year it coincides with the weekend of the Feast of Epiphany—early as it can possibly be. “Epiphanies” or “manifestations” or “revelations” of Jesus happened at the visitation of Magi, baptism in the Jordan and wedding at Cana. At His baptism, the entire Trinity is revealed: The Father (“a voice from heaven”); the Son (Jesus); and the Holy Spirit (“a dove”). At Cana, Jesus turns water into wine. Saint John tells us, “Jesus did this as the beginning of His signs at Cana in Galilee and so revealed His glory, and His disciples began to believe in Him” (2:11).

The Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus, the Son of God, to the world. The Good News of the Feast of Epiphany of the Lord is that Christ comes to save us all even the gentiles, too. The Magi presented their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to Jesus. “Frankincense was often used in divine worship. It becomes, then, an apt symbol of Christ as priest. It is also a symbol of Christ's divinity. “Myrrh was often used in burials, especially of prominent people who could afford it. Because of this, Christians often interpreted this gift as referring to the coming suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. “Gold has long been seen, in many cultures, as a gift for kings, or denoting kingship. It is easy to see how this gift points to the kingship of Christ. Gold for being a king; incense for being God; and myrrh for being a man.

The Magi offered Jesus their gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Today those Magi are you and me.

What gifts have we brought him? Our gratitude and love?

Wish you once again Happy New Year 2022!

Live Jesus, Fr, Biju, MSFS



PARISH NEWS

Our Deepest Sympathy to the Families of:

Janice P. Cavadini

who passed away on
December 25, 2021

“If I rise on the wings of the dawn, If I settle on the far side of the sea, Even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.” Psalm 139:9-10



A huge thank you to all who helped to make our Christmas services beautiful. The decorators, ushers, readers, altar servers, singers and musicians and all the other pieces that had to come together to make it all happen....

THANK YOU!

It could not have been done without ALL of you!

Fr. Biju to Visit Family

Fr. Biju will be returning to India to visit his family from January 12 through the first week of February 2022. During those days he is away, if anyone wishes to be remembered in his daily Mass or prayed for let him know. If you have an intention, place it in an envelope marked “Fr Biju Masses” and drop it in the collection.

2022 Calendars are Here

Feel free to pick up a beautiful 2022 parish calendar today. This calendar contains all the important liturgical dates for the year.



2022 Envelopes



If you have not already done so, please pick up your 2022 contribution envelopes to help us save on the mailing expense. If you cannot find your box or you do not currently use envelopes and would like a box please leave a message at the parish office.

February Friday Fun Night—Save the Date

Mark your calendars—February 25, 2022 for the big event from 6-10 pm

Cash Raffle

In addition to the gun raffle we are also having a cash raffle and need your help. Each family is asked to sell or purchase 24 cash raffle tickets. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. These tickets are in the back of church in an envelope by family name. Please pick yours up today.

Gun Raffle

All 500 tickets have been distributed and will be sold for \$10 each. Money and stubs may be put in an envelope and dropped in the collection basket at church.

Prizes: **1st Prize:** Ruger American Camo 350 Legend, **2nd Prize:** Weatherby 12 ga, Automatic, **3rd Prize:** Browning A-Bolt Synthetic 243, **4th Prize:** Legends LSI Pointers 12 ga. Automatic, **5th Prize:** Savage Axis XP-243 w/scope.

All proceeds from the raffles will be used to help with buildings and grounds maintenance/repairs in the parish.

Thank you for your support and we hope to see you at the event.

DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS

2022-2023 ACS ENROLLMENT PERIOD BEGINS SOON

On Monday, January 17, 2022, enrollment for the 2022-23 Aquinas Catholic Schools school year begins! If you are interested in exploring your options when it comes to education, we would be happy to show you what Aquinas has to offer. Current Aquinas families can also begin the re-enrollment process at that time. Aquinas Catholic Schools is a Christ-centered family devoted to nurturing students of all faiths through educational excellence in its vibrant Catholic tradition.

Please join us for our upcoming open house dates at Aquinas High School & Middle School:

- AHS Open House: Monday, January 10, 2022 at 6pm
- AMS Open House: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 6pm

2022 Pilgrimage for Life

We are excited to announce that we are planning to travel to Washington, DC for the Pilgrimage for Life January 19-23, 2022. Please see the registration letter, tentative schedule, and details found at: <https://diolc.org/yva/youth-opportunities/pilgrimage-for-life-2022/>

Help those Devastated by Recent Tornadoes in Several States

Assist families and communities affected by the recent devastating tornadoes in Kentucky and at least 5 other states. Visit Catholic Charities' website- CCLSE.org -click on "Donate Today," and enter "tornado relief" and your gift amount in the "general donations" box.

A Lifeline of Hope and Healing for Struggling Marriages!!

When the old ways aren't working, the Retrouvaille Program helps couples restore their marriages and rebuild loving relationships. This is a three-phase program that begins with a weekend stay in the Wausau area. A series of "post sessions" provide ongoing healing and support. Presentations are given by couples who share their personal struggles in marriage and the tools they used to rediscover their love. Participants reflect and interact in privacy with their spouse. It is not group therapy. Costs are affordable and no couple is turned away because of limited finances. If you are wondering if this program is right for you or a loved one, find more information and answers to Frequently Asked Questions at www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call toll-free: 1-877-922-HOPE (4673) All calls are fully confidential. The next program begins on **February 18-20, 2022**. Space is limited. Early registration is recommended!

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.

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

KIDS CORNER

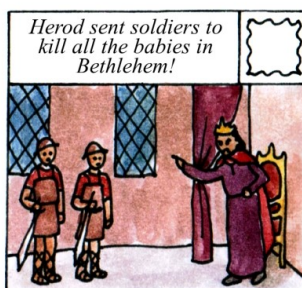


The Wise Men Puzzle

Do you know the story of the wise men who came to worship Baby Jesus?

What order do these pictures go in?

Write the numbers from 1 to 6 in the boxes.



Answer: Top-3, 6, Middle-5, 1, Bottom-2, 4.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- 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 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

The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord

Epiphany means “manifestation.” The first Epiphany was the visit of the Magi to adore the Christ Child. The Magi, who were actually scholars and scientists, came to be associated with kings. Their gifts reveal this holy Child’s identity; *gold* for Christ’s Kingship, *incense* for His divinity, and *myrrh* for His sacrifice on the Cross.

The Feast of Epiphany is traditionally celebrated as the *twelfth night of Christmas*, on January 6th. In the United States, this feast has been moved to the Sunday, January 2, 2022. In many families, the king figurines are moved a bit closer to the nativity scene every day from Christmas Day until Epiphany. Moreover, it is traditional for parish priests to bless water, chalk, and incense on the eve of Epiphany, and use them for the blessing of homes the next day.

The blessing of homes (schools, places of employment, etc.) on Epiphany revives the beautiful custom of making our homes sacramentals. Sacramentals make us more mindful, receptive and cooperative with God’s grace. This blessing also reminds us that Christ is the One Who enlightens our hearts and homes with His love. He is the source of our hope, our comfort and our joy.

Marking doorways with blessed chalk is also a witness of faith. Use the chalk to mark above the main door and, if possible, over all exterior doors in the following fashion:

- Numerals to consecrate the New Year.
- Initials to remind us of the legendary names of the Magi—Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar—and also to represent the Latin motto: *Christus mansionem benedicat* (**May Christ bless this house**)
- Four crosses to represent the four seasons.
- Example for the year **2022: 20 + C + M + B + 22**

Epiphany Blessing of the Home

If a priest is present, he leads; otherwise, the head of the family is the leader.

All present go from room to room, blessing each room with holy water and praying the following prayer:

Blessed be all the rooms of this home. May each of them be holy and filled with the spirit of *happiness* and *peace*, *love* and *affection*. May the spirit of *pardon* and *affection* reside with us and be always ready to heal our divisions. May the spirits of *joy* and *laughter*, *hope* and *faith*, *playfulness* and *prayer*, *compassion* and *love* be perpetual guests in our home. May God’s holy blessing rest upon us all, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

As the leader inscribes the initials of the three Magi above the exterior doorways using the blessed chalk, the following prayer is prayed:

Inscription for the year **2022: 20 + C + M + B + 22**

Blessed be this doorway. May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us as we welcome them with *respect* and *kindness*. May all our comings and goings be under the seal of God’s loving care. May we *seek* and *serve*, in everyone we meet, Jesus, Who is Lord forever and ever. Amen.



2022 Epiphany Blessing of the Home

Blessing of Epiphany Chalk by a priest

V. Our help is in the Name of the Lord

R. Who made Heaven and earth.

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

Bless, + O Lord God, this creature chalk to render it helpful to men. Grant that they who use it in faith and with it inscribe upon the entrance of their homes the names of the saints, Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar, may through their merits and intercession enjoy health of body and protection of soul. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Chalk is sprinkled with holy water.

(Rev. Philip T. Weller, *Roman Ritual: The Blessings*, Milwaukee: Bruce Publishing Co., 1946, p. 39).

*Prepared by the Office for Catechesis & Evangelization
Diocese of La Crosse*

