

PARISH INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, March 19th

Third Sunday of Lent

-4:00pm Mass -†John, Bernice, Steve and Sam Mashak
Lector: Bill Weber Ushers: Volunteers
Servers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, March 20th

Third Sunday of Lent

-8:30am Mass -†Joe Murphy
Lector: Paula Silha Ushers: Volunteers
Servers: Volunteers

MONDAY, March 21st

Lenten Weekday

-5:30pm -†Allen and Joe Gerke

TUESDAY, March 22nd

Lenten Weekday

-5:00pm - Adoration
-5:30 pm -†Donald Burns, Sr.

THURSDAY, March 24th

Lenten Weekday

-8:30am - NO MASS

SATURDAY, March 26th

Fourth Sunday of Lent

-4:00pm Mass - Our Parish Family
Lector: Teresa Brown Ushers: Volunteers
Servers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, March 27th

Fourth Sunday of Lent

-8:30am Mass -†Agnes Lucey
Lector: Sally Miller Ushers: Volunteers
Servers: Volunteers

PARISH CALENDAR

- **March 23** ~ RE Class (Gr 1-5, 6-6:55 PM; Gr 6-10, 7:00-8:15 PM)
~ *Stations of the Cross*-7 PM here, 7:30 PM St. Peter's
- **March 24** ~ **No weekday Mass**, Fr. Biju will be out of town.
- **March 30** ~ RE Class (Gr 1-5, 6-6:55 PM; Gr 6-10, 7:00-8:15 PM)
~ *Stations of the Cross*-7 PM here, 7:30 PM St. Peter's
- **April 6** ~ RE Class (Gr 1-5, 6-6:55 PM; Gr 6-10, 7:00-8:15 PM)
~ *Stations of the Cross*-7 PM here, 7:30 PM St. Peter's
- **April 12** ~ Chrism Mass at the Cathedral 10:30 AM
- **April 13** ~ No RE - Holy Week
~ *Stations of the Cross*-7 PM here, 7:30 PM St. Peter's
~ Confessions 6 PM until done at St. Peter Parish
- **April 14** ~ *Holy Thursday, 7:00 PM*
- **April 15** ~ *Good Friday, 3:00 PM*
- **April 16** ~ *Holy Saturday, 8:30 PM*
- **April 17** ~ *Easter Sunday, 8:30 AM*
- **April 20** ~ RE Class (Gr 1-5, 6-6:55 PM; Gr 6-10, 7:00-8:15 PM)
- **April 26** ~ Finance Council Meeting 7 PM
- **April 27** ~ Closing Mass for RE, 6 PM for all students, parents and catechists

Confessions

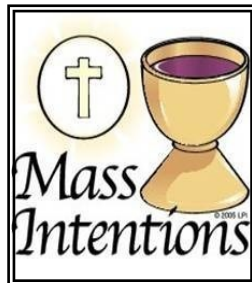
First Sat. after Mass or by appointment (contact Fr. Biju directly to set up a time).



Pray + Fast + Give

Mass Intentions 2022

We have openings for **weekday** intentions: Aug 1, 22, 29 & 30. Sept 6, 12, 19, 22, 27, & 29. We have open **First Saturdays**, 8:30 AM beginning Aug 6. **All weekend Masses are full for 2022.** For questions contact the parish office 788-1646 or sjrp2601@gmail.com. Mass Intentions envelopes are in the back of church.



WE ARE THE DIOCESE	DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2021-2022		
	3/11/2022	Total Pledged	Total Payments
	Pledged/Received	\$19,100.00	\$18,685.00
	Target Amount	\$21,850.00	\$21,850.00
	Under Target	(\$2,750.00)	(\$3,165.00)
	Number of families contributing: 49		
	Percent goal pledged: 87.41%/Received: 85.51%		

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.

GIFT'S RETURNED TO GOD

Last Week in Giving—182 envelope holders



Adult Envelopes(41):	\$2312.00
Offertory:	\$279.00
Votive Lights:	\$90.00
Initial Offering(2):	\$7.00
Easter Flowers(7):	\$285.00
Ash Wednesday(2):	\$10.00
Book Donations:	\$7.00

Thank You!

FROM THE PASTOR



**Third Sunday of Lent
Burning Bush**

Today's first reading (Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15) explains how God, speaking from a burning bush, called Moses to leave the tending of his father-in-law's flock for a challenging role as liberator of God's Chosen People. He was to free them from their enslavement by Egyptian rulers who were systematically persecuting and exterminating them. The reading contains the call of Moses, the greatest Jewish liberator and law giver, and the explanation of God's proper name: Yahweh. God not only trusts Moses enough to share His Name with him, but He also explains what it means. *"I am who AM, Yahweh proclaims. This is what you shall tell the Israelites: I AM sent me to you."*

God also insists He is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Israel's ancestors, in order to prepare the freed slaves to reclaim their noble heritage. This reading is appropriate for Lent, because it begins the story that will reach its climax so dramatically on Holy Saturday with the reading which explains how God finally led the Israelites out of Egypt. Also, it reminds us of our own heritage. That we are His children. To claim our identity and belong to God is by returning to the Lord. Repentance is the first step in our redemption. That is why Jesus gives the strong warning in today's Gospel, "If you do not repent, you will all perish." Let these days of Lent be a time of renewal. Like the fig tree in today's Gospel, God gives us every chance to produce good fruit through the sacraments, especially the sacrament of penance. .

I encourage families to come to the Stations of the Cross at both churches on Wednesdays. May this Lenten season be one of grace and blessing for all of us, especially those who may have become estranged from the Church and desire reconciliation.

Live Jesus, Fr. Biju



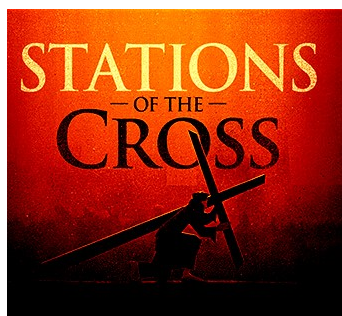
1. Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent, and Good Friday.

2. In addition to abstaining from meat, Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, until they celebrate their 59th birthday, are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to this regulation may eat only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Wednesdays during Lent

7:00 PM
St. Joseph Parish

7:30 PM
St. Peter Parish



PARISH NEWS

Building a Parish Library

There are now books available in the back of the church for you to borrow. **"Take one, use it, and bring it back is all we ask."** If you have books that you would like to share, please feel free to bring them as well. If you will eventually want them back, please put your name on them, otherwise they will become and be labeled property of the church.



Catholic Relief Services: Ukraine & CRS Rice Bowl

Your donations through the Rice Bowl assist with services like those being provided in Ukraine. Caritas Ukraine, with support from CRS, has been providing emergency relief and recovery. CRS and Caritas partners on the ground are preparing across Ukraine and in bordering countries, providing safe shelter, hot meals, hygiene supplies, transport to safe areas, counseling support and more. **The situation there is rapidly unfolding, and we could not do this work without your help.** When you donate, you provide immediate assistance for our Ukrainian sisters and brothers affected by this crisis. **Your prayers and support will make so much difference.** Donate online at: <https://support.crs.org/donate/donate-ukraine> For more information about CRS visit: crsricebowl.org

Student Mite Boxes—Missionary Childhood Association

Students are asked to help other children less fortunate than themselves this Lent by filling the MCA mite box. These funds go directly in support of impoverished children around the world.



Lenten Mission

St. Peter Parish-March 28

With all that is happening in the world today we need to remind ourselves of the messages sent to us from our Mother Mary. Please join us on Monday March 28th at 7:00 pm at St. Peter's to hear from Fr. Tim Welles as he reminds us of the message from Our Lady of Fatima. All are welcome!!

DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS

Fish Fry – MMOC – Mar 25

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, 2006 Weston Street, La Crosse, will be holding a Fish Fry on Friday, March 25, from 4:00 – 7:00 PM, dine-in or carry-out. The price is \$12 for 2-piece and \$14 for 3-piece fish meal and includes baked or fried cod, coleslaw, baked potato or fries and bread. \$5 kid's meal includes grilled cheese, fries and fruit. Beer, wine and dessert available at dine-in for additional cost.

Lenten Study at Home – for the Busy Person

Every parish in the Diocese of La Crosse has free access to Franciscan at Home. This beautiful and compelling online learning system is worth checking out. Each workshop is 1 hour, broken into 10-minute video segments with an application that follows. There are currently 1,121 active learners on the system giving excellent evaluations.

Follow these Simple directions to register for *Franciscan at Home* for free 1) Visit Franciscanathome.com/diocese-la-crosse and scroll to

DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS cont'd

the bottom of the page.

2) On the right, click the middle blue button: "My parish or school is already registered, and I would like to set up my individual free account..."

3) Click "Create an Account." Complete the information and click Save. Select the Diocese of La

Crosse from a drop-down menu, and then your Institution = your parish / school, listed by city and name. Finally, click on the "Sign Up" button; you will have a dashboard. Scroll down to "Start Learning..." with "Institution Tracks" under it and select "Adult Faith Study" and click on "Christ: His Person and Works". Or you may click on "Adult Study of Sacred Scripture" and click on either "Introduction to the Old (or New) Testament."

Why do Catholics Give up Something for Lent?

During Lent, we want to make sacrifices by giving up something, such as a type of food like chocolate or dessert, or a habit that we want to quit, such as spending too much time on social media. Or we can make the choice to do something for others. Why do we do this? Lent is a time to accompany Jesus into the desert, imitating His example of prayer and fasting. By making such sacrifices of giving up something or doing something for others, we have more room in our heart to refocus our attention on God. Further, we may offer these sacrifices for the people of Ukraine, as so many are living away from home with the possibility that their home and city have been destroyed. We can also pray for the conversion of Russia, most especially the leaders of the country.

Valentyna Pavsukova, founder of Chalice of Mercy mission to Ukraine, has been thrilled by the generosity shown by the people of the diocese and sends her most profound thanks. The donations received last week, counting medical equipment donated by healthcare institutions, filled 64 pallets at McDonell High School! Three full semi-trucks will carry this aid to then be transported by air to a neighboring country, and on to the areas of need in Ukraine. Valentyna has excellent contacts at each step and a solid plan. Please pray that this aid safely reaches those in dire need of it. **Next Step:** By far, the greatest need now is for financial donations (visit www.chaliceofmercy.org/donation).

Watch Valentyna Pavsukova's Powerful Talk on the tragedy unfolding in Ukraine, mixing sorrow with hope and an invitation to help, at <https://diolc.org/social-concerns/>.

Project Seed Sales 2022 in March and April

A Forage & Seed Corn sale, supported by the Diocesan Rural Life Committee, offering high quality, low cost seed in the midst of a challenging economy. Seed corn is offered in both conventional and glyphosate tolerant varieties. There will be alfalfa and clover ready for sale and non-GMO seed can be ordered. Comparable yields make this seed an attractive alternative. Sale dates and locations: March 19 in Stanley; March 26 in Colby; April 2 in Cassel; all Kendall area sales will be directed to Richland Center. Full details can be found at diolc.org/social-concerns/rural-life/project-seed/.

US Bishops Action Alert: Support the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act—Ask Senators Ron Johnson and Tammy Baldwin to support the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, which would make the workplace safer for pregnant workers and their unborn children by requiring employers to provide pregnant employees with reasonable accommodations. To learn more and get voice heard, visit votervoicenet.org/USCCB/home.

FUNDRAISER FINANCIALS

St. Joseph Parish

**February Friday Fun Night Fundraiser Report
Friday, February 25, 2022**

Income

Hunting Rifle Raffle	\$5,000.00
Cash Raffle	3,906.00
Walk Around Rifle Tip Boards	1,230.00
Entry/Dinner Tickets	1,110.00
Regular Tip Boards	535.00
Chug-a-lug	223.00
Beat the Dealer	171.00
Vegas Boards	142.00
Sale of Leftovers	51.00

Total Income \$12,368.00

Expenses

Hunting Rifles	\$3,200.00
Cash Raffle Payouts	900.00
Food and Beverages	494.93
Raffle Tickets	220.63
Raffle License	25.00
Liquor License	10.00
Posters	9.00

Total Expenses \$4,859.56

Total Net Profit

\$7,508.44

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.



Please pray for the innocents of Ukraine



Especially the Chalice of Mercy Mission founded by Valentyna Pavsukova in 2007 in Chippewa Falls. Chalice of Mercy has a mission to preschool age children and their families at Maria Goretti house there. Valentyna is asking for prayers, esp. the Rosary. Please pray, and encourage others to do the same. For more info on the Mission visit their website, and if so moved, you may also donate to the mission at:

<https://chaliceofmercy.org/missions/st-maria-goretti-daycare/>

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



Lent

Praying with a Scripture Passage

Lent is a good time to look at your spiritual life. Is your relationship with Christ alive and vibrant? Do you take time for daily prayer?

There are a variety of ways to develop your relationship with Jesus. The following offers one of the treasures of our Catholic heritage as a tool for your personal spiritual growth. Praying with Scripture is a way of spending time with a Scripture passage and allowing the Holy Spirit to make a connection between the passage and your own life.

Set aside this time of prayer, three times per week as a gift to yourself – a time to rest in God’s presence. Nothing is more important than your loving relationship with God.

Week 1: Reflecting on God’s Infinite and Unconditional Love

Commit to a 15-minute prayer time for each Scripture passage below, praying with one Scripture per day. Use the Praying with Scripture prayer worksheet on the back of this page to record your responses. Begin your prayer time by asking for this specific grace: **“Dear Lord, please grant me the grace of a deeper experience of Your personal love for me.”** You will not only come to know that God is love, but experience God’s personal love.

- Luke 1:26-38 Mary’s “Yes” allows the Savior to come into the world.
- Luke 2:1-20 God becomes man to save me.
- Luke 2:41-50 Jesus is eager to

begin His Father’s will.

If you received the grace to experience God’s personal love for you, move on to Week 2. If not, repeat the process of praying with each Scripture, one per day, and continue asking for this grace until you receive it. It is necessary to know how much God loves you before focusing on personal sin.

Week 2: Reflecting on Personal Sin

Use the same directions as Week 1. Grace to be prayed for: **“Dear Lord, please grant me the grace of intense sorrow for my sins.”**

- Genesis 3:1-19 God promises a Savior immediately after the sin of our first parents.
- Psalm 51 Be merciful Lord for I have sinned.
- Luke 15: 11-32 God’s abundant mercy is incomprehensible. Consider receiving the Sacrament of Confession. These Scriptures dispose you to receive the grace of sorrow.

Week 3: Reflecting on the Life of Christ

During Week 3, pray with one Scripture per day using the same directions as Week One. Grace to be prayed for: **“Dear Lord Jesus, please grant me the grace to know You more intimately, love You more intensely, and follow You more faithfully.”**

- Matthew 3:13-17 Jesus is called forth by his Father to begin His saving work.
- John 2:1-11 Jesus’ response is called forth by Mary. His public

ministry begins.

- Matthew 17:1-8 Jesus discloses His divine glory.

Weeks 4: Reflecting on the Passion and Death of Jesus

In this series of Scripture passages, reflect on the Passion and Death of Jesus. Grace to be prayed for: **“Dear Jesus, please grant me the grace to enter into sorrow and grief as I stay with You. Help me understand the suffering You endured on my behalf.”**

- Luke 22:14-20 Jesus gives me His Body and Blood – the total gift of Himself.
- Matthew 26:36-46 Jesus calls me to watch in prayer with Him as He surrenders to the Father’s will.
- John 19:25-30 Jesus accomplishes the Father’s will without reservation.

Week 5: Reflecting on the Resurrection of Jesus

Grace to be prayed for: **“Dear Jesus, please grant me the grace to enter into Your joy and consolation in the victory of Your risen life.”**

- Matthew 28:1-10 Jesus is risen! He appears to His followers.
- Acts 1:8-11 Jesus promises to remain with me and come again.
- Acts 2:1-12 The promised Holy Spirit descends upon the Church. Church.

In reflecting on these Scripture passages, you can rest assured that time spent with the Lord during Lent will lead to a truly meaningful Easter!
By Ann Lankford

Praying with Scripture
Modified *Lectio Divina* (Divine Reading)

Read

1. Read the passage out loud (if possible), slowly, simply to become familiar with it.

Reflect

2. Read the passage again, silently.

Ask the Lord to let you read and “hear” it as if this was the first time; How would you re-tell this story in your own words? (Not more than 5 or 6 sentences.)

Spontaneous

3. Pick one person from the passage: _____.

Prayer

Imagine that you are in this person’s “shoes.”

(Note: If the passage does not specifically name persons in its text, simply see if the words themselves evoke any particular feeling. Does it call to mind a previous, or presently occurring, incident or relationship in your life?)

A. How does it feel to be in this situation?

B. Does it remind you of something or someone in your life?

C. Is there anything you would say or do differently?

D. Have a “heart to Heart” talk with Jesus sharing your honest feelings about anything that has come to mind in reference to your reflecting on this passage. It might be something that is weighing heavily on your heart, or something that moves you to a deep sense of gratitude and joyful praise.

Choose one word or phrase from this passage that has a special meaning for you _____.

Resting in God

4. Read the passage again. Close your eyes. Think of your favorite picture of Jesus and LISTEN to HIM.

(Spend this time in simple silence, waiting and quietly listening for whatever the Lord might “whisper” in your heart.)

This Modern English description of the timeless *Lectio Divina* was written by Carol Lankford. (See *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #2708) Copyright © 1994, 2003 by Carol Lankford. All Rights Reserved. May be reprinted without alterations, including copyright notation, for classroom & individual use. No reproduction for publication without permission, contact (608) 791-2658.