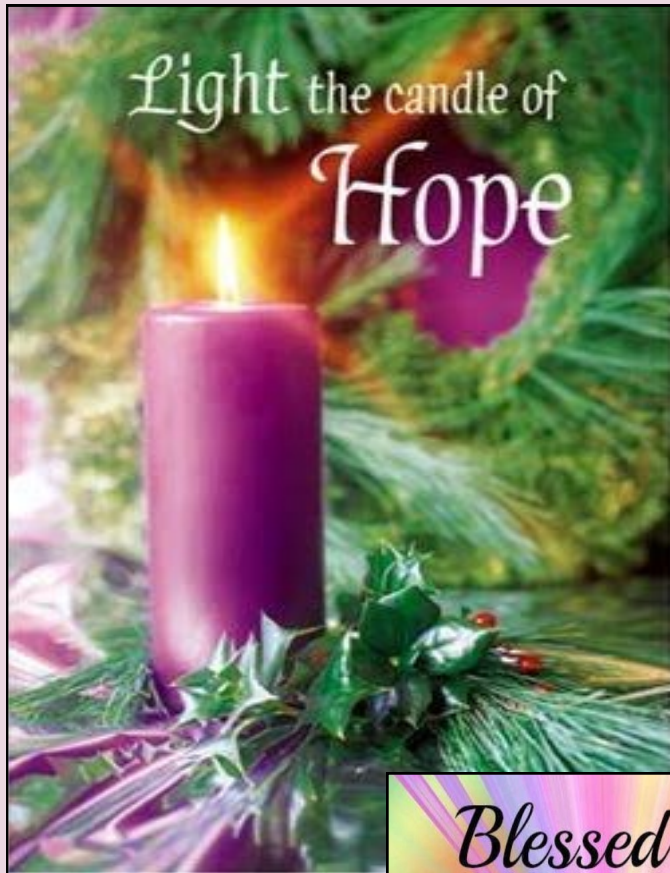


St. Joseph Parish ~ St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33 • La Crosse • Wisconsin • 54601

November 27, 2022



Light the candle of
Hope

**First Sunday
of Advent**



Blessed
are the pure in
heart
for they shall see God.
Matthew 5:8

PASTOR

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

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

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

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

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

CONFESSIONS

First Saturday after Mass or by appointment

PARISH OFFICE

Barb Mikshowsky.....608-788-1646
Bulletin deadline:Wednesday
sjrp2601@gmail.com
Open most Wednesdays and Thursdays

CONTACT 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

Fr Biju also serving

St. Peter Parish, Middle Ridge

Adoration: Wednesday7:30-9:00 PM
Weekend Mass: Saturday.....8:00 PM
Sunday.....10:00 AM
Weekday Mass: Wednesday....8:00 AM
Friday8:00 AM

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Dave Brown-Cemetery Rep
Teresa Brown,
Lori Clements -PCCW Rep
Stan Clements
Ann Degenhardt
Terry Dickman-Finance
Council Rep
Bob Kotek
Bill Weber-Secretary
Stacy Burns-CRE
Paula Silha-CRE

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Mary Jo Hess-Secretary
Terry Dickman
Dave Brown-(Bldg & Grnds)
and Cemetery Rep
Barb Braun
D30an Steiger

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Coordinators: Stacy Burns
and Paula Silha

PCCW - Parish Council of Catholic Women

Lori Clements-President
Mary Jo Hess-Treasurer
Jill Murphy-Secretary
Polly Hilby-Funeral Prep

Cemetery Sexton Building & Grounds

Dave Brown ...608-792-1006
dbrown039@centurytel.net

MUSIC

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

Accompanist:

Leland Gregorich
LuAnne Gregorich
Mary Beth Smith

PARISH INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, November 26

~ 4:00 pm Mass ~ † Robert, Alice, Larry,
Patty, and Bill Silha

Lector: Donnie Weber
Servers: Volunteers
Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, November 27

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ Our Parish Family

Lector: Sally Miller
Servers: Volunteers
Ushers: Volunteers

MONDAY, November 28

~ 5:30 pm Mass ~ † Curtis Strittmater

TUESDAY, November 29

~ 5:00 pm ~ Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
~ 5:30 pm Mass ~ † George and Evelyn Miller

THURSDAY, December 1

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ † Francis Schmidt

SATURDAY, December 3

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ † Ken Hess
~ 4:00 pm Mass ~ † John, Bernice, Steve, and
Sam Mashak

Lector: Paula Silha
Servers: Volunteers
Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, December 4

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ † Joe Murphy

Lector: Jim Weber
Servers: Volunteers
Ushers: Volunteers

MASS Intentions

Please contact the Parish office if you would like to schedule mass intentions.

Parish office phone #788-1646 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com. Also 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

- **November 29** ~ 6:30 pm - Finance Council Meeting
- **November 30** ~ Religious Education classes
- **December 3** ~ 8:30 am Mass
(after Mass Fr. Biju available for anointing of the sick)
- **December 7** ~ Vigil Mass for *Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary* (Holy day of Obligation)
6:00 pm Mass at St Joseph Parish
Religious Education students should attend mass
7:30 pm Mass at St. Peters Parish-Middle Ridge
- **December 8** ~ 8:30 am Mass *Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary* (Holy day of Obligation)
- **December 14** ~ Religious Education class
- **December 19** ~ Confessions at Cathedral
- **December 21** ~ Religious Education Christmas party
6:00 pm Confessions at St. Joseph Parish

Confessions

First Saturday after Morning Mass or 3:30—3:45 pm before 4:00 pm Mass or by appointment

Please contact Fr. Biju to set up a time.



ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

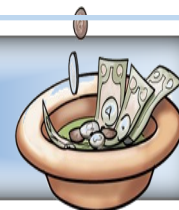
Every Tuesday evening at 5:00 until mass at 5:30 pm

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Father Biju will be available for anointing of the sick after the first Saturday mass of each month. Please contact him directly if you or a family member would like to receive the sacrament.

GIFT'S RETURNED TO GOD

Last Week in Giving—182 envelope holders



Adult Envelopes(35):	\$1,293,34
Offertory:	\$ 144.00
Christmas Flowers:	\$ 45.00
All Saints Day Env:	\$ 100.00

Thank You!

FROM THE PASTOR



PARISH NEWS



First Sunday of
Advent Season

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Happy New Year!

This First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of a new liturgical year and the countdown to Christmas. We start the Year A of the Liturgical calendar with Gospel of St. Matthew for our reflections. Advent extends over the next four Sundays and culminates on Christmas Eve. The word “Advent” comes from the Latin word Adventus, which means “coming.” Like Lent this is a preparatory season, one that has us looking forward and waiting for something greater. Here are a few lines from our tradition on what Advent is about. “Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare us for Christmas when Christ’s first coming is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and the heart to await Christ’s second coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation.” (General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, #39). Advent has two parts, and we need both of them. The first is a preparation not for Christmas, but for the Second Coming. The second part of Advent is from December 17 to the 24 which prepares us to celebrate the First Coming, Christmas.

This weekend all the readings of the liturgy point to the last things, inviting us to live sober and alert, full of expectation and hope at the coming of the Lord. We are invited to be vigilant, to keep watch. 'Stay awake', 'keep watch', the Scriptures will tell us, urging us to live in expectancy and hope. How can we do that? Other than the external preparations it’s also a time to prepare our soul. The sacrament of penance is an important part of our Advent preparation for a worthy celebration of Christmas. There will be additional opportunities in the deanery for confession as Christmas approaches. Look for the more details in the bulletin.

*I wish you all a blessed preparatory time during
this advent to receive the Lord.
May he dispel darkness and bring you life.
Let the celebration of advent
be not just mere four weeks in my calendar
but it is my life's calendar. Have a blessed advent!*

May God bless you
Live Jesus
Fr Biju MSFS



Fun Night Fundraiser—Friday, February 17th

We will be having a gun raffle and cash raffle included in this fundraising event. Gun Raffle tickets are available for pick up for those who want to sell them. They can be picked up after mass (see parish council member) or by contacting Fr. Biju.

Cash raffle tickets will be distributed to all parish families after Christmas.

PCCW News:

2022-2023 dues are \$13.00 for the year. All women of the parish are members. You can put your dues payment in the collection basket or mail to the office in an envelope marked "PCCW Dues" Thank you

GIVE AWAY: Electric clothes dryer located in school hall. Dryer works, but you will need to haul it. Please contact parish office (608-788-1646), if interested.

DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS

~Saturday, December 3rd starting at 8:00 am - Craft Show

St. Mary's Parish of Coon Valley is hosting their annual Craft show. There will be several crafters with a variety of home made gifts and decorations. Please come and enjoy the craft show!

~Saturday, December 10th: Mary, Mother of the Church Parish will be holding their Cookie Walk & Craft Sale at the Parish Hall located at 2006 Weston Street, La Crosse, from 7:30 AM - 1:00 PM. Homemade cookies will be sold by the pound, plus homemade Candies, Breads, Pies, Handcrafted Items and Scrip Gift Cards available for sale. Serving Continental Breakfast and Lunch (homemade soup and chili). Raffles and hourly Door Prizes.

~Eucharistic Revival How do we get to know Jesus better?

Jesus knows each one of us better than we know ourselves and He loves us. Friendship always involves two persons. We want to get to know this Person who loves us so much through reading the Scriptures (the Bible). As we enter Advent, it is a perfect time to read the Scriptures and remember how Jesus came to us, born as an infant.

Let's pray this right now and every day this week:
**Jesus, give me the desire to read
the Bible a few minutes each day.**



This week, read how Mary gave her 'yes' to be the Mother of the Savior in **Luke 1: 26-38**



Franciscan Spirituality Center:

The Franciscan Spirituality Center is a sacred place of peace and hospitality for those seeking spiritual renewal, personal and professional growth, healing, transformation and deeper self-awareness. They offer retreats and programs, spiritual direction for groups and individuals, mindfulness workshops, various yoga classes, opportunities for artistic expression and an innovative three-year training program to help people become compassionate, nonjudgmental listeners. Please see the website: <https://www.fscenter.org/>

Also, the Franciscan Spirituality Board of Directors will match donations made on GivingTuesday, November 29. This is a once-a-year opportunity to double the impact of your gift!

DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS cont'd

~Parish Advent Series

Parishioners are invited to participate in the Advents Series that will help to prepare for Christmas. The following are the titles and presenters of these recordings. The recordings are 40 - 45 minutes, with discussion questions provided. People may be part of an organized group at the parish or watch virtually from home. The videos are available here: dioc.org/catechesis

• 1st week of Advent: [Jesus' True Presence in the Eucharist](#) with Msgr. Joseph Hirsch At Christmas we read from Scripture that Jesus is Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Jesus came on the first Christmas to save us. Again and again, Jesus comes to us in the Eucharist. Our faith comes alive as we understand better that Jesus gives us His Real Presence in the Eucharist.

• 2nd week of Advent: [Receiving and Adoring Jesus - Communion and Thanksgiving](#) with Fr. Justin Kizewski. Jesus gives us the Gift of Himself on Christmas. Jesus continues to give us the greatest Gift – the Gift of Himself in the Eucharist again and again in a life-giving encounter. This is really the whole meaning of Christmas. Jesus came to give us Himself as food; He is literally the Bread of Life – supernatural bread that saves us, that spiritually nourishes and strengthens us with His grace.

• 3rd week of Advent: [Offering ourselves with Jesus to the Father](#) with Msgr. Richard Gilles

• 4th week of Advent: ["Source and Summit" of the Church's Life](#) with Father Steven Weller

~How can I Prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

- Love and forgive
- Readily accept the gift of forgiveness
- Pray (talk with God)
- Examine your conscience

How Much Do I Care?

There is a danger that preparation for Confession could become merely "the right thing to do." But preparing for Confession calls for real caring and prayer. How much do I want to repent, to reconcile, to turn my life to God? How well am I conveying the forgiveness of God in daily life?



SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Andrew

Feast Day: November 30

Saint Andrew was a fisherman in Galilee, along with his brother, Peter, when they were called by Jesus to leave their boat and become fishers of men. John's Gospel also places him as a follower of John the Baptist before he came to be one of Jesus' twelve Disciples. Beyond the scant references in the Gospels, not much is known of Saint Andrew's life.

According to Christian tradition Saint Andrew, like many of his fellow Disciples went out into Greece and Turkey to preach the Good News. A 4th century account of the saint's life tells of his martyrdom by crucifixion in Patras. Medieval accounts describe the cross used as X-shaped because Andrew said he was not worthy to die on the same style of cross as Jesus.

Famously Saint Andrew is the patron Saint of Scotland, the country's flag bearing the X-shaped cross associated with him. Legends claim that the saint either traveled to Scotland to spread the Gospel or that his relics were brought there by St. Regulus who had a vision telling him to take the bones to the end of the earth. Regulus set out and was shipwrecked on the coast of Scotland. Today relics of St. Andrew which had been held by the Vatican are now at a shrine in Patras.

ACTIVITY CORNER

**Fill in the Blanks:
The Lord is Coming!**



Use the words in the list at the bottom to fill in the blanks in today's Gospel reading. Use the letters in the boxes to fill in the blanks at the end.

Matthew 24:37-44 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

In those days _____ the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah

_____ the ark.

They did not know until the flood came and _____ _____ them all away.

So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.

Two will be out in the field; one will be _____, and one will be left.

Two women will be

_____ _____ at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left.

Therefore, _____ awake!

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.

_____ !

STAY ENTERED MEN BEFORE GRINDING TAKEN CARRIED



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- 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.
- Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

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