

PARISH INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, December 24 *Christmas Eve*

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

~ 4:00 pm Mass ~ † Jim Malin

Lector: Bill Weber

Servers: Volunteers

Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, December 25 *Christmas Day*

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ † Clarence, Theresa,
Pauline, and Patty Gotz

Lector: Jim Weber

Servers: Volunteers

Ushers: Volunteers

MONDAY, December 26

~ 5:30 pm Mass ~ † Allen and Joe Gerke

TUESDAY, December 27

~ 5:00 pm ~ *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

~ 5:30 pm Mass ~ † Jim Malin

THURSDAY, December 29

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ † Joe Murphy

SATURDAY, December 31

~ 4:00 pm Mass ~ † Ralph & Evelyn Mikshowsky

Lector: Paula Silha

Servers: Volunteers

Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, January 1

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ † Ken Hess

Lector:

Servers: Volunteers

Ushers: Volunteers



PARISH CALENDAR

- **December 28** ~ No Religious Education class
- **December 29** ~ Joint meeting (Finance Council and Pastoral Council)
- **December 31** ~ Fr Biju's 20th Anniversary of Ordination
- **January 1** ~ Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
- **January 4** ~ Religious Education Class
- **January 9** ~ 6:30 pm Informational meeting regarding the "Inspired by the Spirit" Campaign

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



ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT



GIFT'S RETURNED TO GOD

Last Week in Giving—180 envelope holders



Adult Envelopes(30):	\$2,553.00
Offertory:	\$ 150.00
Immaculate Conception:	\$ 25.00
Religious Retire. fund:	\$ 197.00
Christmas flowers:	\$ 50.00

Thank You!



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.

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.

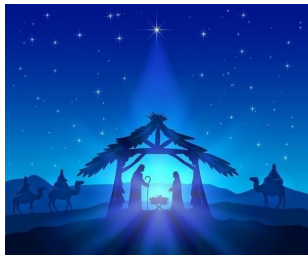
Donations: Here are some ways to contribute:

- 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.

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.

FROM THE PASTOR



Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman.” Galatians (4:4)

Merry Christmas! “The word was made flesh and he made his dwelling among us” these momentous words from the begining of John’s Gospel describe exactly what we celebrate at Christmas. Jesus the eternal Son of God came among us and become a part of our human family. He transformed our lives and world. It began with Joseph, Mary and the shepherds. The shepherds were watching over sheep and then suddenly their life changed forever. A bright light and a multitude of angels appeared proclaiming that great joy. “And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people”. Luke 2:10. They were frightened. We all know how fear can cripple us and take away our joy and peace. The birth of the savior tells us not to be frightened. No matter where you find yourself this Christmas know that Jesus loves you.

Because there is no Sunday between Christmas and January 1 this year, the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is celebrated on Friday, December 30. The first family to welcome Jesus inspires us to do the same. The feast is celebrated to present the holy family as a model for Christian families. As we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family this weekend, I encourage you to pray for all families.

As the first seconds, minutes and hours of the new year is just around the corner, I want to take a moment and Thank everyone. Thanks for the many people who help make our parish so special. Thanks to all who put in several hours to decorate the Church for Christmas. Thanks to Ushers, Lectors, Altar servers, extraordinary ministers of Eucharist, Sacristans, CCD teachers, music director, grounds keepers, administrative assistant and members of the different councils. Also like to Thank all the volunteers who without being recognized offer their help in their own capacity. Thanks for all the Christmas cards and presents including cookies. I want to let everyone know that you have been in my thoughts and prayers.

Merry Christmas!!! ~ Live Jesus

Fr Biju MSFS



PARISH NEWS

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.



Reminder for Food Donations:

Please bring any food donation to the back of church. These food items will be taken to a local food pantry to assist families in need.

Our Parish welcomes Arthur Gregory Mihalek who will be receiving the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday, January 7th



DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS

Celebrating a 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2023?



We are looking for couples who will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2023. Please leave a message at the Parish office (608) 788-1646 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com with your name and wedding date!

~A Blessed and Merry Christmas to everyone. We are so appreciative of your commitments to the Missions sharing the Good News, that Christ the Savior is our source of hope and fulfillment especially in corners of the world suffering under adverse poverty and restricted religious freedoms. Your prayers and financial support open opportunities that would otherwise remain out of reach. We have recently received Mass Stipends from parishes overwhelmed by the requests that come in. Bishops and Religious Superiors in Mission territories are delighted to receive the support and assure us that the Mass intentions can be celebrated in a timely and reverent manner. To you they extend their gratitude for trusting them and their priests. For priests in rural areas, these stipends are often their only source of income. God bless you.

~A Minute with Jesus ~ Jesus came into the world to save us. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, which means “house of bread.” Because there was no room in the inn (motel) Jesus was born in a stable and laid in a manger, which is significant because it is a feeding trough for animals. This was all part of God’s plan for His birth on earth, to point to the fact that Jesus came to save us. This is really the whole meaning of Christmas. Jesus came to give us Himself as food – He literally is the Bread of Life – supernatural bread (this is Jesus Himself) that saves us, that spiritually nourishes and strengthens us with His grace. Let’s pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, thank You for coming into the world as our Savior. This week, read how the birth of Jesus took place in Luke 2: 1-7

O come all ye faithful, joyful, and triumphant; O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem. Come and behold him born the King of angels.

DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS cont'd

BE A SPIRITUS MISSIONARY

Do you know a young adult who lives out their faith and is eager to share it with others? SPIRITUS Ministries is looking for Catholics, between 19-29, who want to grow in leadership, holiness and inspire the next generation of youth to live out their Catholic faith. As a SPIRITUS missionary, you'll live in community by gender, travel to schools and parishes throughout Wisconsin, and inspire 5,000+ youth in grades 2-12 through retreats. Missionaries receive one-on-one mentoring, spiritual direction, food, lodging, monthly allowance, health insurance, and a \$3,000* completion stipend. There is no fundraising required. For more info visit: spiritusministries.org/beamissionary Want a taste of Missionary life? Register for a [Come & See Weekend!](#) Email Sarah at recruiter@spiritusministries.org Or give us a call at (920) 722-8918 ext. 7 to learn more!

~Help Catholic Charities love our Neighbors in Need

Catholic Charities reaches out to our neighbors in need in so many ways, from providing shelter to the homeless in our midst, to giving hope and support to moms before and after birth, to working with married couples looking to adopt, to assisting the poor and people with disabilities. Find out more, and how you can help, at cclse.org.

~CALIX – For Help with Addiction from a Catholic Perspective

Do you or a family member or friend need help with an addiction concern? Or, do you just need someone to talk with? You can reach out to a member of CALIX. CALIX (calixsociety.org) is an association of Catholics in addiction and family members and friends affected by addiction, who are maintaining their sobriety through participation in their Catholic faith and a 12 Step program. You can make a confidential call to 612-383-8232 (Jim R.) or 651-587-4668 (Jim B.), for information on meetings and recovery support. You need not disclose your name.

**Feast of the Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

December 30th

A PRAYER FOR A FAMILY

O dear Jesus, I humbly implore You to grant your special graces to our family. May our home be the shrine of Your peace, purity, love, labor and faith.

Dear Jesus, protect and bless all of us, absent and present, living and dead.

O Mary, loving Mother of Jesus, and our Mother, pray to Jesus for our family and for all the families of the world.

Blessed Saint Joseph, holy guardian of Jesus and Mary, assist us by your prayers in all the necessities of life. Watch over our home at the pillow of the sick and dying.

Amen.

ACTIVITY CORNER

*Octave of Christmas
Word-Find*



*Can you find all the words in the list in the puzzle below?
Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end.*

- | | | |
|-----------|--------|-----------|
| ANGELS | GLORY | PRAISE |
| ANIMALS | GOD | SAVIOUR |
| BABY | HOLY | SHEEP |
| BARN | JESUS | SHEPHERDS |
| BETHLEHEM | JOSEPH | SING |
| BORN | MANGER | SKY |
| COLD | MARY | STABLE |
| FIELDS | MOTHER | WONDER |
| FOUND | NIGHT | WORSHIP |

W P M S I N G N I G H T
 O R A T A N I M A L S B
 N A S A N G E L S R H E
 D I A B M O T H E R E T
 E S V L A D J O S E P H
 R E I E R Y E L T H H L
 G L O R Y E S Y M O E E
 F B U T H E U S K Y R H
 O A R W O R S H I P D E
 U B A R N F I E L D S M
 N Y R M A N G E R O F G
 D O D C O L D P B O R N

On the eighth day of Christmas we honour in a special way



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