

# St. Joseph Parish ~ St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33 • La Crosse • Wisconsin • 54601

February 19, 2023

## PASTOR

Fr. Biju Chennai 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  
Monday .....5:30 pm  
Tuesday.....Adoration .....5:00 pm  
                            Mass.....5:30 pm  
Thursday.....8:30 am

## CONFESSIONS

First Saturday after Mass or by appointment

## PARISH OFFICE

Barb Mikshowska.....608-788-1646  
Bulletin deadline: .....Wednesday  
                            sjrp2601@gmail.com  
Office hours vary, call or email with questions

## CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR:

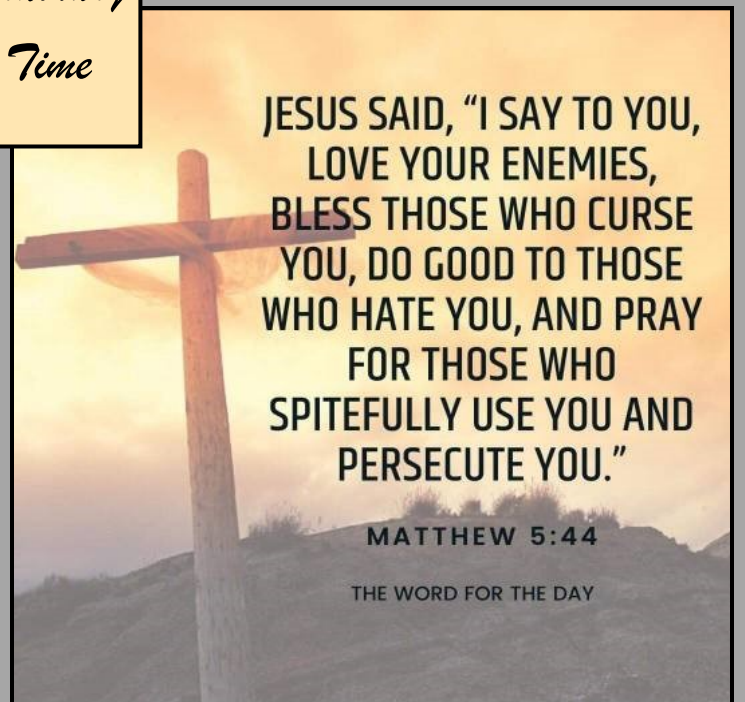
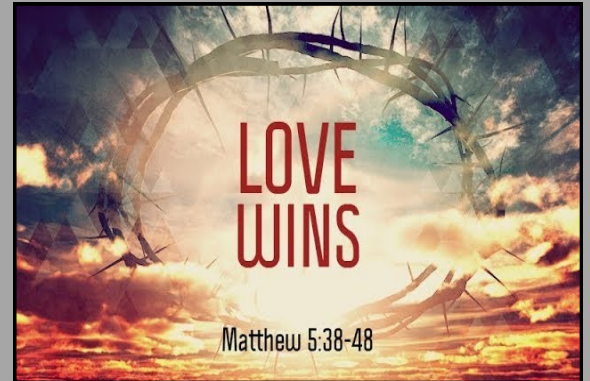
- Joining the Parish
- Weddings or Baptisms
- Anointing of the sick  
(also call Fr. Biju cell phone)
- If you are home-bound & would like to be visited

## Fr Biju also serves

### St. Peter's Parish, Middle Ridge

Adoration: Wednesday .....7:30-9:00 PM  
Weekend Mass: Saturday.....8:00 PM  
                            Sunday.....10:00 AM  
  
Weekday Mass: Wednesday....8:00 AM  
                            Friday .....8:00 AM

7th  
Sunday  
in  
Ordinary  
Time



## 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  
Dan 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

*Thank you for your time  
and talent to support our parish.*

**PARISH INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY, February 18**

~ 4:00 pm Mass ~ † Rick Schermerhorn  
 Lector: Bill Weber  
 Servers: Volunteers  
 Ushers: Volunteers

**SUNDAY, February 19**

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ † Karen Nordstrom  
 Lector: Sally Miller  
 Servers: Volunteers  
 Ushers: Volunteers

**MONDAY, February 20**

~ 5:30 pm Mass ~ † Mike Mitchell

**TUESDAY, February 21**

~ 5:00 pm ~ Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
 ~ 5:30 pm Mass ~ † Ken Hess

**WEDNESDAY, February 22—Ash Wednesday**

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ † Herb and Joyce Clements  
 ~ 6:00 pm Mass ~ † Earl Martin  
 Lector: Jim Weber

**THURSDAY, February 23**

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ † Roger Hundt

**SATURDAY, February 25**

~ 4:00 pm Mass ~ † Terry and Darryl Miller  
 Lector: Donnie Weber  
 Servers: Volunteers  
 Ushers: Volunteers

**SUNDAY, February 26**

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ Our Parish Family  
 Lector: Donna Clements  
 Servers: Volunteers  
 Ushers: Volunteers

**Contributions for  
 the past week—  
 180 envelope holders**



Adult Envelopes:	\$ 2,935.00
Plate collection:	\$ 402.00
Votive Candles:	\$ 3.00
Initial Offering:	\$ 2.00
Cash Raffle:	\$ 971.00
Gun Raffle:	\$ 890.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 5,203.00</b>

**PARISH CALENDAR**

- **February 20**—6:30 pm PCCW meeting
- \* **February 22—Ash Wednesday**  
**St Joseph Parish 8:30 am mass and 6:00 pm mass**  
**St Peters Parish—8:00 pm mass**
- \* **February 26**—Euchre Party at St. Peters/Middle Ridge
- **February 28**—6:15 pm Eucharist Lectio Series begin
- **March 4 & 5**—Blest Art will be available after masses
- **March 4 & 5**—Eucharistic Revival Conference at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- **March 29**—6:00 pm Confessions at St. Joseph Parish
- **April 7**—Good Friday
- **April 9**—EASTER Sunday



**~ ENHANCE YOUR FAITH ~**

**\* Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

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

**\* 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.

**\* Confession**

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 phone #788-1646 or email [sjrp2601@gmail.com](mailto:sjrp2601@gmail.com) if you would like to schedule mass intentions.  
 . Also Mass Intentions envelopes are in the back of church.

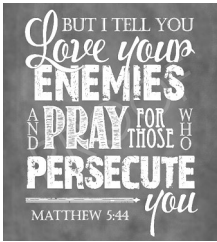
**Donations:** Here are some ways to contribute:

- 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.

FROM THE PASTOR



PARISH NEWS



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you"

It is very easy to love those who love us. It is natural and does not involve a superhuman effort because it is reciprocal. Loving our enemies has immeasurable value because it may ask much from us.

In a community where there is so much diversity in personal characteristic, social strata, cultural backgrounds and various ways of doing the same thing, working together and forgiving when offense occurs can be a challenge. Sometimes in our working place or in the neighborhood we can meet individuals who have become our enemies. As Christians we are called not to maintain old resentments, to feed pride or to promote hatred for those who don't love us.

We are called by Christ to be generous and to forgive. Those who are called to the Kingdom of Heaven are to go beyond the way the world usually works. So, Jesus tells us "I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Embrace the enemy. It is challenging. Jesus goes further and invites us "So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect". Forgiving our enemies makes us, more like Jesus who on the cross who prayed for his executioners. Forgiveness is a healing balm. Can I forgive the other because Christ lives in me?

Next Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. Marked with the ashes of palms; a symbol that represents mortality and repentance, we begin lent, the season of grace. It's a season of grace and renewal. A special season which helps us to ascent to the holy mountain of Easter. Prayer fasting, almsgiving, forgiveness, love of enemies, call to holiness are all part of the journey.

During this lent there are Lenten booklets available at the back of the church. Please make use of it for your personal reflection. Stations of the Cross will be every Wednesday of Lent at 7 pm at St Joseph and 7:30pm at St Peter Church.

Thanks to all who have volunteered and worked hard for the fun night.

Have a great Lent!

~ Live Jesus~

Fr Biju MSFS



All are welcome to join us for the Eucharist Lectio series with Brant Pitre. It's free. Tuesday evenings, starting Feb. 28th at 6:15 PM in the school hall.



This will follow the regular Adoration (5:00 pm) and Mass (5:30 pm).

10 sessions that explore Scripture, history, and Church teaching to illuminate the wonder and the MIRACLE OF THE EUCHARIST.

Please call Stacy Burns @ 608-769-8828 to register or with any questions. There will be food!

Our sincere Thank You to Father Biju and Monsignor Hundt for officiating at the mass and burial for Joyce. You both made it a very special service.

We appreciate the beautiful music and wonderful singing done by the organist and choir members. Joyce mentioned frequently to us "what a talented choir that we have".

Also thank you to the St. Joseph Parish family who expressed to us their prayers, sympathies and kind words during this difficult time.

God Bless you all!

Sincerely from the family of Joyce Clements



Thank you to the Clements Family for sponsoring the education of a child in India in memory of Joyce Clements.

Fr. Biju



February 22 ~ Mass Times 8:30 am & 6:00 pm at St. Joseph 8:00 pm at St. Peters

Lenten Regulations:

- 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.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Blest Art will be visiting your parish on behalf of the Christian families in Bethlehem, Palestine. Our mission is to support those families in the Holy Land. When Blest Art visits your parish, we will have hand-carved nativity sets, statues, crosses, rosaries, and many other pieces of beautiful olive wood art. We gladly accept cash, checks, and all major credit cards.



Please visit the display At your parish Saturday & Sunday March 4 th and 5 th After each Mass



**DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS cont'd**

**~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~**

**~A Minute with Jesus** ~ Jesus will help us believe what we cannot understand. The Lord always comes in to strengthen and confirm our faith in response to our desire to believe. He actually even uses our hesitation in accepting His true Presence in the Eucharist to bring us to a deeper, more lively faith in the truth of this mystery.

Let's pray this right now and every day this week:

**Jesus, please strengthen my faith to believe that You are truly present in the Holy Eucharist.**

This week, read how Jesus responds to those who are questioning the mystery of the Eucharist in John 6: 52-59

**~Healing Mass and Prayer Service in Cashton on Feb 27th.**

**Do you have a need for healing - spiritual, physical, psychological, emotional?** Join us for Mass and a Healing Service on Monday, February 27th at Sacred Heart Church in Cashton, WI (1205 Front Street)

Schedule of Evening:

- 5:30 pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available throughout the evening)
- 6:30 pm - Holy Mass Adoration continues after Mass with Prayers of Healing & Deliverance. Our clergy and prayer teams will pray over those who desire it. Fr. Sedlacek

**~Eucharistic Revival Conference - March 3-4 (Free)**

The **Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe** will host a Eucharistic Conference offered by the Norbertine Fathers on Friday, March 3, and Saturday, March 4, 2023. Days begin with 8:30 AM Mass. Attend one or both days, with a variety of presentations on each day. Registration is not required and there is no cost to attend. The Conference will include the Eucharistic Miracles Display. View entire schedule <https://www.guadalupe Shrine.org/post/eucharisticconference>

**~LA CROSSE DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN - MORNING OF REFLECTION-**

Two Lost Souls, one Good Shepherd: Finding Faith, Hope and Love in the Lord and One Another will be on March 4, 2023. Registration and light breakfast will start at 9 am. Guest speaker will be Elizabeth Kelly, an award winning Catholic Author of over ten books, Retreat Leader and Podcaster. Elizabeth's website is: [www.lizk.org](http://www.lizk.org). Concluding prayer at 12 noon. This program is free to all women in the area. Join us at the 8 am Mass (optional) prior to the start of the program!

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**~Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, 2006 Weston Street, La Crosse,** will be holding a Fish Fry on Friday, February 24, from 4:00-7:00 PM, dine-in or carry-out. The price is \$12 for 2-piece and \$14 for 3-piece dinner and includes baked or batter fried cod, baked potato or fries, coleslaw and bun. \$5 kids meal includes grilled cheese, fries, fruit and milk. Beer, wine and desserts available at dine-in for additional cost.

**~Caregiver Opportunities**

The Villa St. Joseph is seeking applicants for part-time, evening caregivers. The shift time 4-8pm, but is somewhat flexible. Starting pay is \$18.95/hr and training is provided. Interested applicants can get more info and apply at <https://www.fspa.org/content/join/employment-opportunities>

# Ash Wednesday



This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, which is the first day of Lent. Lent is a special time in which we prepare to celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection on Good Friday and Easter Sunday.



Lent is a time of repentance. We make sacrifices and try to improve our lives to become more like Jesus. Jesus never sinned but He gave up His life to pay for our sins. That is why we make sacrifices-out of love for God and to make up for our sins. We offer our sacrifices to God the Father, just as Jesus on the cross offered up His life to God the Father.

On Ash Wednesday if you go to Mass you can receive ashes on your forehead. The ashes are a sign of repentance. They remind us that without God we are nothing and that someday we will die and be buried. But they can also remind us that if we do have God living in us, after we die we will rise from the dead, just as Jesus did on Easter, after He died on the cross.



**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**



- For the people in Turkey who have lost a loved one and are suffering from the damages incurred from the Earthquake.
- 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](mailto:sjrp2601@gmail.com)