



# St. Joseph Parish ~ St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33 • La Crosse • Wisconsin • 54601

February 5, 2023

## 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  
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 Mikshowsky.....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

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

That your faith should not  
stand in the wisdom of  
men, but in the power of  
God.

—1 Corinthians 2:5



**O come, let us worship God  
and bow low before the God who made us,  
for he is the Lord our God**

Psalm 95(94):6-7

## 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 4**

~8:30 am Mass ~ † Msgr. Francis Abuah-Quansah  
 ~ 4:00 pm Mass ~ † George and Evelyn Miller  
 Lector: Kathy Leis  
 Servers: Volunteers  
 Ushers: Volunteers

**SUNDAY, February 5**

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ † Jim and Janice Cavadini  
 Lector: Paula Silha  
 Servers: Volunteers  
 Ushers: Volunteers

**MONDAY, February 6**

~ 5:30 pm Mass ~ † George and Evelyn Miller

**TUESDAY, February 7**

~ 5:00 pm ~ *Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*  
 ~ 5:30 pm Mass ~ † Madonna Bahr

**THURSDAY, February 9**

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ † Bill Patterson

**SATURDAY, February 11**

~ 4:00 pm Mass ~ Our Parish Family  
 Lector: Paula Silha  
 Servers: Volunteers  
 Ushers: Volunteers

**SUNDAY, February 12**

~ 8:30 am Mass ~ † Francis Schmidt  
 Lector: Donna Clements  
 Servers: Volunteers  
 Ushers: Volunteers

**PARISH CALENDAR**

- **February 4** after 4:00 pm mass~  
Blessing of the Throats
- **February 8** ~ Religious Education Class
- **February 15** ~ Religious Education Class
- **February 17** ~ February Friday Fun night
- **February 18** ~ 9:00 am First Reconciliation  
2nd Grade Students
- **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

**Four Chaplains Sunday**



Reverend  
George L. Fox



Rabbi  
Alexander D. Goode



Reverend  
Clark V. Poling



Father  
John P. Washington

On Feb. 3, 1943, the United States Army Transport Dorchester – a converted luxury liner – was crossing the North Atlantic, transporting more than 900 troops to an American base in Greenland. Aboard the ship were four chaplains of different faiths: Reverend George Fox (Methodist), Jewish Rabbi Alexander Goode, Reverend Clark Poling (Dutch Reformed) and Father John Washington (Roman Catholic).

Around 12:55 a.m., a German U-boat fired a torpedo that struck Dorchester's starboard side, below the water line and near the engine room. The explosion instantly killed 100 men and knocked out power and radio communication with Dorchester's three escort ships. Within 20 minutes, the transport sank and more than 670 men died.

As soldiers rushed to lifeboats, the four chaplains spread out, comforting the wounded and directing others to safety. Survivors later stated that they could hear men crying, pleading, praying. They also could also hear the chaplains' preaching courage. Their voices were the only thing that kept me going. The Chaplains distributed life jackets, and when they ran out, they removed theirs and gave them to four young men. "It was the finest thing I have seen, or hope to see, this side of heaven," a survivor recalled.

As Dorchester sank, the chaplains were seen linked arm in arm, singing hymns and praying to the one Lord they all served.

Of the 902 men aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester, only 230 survived. Before boarding the Dorchester back in January, Chaplain Poling had asked his father to pray for him, "Not for my safe return, that wouldn't be fair. Just pray that I shall do my duty...never be a coward...and have the strength, courage and understanding of men. Just pray that I shall be adequate".

Although the Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart were later awarded posthumously Congress wished to confer the Medal of Honor but was blocked by the stringent requirements which required heroism performed under fire. So a posthumous Special Medal for Heroism, The Four Chaplains' Medal, was authorized by Congress and awarded by the President on January 18, 1961. It was never given before and will never be given again.

**GIFT'S RETURNED TO GOD**

Last Week in Giving—180 envelope holders



Adult Envelopes: \$1,788.34

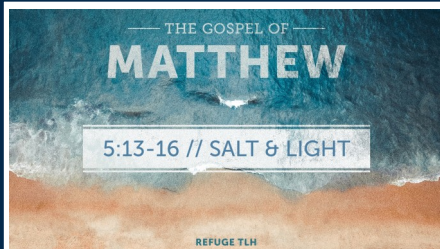
Offertory: \$ 215.00

Catholic Campaign for Human  
Development: \$ 462.00

*Thank  
You!*



**FROM THE PASTOR**



**Fifth  
Sunday in  
Ordinary  
Time**

*"You are the salt of the earth.  
You are the light of the world".*

Light dispels darkness, light makes things visible, light gives warmth, light heals, light makes the way visible... This is what the disciples are called to be for the world... to be men and women whose presence dispels darkness, reveals the truth, encourages warmth of affection, facilitates healing of brokenness, shows the way...

In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day - the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples.

Today's Gospel passage has Jesus asking us to be the salt of the earth and light of the world. The religious men and women do that in a very visible way by consecrating themselves with religious vows. But that is not the vocation of the vast number of people.

So how can an ordinary Catholic, who is not in the lime light of public sphere, become the light of the world? It's a personal question for each of us. Wherever you go and whatever you do this week, remember to sprinkle your "salt" and shine your "light"! Because "You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world".

This coming Saturday, February 11, is the memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes and the 31st annual World Day of the Sick. On that day specially remember and pray for all who are sick in your own family, friends circle and community. Sick people, in fact, are at the center of God's people, and the Church advances together with them as a sign of a humanity in which everyone is precious and no one should be discarded or left behind.



*Have a blessed week!*

*~ Live Jesus ~*

*Fr Biju MSFS*

**PARISH NEWS**

**Consecration of our new Paten,  
Chalice and Ciborium**

We had been using an old chalice for daily mass. It was sent in for restoration, but we have not received it back.



These days I have been using one which was meant for the communion ministers. I had longed to have a new chalice. They are very expensive. So, when Madonna Mae (Elsen) (Leis) Bahr, passed away on Friday September 16, 2022 the family decided to donate something for the church. When I mentioned the need of the church her children decided to donate a paten, chalice and ciborium in memory of Madonna. I like to thank them for their generosity towards the church. May her soul rest in peace.

We will have it blessed during mass on Sunday Feb 5th.

On behalf of the parish,

***Thank you to family of Madonna Bahr  
for their generous gift.***

**FUNnight**

**February Friday Fun Night**

**February 17, 2023**

**6:00 PM to 9:30 PM**

**The Fun Night is just around the corner and  
WE NEED YOU!**

- Get the **flyers** out in the community and spread the word!
- **Sign up to work a shift**
- **Sell and return money along with the stubs** for the cash and gun raffles.
- **Invite** all your friends and family to attend!
- **Donate a door prize.**

Thank you for your support and  
we hope to see you at this fun social event.

***Whom should I fear? Why should I be afraid? Lord, you are my light and salvation: a refuge from my strife.  
One thing I ask, one thing I will seek from you: to dwell in your temple with you all the days of my life  
to gaze on your beauty to pray in your house. You are the light I seek, O God***



## DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS cont'd

**~A Minute with Jesus** ~ Jesus is truly present in the Holy Eucharist. When we look at the consecrated Host at Mass, our eyes see only bread, but the reality is we are looking at Jesus truly present. Jesus, grant me the grace to believe this truth, that though "hidden", You are truly present in Holy Communion. It is important to remember that what we are not able to see with our eyes, we grasp by choosing to believe – with faith's consent.

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

**Lord, I want to believe. Please help me to believe that what You say is true, especially helping the part of me that sometimes questions.**

This week, read about the father of a sick boy who asked Jesus to help him believe what seemed impossible in Mark 9:20-27.

### **~Feast of Blessed Brother James Miller – February 13**

A native of Stevens Point and a De La Salle Christian Brother and missionary, Brother James Miller was gunned down while repairing a wall at the school where he worked in Huehuetenango, Guatemala on Feb. 13, 1982. He was declared a martyr and beatified by Pope Francis on Dec. 7, 2019. He stands as an example of fidelity to the Gospel and humble and fearless service on behalf of the poor and the vulnerable. To learn more, visit [diolc.org/blessed-brother-james-miller](http://diolc.org/blessed-brother-james-miller).

### **~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

### **~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!

**~Be Part of an Amazing Adventure in Faith** – Join the Lay Formation Institute! Registration is now open for the next two-year Lay Formation cycle that begins in fall of 2023. Draw closer to Christ and deepen your knowledge of the Faith in a joyful community of learners! See complete information and application form at [diolc.org/lay-formation](http://diolc.org/lay-formation). Discuss with your pastor and contact the Office for Ministries and Social Concerns at [ministries@diolc.org](mailto:ministries@diolc.org) or call 608.791.0161.

### **~The Gospel of Jesus Christ—Starts FEBRUARY 28**

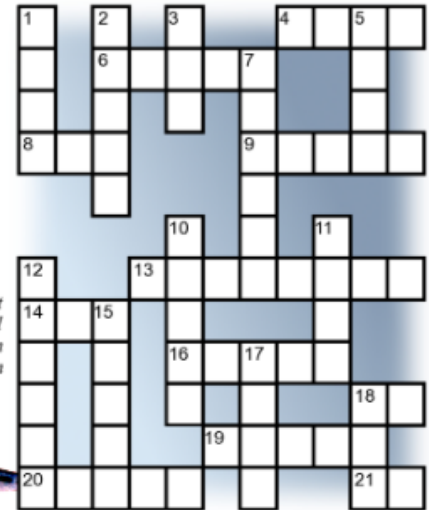
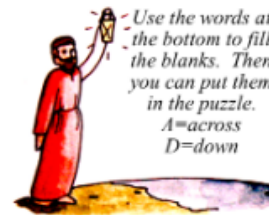
**(Tuesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m.):** John McHugh will share insights into select passages from all four Gospels during this four-part series designed to deepen your Lenten journey. Attend any or all sessions!

More information can be found on the Franciscan Spirituality website <https://www.fscenter.org/> and click through events/registration.

**~The Exchange (1009 4th St., La Crosse)** accepts donated items and collaborates with local organizations to provide home essentials for community members in need. They are in need of gently used furniture, kitchen items, microwaves, small appliances, cleaning supplies, mattresses, towels, sheets, lamps, etc. Donation drop off hours are Monday and Wednesday 1-3 PM and Tuesday and Thursday 1-4 PM. For more details call 608-301-5345 or [www.theexchangelacrosse.org](http://www.theexchangelacrosse.org).

## ACTIVITY CORNER

### Salt and Light Crossword Puzzle



2D \_\_\_\_\_ 5D to his disciples: "You are the  
11D of the \_\_\_\_\_ 6A But if salt \_\_\_\_\_ 15D its  
\_\_\_\_\_ 20A with what can it be seasoned? It is no  
longer \_\_\_\_\_ 17D for anything but \_\_\_\_\_ 21A be thrown out  
and trampled underfoot. \_\_\_\_\_ 8A \_\_\_\_\_ 3D the light of  
the \_\_\_\_\_ 10D A \_\_\_\_\_ 1D set on a \_\_\_\_\_ 13A  
cannot be \_\_\_\_\_ 7D Nor do they light a lamp and  
then put it under a bushel \_\_\_\_\_ 12D; it is \_\_\_\_\_ 18D  
on a lampstand, where it gives \_\_\_\_\_ 16A to \_\_\_\_\_ 14A  
in the \_\_\_\_\_ 19A Just \_\_\_\_\_ 18A your light \_\_\_\_\_ 4A  
shine before others, that they may see your good  
\_\_\_\_\_ 9A and glorify your heavenly Father."

MUST JESUS MOUNTAIN CITY LIGHT  
SAID DEEDS BASKET EARTH WORLD  
GOOD HOUSE HIDDEN YOU SET ALL  
SALT TASTE LOSES ARE SO TO



### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

- Margaret Bahr and her family as they mourn the loss of her son Randy Bahr who passed away on January 23rd.
- 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)