

St. Joseph Parish ~ St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33 • La Crosse • WI 54601

August 27, 2023—21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 8:30 am Mass
-3:30—3:45 pm (before Saturday Mass)
-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
(608) 452-4680

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



**WHO DO PEOPLE SAY
THAT THE SON OF MAN IS?**

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

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Coordinator:
Stacy Burns

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

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

Rick Meyer MUSIC

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

Accompanist

Leland Gregorich
LuAnne Gregorich
Mary Beth Smith

Sacristan:

“Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.” John 12:26

PARISH INTENTIONS

PARISH CALENDAR

SATURDAY, August 26

~ 4:00 pm - † Rick Schermerhorn (J&PS)
 Lector: Kathy Leis
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, August 27

~ 8:30 am - Syl & Marce Liebl's 60th Wedding Anniv
 Lector: Donnie Weber
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

MONDAY, August 28

~ 5:30 pm - † George & Evelyn Miller (T&MP)

TUESDAY, August 29

~ 5:00 pm—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 ~ 5:30 pm - † Darlene Kammel (RK & family)

THURSDAY, August 31

~ 8:30 am—† Jim Malin (M&LM)

SATURDAY, September 2

~ 8:30 am—† Kimmy Clements (MB)
 ~ 4:00 pm - † Ralph & Evelyn Mikshowsky (M&CM)
 Lector: Volunteer
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, September 3

~ 8:30 am - † Darlene Kammel (S&ML)
 Lector: Volunteer
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

- **September 4**—Labor Day
- **September 10**—10:30 am St. Teresa of Kolkota Parish of West Salem Fall Festival
- **September 11-15** -Fr Biju is attending a retreat in Texas
- **September 18**—La Crosse Deanery of Catholic Women Fall Assembly at Mary, Mother of the Church
- **September 19**—7:00 pm Finance Council meeting
- **September 20**—Religious Education Classes begin



La Crosse Deanery of Catholic Women Fall Assembly

Have you heard about or seen the movie the "Sounds of Freedom?", a story about child and human trafficking. Come learn more about this problem from Deacon Steve Przedpelski of the Franciscan Peacemakers of Milwaukee. He is the speaker for the La Crosse Deanery of Catholic Women Fall Assembly which is being held at **Mary, Mother of Church, September 18, 2023**. The program will start at **6 p.m.** with a light supper and desserts. All ladies of all area parishes are invited, but please let us know if you are coming so we have enough food! If needed, rides will be provided. Please call Rita Sanchez, 608-780-3621 or Kay Kesler, 608-780-0485 to let us know.

Contributions for the past week

180 envelope holders

Adult Envelopes(29) :	\$1,054.30
Plate collection:	\$ 323.00
Feast of Assumption :	\$ 235.00
Total:	\$1, 612.30

Donations: Here are some ways to contribute:

- Use the online giving portal set up by the Diocese: <https://dioc.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.

~ ENHANCE YOUR FAITH ~

*** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Tuesday evenings at 5:00 pm until 5:30 pm Mass

~ 8 Ways to Pray During Eucharistic Adoration ~

- Read Spiritual Books
 - Ask for Intercession
 - Meditate
 - Offer a Holy Hour
 - Write a Prayer Journal
 - Read the Scriptures
 - Pray Spontaneously
 - Ask the Saints for help
- Spending time with our Dear Lord!!!*

*** Anointing of the Sick**

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

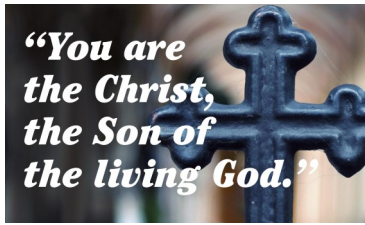
*** Confession**

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 if you would like to schedule mass intentions. Or envelopes are in the back of church.

FROM THE PASTOR



“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

It is important to read today’s Gospel and next week’s Gospel as two parts of a single story. Next week we hear Jesus would call Peter “Satan” for becoming a stumbling block as he spoke about his coming death. But this week we hear him praise. Jesus asks his disciples about his identity. Simon Peter answers, identifying Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God. He said “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.” It is the fundamental profession of faith of the Church, the community of believers. Peter was the first apostle to recognize Jesus publicly as the Anointed One (also translated Messiah or Christ.) Christ is the Greek word for the Hebrew word Messiah. Peter was saying that Jesus is the Christ, the anointed one of God, Immanuel, the Salvation of God who became Man to save sinners. Because of Simon Peter’s response, Jesus calls him the “rock.”

Jesus in fact pronounced a blessing upon Peter, the only disciple in the Gospels to receive a personal blessing. “Blessed are you, Simon son of John!” Next, Jesus confirmed Peter’s insight as a special revelation from God. “No mere man has revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father.” However, Jesus was quick to explain to the disciples that he was not a political Messiah. Instead, He was a Messiah who must suffer, die and be raised to life again.

Peter came to this knowledge, because of the relationship he shared with Jesus and what God was able to reveal in and through that relationship. How do we build up that relationship? The simple answer is by loving God. The only way to know God is to love God. Our minds will never fully grasp the mystery of God, but our hearts and souls can learn to love the mystery.

Recently I had shared with you about the unrest in some parts of India but this past India achieved something very significant in the scientific world. On Wednesday 23rd Aug. India became only the fourth country in the world to land a spacecraft on the moon, and the first to do so in the lunar south pole region. Hard work of many people.

On August 27th 2019 at around 1 pm I had come to St Joseph Ridge. This Sunday I will be completing four years journeying together with you. A lot to be grateful to God. Four years at the HSHS Hospital Eau Claire and four years at St Joseph Ridge and St Peter Middle Ridge. Happy to get to know many wonderful people here at both parishes. A lot of people supported me. I like to thank members of all the councils in both parishes, administrative assistants, religious education coordinators, music coordinators, sacristans, accompanists, cemetery sexton, funeral luncheon prep, ushers, lectors and mass servers. Thank you for all those who helped me to help the people of India. You are always in my prayers. May God bless you. Thank you!

Have a blessed week !

~ Live Jesus ~ Fr Biju MSFS

PARISH NEWS

Religious Education classes will begin on Wednesday, September 20th.

Grades 3 & 5 will be
6:00—7:05 pm

Grades 6—10 will be
6:55—8:15 pm

Registration will be soon.



7th Grade Teacher is needed

If you are interested in Teaching in our Religious Education program, Call Stacy Burns (608)769-8828

DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS

~**Eucharistic Revival**— A Minute with Jesus:

At Mass, the Scripture Readings prepare us to receive Jesus. There are two major parts to the Mass: the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. In the Liturgy of the Word, we listen to three Readings and a Psalm from Sacred Scripture (the Bible). These Readings help us recall all that God has done for us: His love and His plan for us. We stand up for the third Reading – the Gospel, the most important Reading – because Matthew, Mark, Luke and John deliver the message that Jesus brings, and include quotations of His very own spoken words. After the Gospel, the priest or deacon help us to understand these Readings from the Bible and how to apply the message to our daily life in order to be a more faithful follower of the Lord. Hearing the Words of Scripture and the Homily which follows helps our hearts to receive Jesus in the Eucharist.

Let’s pray this right now and every day this week: *Jesus, help me to come to Mass with an open heart, ready to hear the Readings from Scripture and the Homily in order to know You better.*

This week, read from the Letter of Paul to Timothy about the importance of God’s Word: “All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, correction and training in righteousness, so that the man (or woman) of God may be fully competent and equipped for every good work” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

~**September 13th - Rural Life Day - Marshfield - All are Welcome**

The 42nd Annual Rural Life Day will be held on Sept. 13, 2023, hosted by Ken and Joellen Heiman of Heiman Holsteins, at 11875 US Hwy 10 in Marshfield. The day begins with a 10:00 AM Mass celebrated by Bishop Callahan, followed by awards, recognitions, the blessing of crops and machinery and a catered meal. All are welcome to this celebration of the uniqueness of rural life, giving thanks to God for the contribution of rural values to the life of the Church.



~**Aquinas High School and Aquinas Middle School** welcome you to enroll for the 2023-2024 school year. Aquinas is committed to providing a safe and structured learning environment for its students. Call (608) 784-0287 to schedule a tour! Aquinas Catholic Schools is a Christ-centered family devoted to nurturing students of all faiths through educational excellence in its vibrant Catholic tradition.

Contact info@aquinasschools.org with any questions or visit www.aquinascatholicsschools.org/enrollment to get started.

DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS (cont.)

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

~**Chicken-Que at Mary, Mother of the Church Parish**, 2006 Weston Street, La Crosse, on Thursday, September 14, from 11:00 - 6:00 p.m. for pick up and delivery only. The price is \$12 and includes a half chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, homemade beans and a dinner roll. For pre-sale tickets (guaranteed) and deliveries, call (608) 518-6145. No minimum order and no delivery charge. Enter at Weston Street driveway.

~**Men of the Cross Conference | Oct. 14 (8:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.)**
The La Crosse Center, La Crosse, WI

Connect with other Catholic men from around the Diocese of La Crosse who will lift you in this role and be encouraged and challenged by men of deep faith. Tickets are \$45 per person. Fathers, make this a Father/Son day and bring your high school-age son for free! If you are planning to bring your son, please put his name in the comment section on the online registration form.

So get your family members, best buds, men at your parish, and even acquaintances, together and join your brothers from all over the Diocese of La Crosse to reignite your identity as a catholic man.

For registration and more information visit www.menofthecross.org or use your smartphone's camera to scan the QR code to the right.

~**Getting to know Jesus Christ in a deeper way: Reading the Catechism in 10 months** We grow in our love for someone as we get to know them better. Would you like to grow in your love for Jesus Christ through coming to know Him better? Reading a few pages of the Catechism each day will help you deepen your understanding of His incredible love for you. A modest schedule of 15 paragraphs per night (roughly 3 pages) has been arranged that will take about 10-15 minutes of reflective reading, 5 nights a week over 38 weeks, beginning September 18th. A schedule is emailed to participants every two weeks. To sign up, email Ann Lankford at alankford@dioc.org with the word Catechism in the subject line. There are usually more than 100 people who participate each year and they express that the fruits are well worth the effort. Please invite your friends to join.

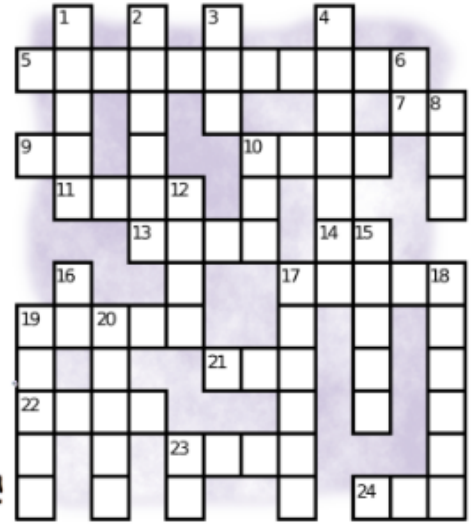
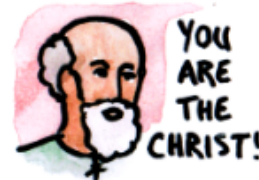
~The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, La Crosse, is blessed to be visited by the **Arm of St. Jude, the Apostle of the Impossible**. The Shrine welcomes families for Mass and Veneration. Veneration will be begin at 1:00pm in the church crypt and conclude around 8:30pm. Get more details online at GuadalupeShrine.org/events !

~**Worldwide Marriage Encounter**

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is like springtime. It's a weekend of fresh air, the rebirth of romance and new beginnings. If you would like to make your marriage even more special than it already is, visit wme.org, call 563.920.9419 for more information. The next weekend is Sept. 22-24 in Dubuque, IA and April 12-14 in Epworth, Iowa. **Do you know a couple who have been married for 70, 75 or more years?** Worldwide Marriage Encounter highlights and honors couples who have very long marriages. Every state in the U.S. will honor one nominated couple who is married the longest. Please nominate a couple by going to wme.org Nominations should be in by Sept. 15. For questions, call 641.753.6953.

"Who do you say that I am?"
CROSSWORD

See how well you know what happened in today's Gospel story!



- ACROSS**
5. "...the gates of the _____ will not prevail..."
 7. "... _____ this rock I will build my Church..."
 9. "Whatever you bind on earth shall _____ bound in Heaven."
 10. "I will _____ you the keys of the kingdom..."
 11. "On this _____ I will build my Church."
 13. Jesus made Peter the _____ of the Church on earth.
 14. "Whatever you loose on earth will be loosed _____ Heaven."
 17. " _____ and blood have not revealed this to you..."
 19. _____ asked them, "Who do you say that I am?"
 21. God _____ Peter in charge of His Church on earth.
 22. Jesus changed Simon's _____ to Peter.
 23. "Flesh and blood _____ not revealed this to you..."
 24. "...You are the Christ, the _____ of the living God!"
- DOWN**
1. _____ said, "You are the Christ..."
 2. "On this rock I will build my _____."
 3. "Blessed _____ you, Simon..."
 4. "...the gates of the netherworld shall not _____"
 6. "Who _____ people say that the Son of Man is?"
 8. "Flesh and blood have _____ revealed this..."
 10. "You are the Christ, the Son of the living _____!"
 12. "I will give you the _____ to the kingdom of Heaven."
 15. When will the gates of the netherworld prevail against the Church?
 16. _____ belong to the Church that Jesus started.
 17. The Heavenly _____ revealed to Simon who Jesus was.
 18. "...the keys to the kingdom of _____"
 19. "Blessed are you, Simon, son of _____"
 20. Peter's name before Jesus changed it.
 23. Jesus ordered the disciples to tell no one that _____ was the Christ.

*With trust in God's goodness,
 let us offer our prayers*



- For favorable weather
- For those who are sick or suffering in any way, may the healing and strength of our Lord Jesus Christ come upon them and given them comfort and peace.
- For a greater respect for life throughout the world, from conception through natural death.
- For all who are grieving the loss of a loved one, may the Lord bring them peace and consolation .
- For parents in this faith community, the first teachers of the faith, may the Spirit guide their efforts in instructing their children.
- For the elderly who are homebound or unvisited, may the Lord fill them with his presence and comfort them with friendship.
- The intentions listed in our parish book of prayer.

To add a request call 608-788-1646 or email Sjrp2601@gmail.com

"The gifts and blessings that God has given us — our time, talents, and material possessions — are meant to be used in a manner that says, "Christ is my Savior, and I am His disciple." The most eloquent praise we can offer Him is a life lived in grateful response to His unfathomable love. This is the beauty and power of a stewardship way of life.

