

# St. Joseph Parish ~ St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33 • La Crosse • WI 54601

October 15, 2023—28th 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  
Monday .....5:30 pm  
Tuesday.....Adoration.....5:00 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)  
  or by appointment

**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 and would like  
  to be visited

**PARISH OFFICE**

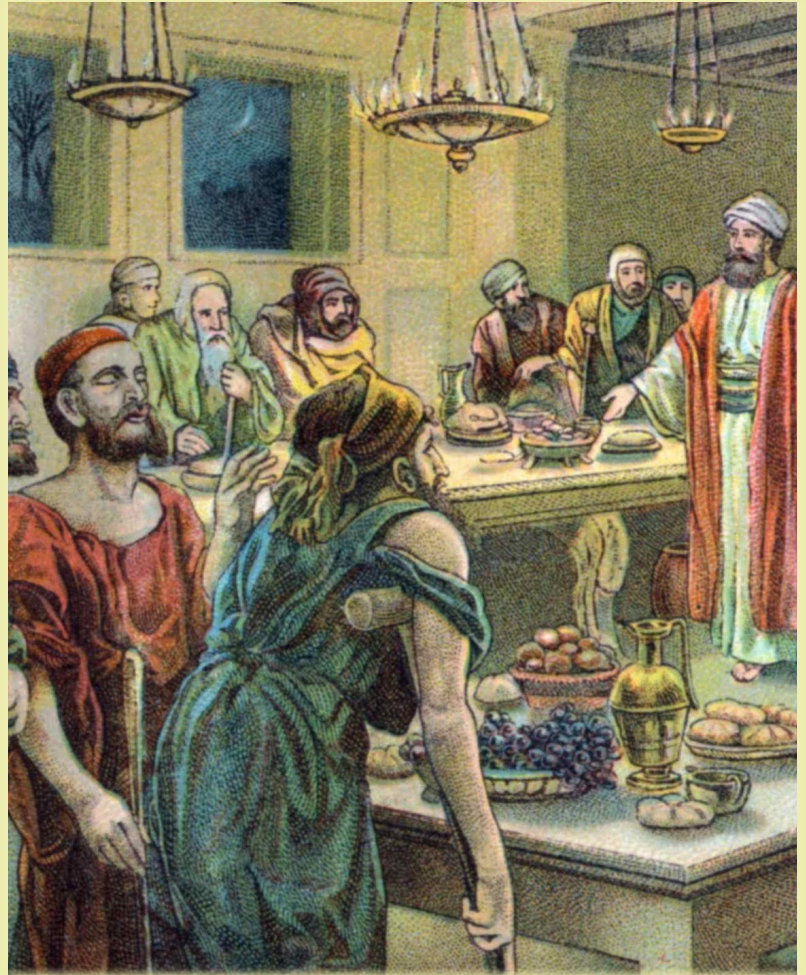
Barb Mikshowsky.....608-788-1646  
Bulletin deadline: .....Wednesday  
  sjrp2601@gmail.com  
Office hours vary, call or email with questions

**Fr Biju also serves**

**St. Peter's Parish, Middle Ridge**  
(608) 452-4680

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



## The Parable of the Wedding Feast

Matthew 22:1-14

**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:**

Sally Miller

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

**PARISH INTENTIONS**

SATURDAY, October 14

~ 4:00 pm Mass - † Jim Malin (M&LM)  
 Lector: Kathy Leis  
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, October 15

~ 8:30 am Mass—Our Parish Family  
 Lector: Donnie Weber  
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

MONDAY, October 16

~ **8:30 am Mass**—† Seth Breidel (J&SB)

TUESDAY, October 17

~ 5:00 pm—*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*  
 ~ 5:30 pm - †Ralph & Evelyn Mikshowskey (M&CM)

THURSDAY, October 19

~ 8:30 am Mass—† Roger Hundt (M&LM)

SATURDAY, October 21

~ 4:00 pm - † Edwin & Evelyn Hegenbarth,  
 Rudy & Lucy Kammel (RK family)  
 Lector: Bill Weber  
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, October 22

~ 8:30 am— † Rick Schermerhorn (J&PS)  
 Lector: Donnie Weber  
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

**Contributions for the past week**

Adult Envelopes(28) :	\$ 2,585.00
Plate collection:	\$ 486.00
Votive Candles:	\$ 162.17
Word & Song:	\$ 300.00
Ascension & Assumption:	\$ 20.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$3,553.17</b>

**PARISH CALENDAR**

- **October 16** (Monday) - Mass at 8:30 am
- **October 16**—6:30 pm PCCW meeting
- **October 18**—Religious Education
- **October 21-22**—Diocesan Annual Appeal presentation
- **October 21-22**—World Mission weekend  
There will be a second collection
- **October 23** (Monday) - Mass at 8:30 am
- **October 24-Nov 2**—Father Biju going to Poland
- **November 1**—*All Saints Day*—Mass at 6:00 pm  
(Holy day of Obligation)



**~ 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  
 - Pray Spontaneously - Ask the Saints for help Scriptures  
*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](mailto:sjrp2601@gmail.com) if you would like to schedule mass intentions. Or 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



**Twenty-Eighth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time**

Through the parable of the Royal Wedding Banquet, we hear the thrilling invitation of Jesus: Come to my feast! Put on your glorious attire! Enter into my joy! This is God's invitation to us to enter eternal life. And yet: this parable does not make us feel at all comfortable. For the weight of this story falls not so much on the invitation, as on the refusal of those invited.

In the journey of Christian Discipleship, responsiveness to God's call is paramount. Spiritual growth is anchored in our ability to recognize and honor these divine invitations, stepping into the fullness of life they promise. The essence of Christian discipleship lies in our daily choices. Each decision to embrace God's call propels us closer to spiritual growth and eternal fellowship with Him. Obstinate saying no through our indifference is a catastrophe for us. Is Jesus trying to intimidate or bully us into following him? No, because that is certainly not how he treats anyone in the Gospels. There is freedom there is mercy in him. Remember how Peter who denied him gets reunited with Christ. Ultimately our choice for him matters.

Eucharistic miracles Exhibit will be at St Peter October 18-22. I hope everyone take advantage of the exhibit and grow in our faith in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. There will be a presentation on the 18th to talk to the CCD students, parents and parishioners on the related topic.

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday. A second collection will be taken up at next weekend's Masses. Please be generous in support of the Church's missionary effort throughout the world.

On Monday and Tuesday of this week the priests, deacons and pastoral associates of our diocese will gather at Holy Cross Diocesan Center in La Crosse for the Fall Ministry Conference. Mass on Monday will be at 8.30 am at St Joseph.

*Have a blessed week!*

*~ Live Jesus~*

*Fr Biju MSFS*

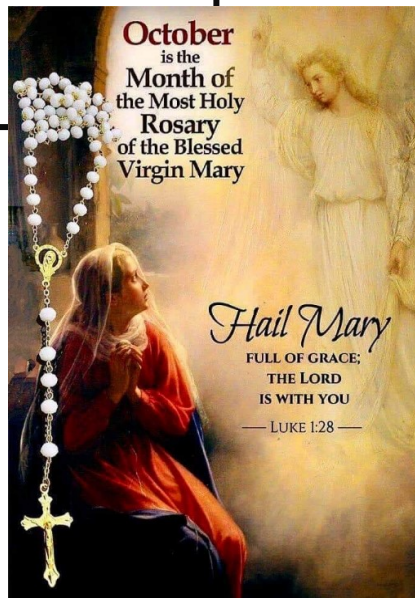
**World Mission Sunday—October 22nd**

Get Ready to Set Your

**Hearts on fire, feet on the move".**

for World Mission Sunday!

Next weekend, we'll unite with fellow Catholics globally to mark World Mission Sunday. As we reflect on Pope Francis' compelling theme, we're invited to enkindle the flames of Christ's love and spread its warmth to mission territories in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe. Prepare to support the Society for the Propagation of the Faith with Prayers and generosity. Thank you for being a beacon of Christ's love!



PARISH NEWS



**Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition will be on display**

**October 16—22** — at St. Peters/Middle Ridge

**October 23—30**—at St. Joseph Parish

Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition Coming to St. Joseph's: The Vatican Eucharistic Miracles Photographic Exhibition faithfully recounts many well-documented miraculous occurrences for us. The Exhibit will be available for viewing at our parish and we encourage you to schedule a time to view the exhibit during this Year of the Eucharistic Revival. Pat Brueggen from the Shrine will be at the school Hall on October 30th to present and explain this spiritual exhibit.

**PCCW meeting on Monday, October 16th at 6:30 pm**

All women of the Parish are welcome to attend!



DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS

**~Eucharistic Revival— A Minute with Jesus is meant to inspire parishioners during the Eucharistic Revival, a movement to help all Catholics know and believe that the Eucharist is Jesus.**

**God created me out of love.**

God will never stop loving me. Our Heavenly Father speaks these words to me in the Bible: "My steadfast (unwavering, always ongoing) love shall not depart from you" (Isaiah 54:10). God proved His love for me in this way: "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that whoever believes in Him may not die but may have eternal life" (John 3:16). God's boundless love includes Jesus establishing one Church and instituting seven Sacraments so that we may be united with Him. The closest union we can have with Jesus on earth is receiving the Eucharist – His own Body and Blood.

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

*Heavenly Father, help me to know how much You truly love me.*

This week, read how nothing can separate us from the love of Jesus Christ, except our own choice to reject His love in Romans 8:35, 37-38.

**~40 Days for Life Vigil Campaign, Sept. 27-Nov. 5**  
The fall campaign to end abortion will run Sept. 27-Nov. 5 on the sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood, 1201 Caledonia in La Crosse. Please consider coming to pray for an hour, anytime between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sign up at [40daysforlife.com/en/](http://40daysforlife.com/en/) or scan the QR code to the right. Call Marie Allen for more information or signs: 608.784.5189.

**DIOCESAN/COMMUNITY NEWS (cont.)**

**~Registering Crafters for December 2<sup>nd</sup> Craft Sale**

St. Mary's Annual Craft Show in Coon Valley is now accepting crafters. Save \$5 by registering before November 1<sup>st</sup>. Visit our website at: [www.stmaryscv.org/craft-show](http://www.stmaryscv.org/craft-show) for more information and download the registration form. Coordinator is Nancy Peters, call (608) 790-6034 or email: [Peters@mw.net](mailto:Peters@mw.net)

RESPECT LIFE MONTH



**~October is Respect Life Month**

Many parish resources from the USCCB for October, Respect Life Month, are available at [www.respectlife.org](http://www.respectlife.org). Also visit the Diocesan website, [www.dioc.org/respect-life](http://www.dioc.org/respect-life), for information on Pregnancy Resource Centers, Post-Abortion Healing, and much more.

**~Exploring the presence of Christ both inside and outside the Mass**

Prior to His ascension to the right hand of the Father, Jesus makes us a beautiful promise: "Behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). Since that time, the Church finds Jesus in the midst of His believers, in the proclamation of His word, and in the action of the Sacraments. But She encounters Him most fully in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

Jesus' Eucharistic presence is called "real"—a term that doesn't imply that His other existences with us are somehow "unreal," but "to indicate presence par excellence, because it is substantial and through it Christ becomes present whole and entire, God and man" (Pope Paul VI, *Mysterium Fidei*, 39). In other words, by the power of God, the priest's words over the bread and wine at Mass change the substance of these elements into the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus. Unlike the other presences of Christ in the Mass, however, the Eucharistic presence of Jesus remains long after the Mass has ended.

People are present to one another in many ways: in thought, in memory, in bodily proximity, in sympathy. So too with Jesus: His presence in our midst is as real as any other. What a comfort that He remains with us as He promised! For centuries, His saints and faithful have had Christ as a real companion on their journey to the Promised Land.

**~Catholic Charities Are In Need Of Volunteers!**

Our Warming Centers are open and we are in need of volunteers in La Crosse, Wausau and Eau Claire! Volunteering can take many forms which include making and serving meals, distributing bedding and clothing, helping a guest read, and enjoying the evening. Whatever your schedule permits or comfort level, we have a volunteer opportunity for you!



**Dates of Community Events**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Event</u>
October 15	St. Mary's—Coon Valley	Pancake Breakfast
October 15	Shrine of Our Lady Guadalupe	Organ Recital 3:00 pm
October 18	St. Mary's, Viroqua	Fall Turkey Dinner
October 22	Mary Mother of the Church Parish	Pancake Breakfast 8:00—Noon
November 3	Blessed Sacrament Parish	Legacy Guild Dinner Benefiting Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II
November 11	Aquinas Catholic Schools	Gold Gala

**~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~**

**Invitation to the Wedding Feast**



Imagine that you live in a great kingdom with a king and queen and many other great people. You hear that the king's son is going to get married and there will be a great wedding feast. All the lords and ladies and rich land owners are invited. On the day of the wedding the servants go out to call the guests to the wedding, but all those important people refuse to go! They say they are too busy with other things, and can't be bothered to go!

Now imagine that you are one of the children in a poor family that lives down a back street. Suddenly you hear people calling out that the king has invited your family to the feast! What excitement! Everybody puts on their best clothes and goes to the castle. In a little while the king comes in and you see him pointing to a man who isn't dressed neatly, and hasn't washed his face or brushed his hair. He sends the man out of the hall.



This is the story that Jesus told about the kingdom of Heaven. Many important people have been invited, but they have decided that they were too busy with other things. But the King has invited us too! We should rejoice and "dress" our souls by being the best we can be! Don't be a half-hearted Christian!

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

- For favorable weather
- For those grieving the sudden loss of loved ones, captives, and those whose homes have been destroyed in Israel
- For effective international peacemaking, seeking diplomacy over warmongering on all sides. Blessed are the merciful and the peacemakers. (Matthew 5:7, 9)
- 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.

**ALWAYS  
pray  
and  
NEVER  
give up!**

To add a request call 608-788-1646 or email [Sjrp2601@gmail.com](mailto:Sjrp2601@gmail.com)