



# St. Joseph Parish of St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33 • La Crosse • WI 54601

November 19, 2023—33rd 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

Your talent is God's gift to you.  
What you do with it is your gift back to God.



**Matthew 25:14-30**

### 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, November 18th

~ 4:00 pm - † John and Bernice, Steve, and Sam Mashak (J&SM)

Lector: Teresa Brown

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, November 19th

~ 8:30 am—† William and Rosie, Frank, and Dennis, LeJeune (ML)

Lector: Jim Weber

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

MONDAY, November 20th

~ 5:30 pm— † Darlene Kammel (J&RH)

TUESDAY, November 21st

~ **No Adoration**

~ **8:30 am** —† Jim Malin (M&LM)

THURSDAY, November 23rd—Thanksgiving

~ 8:30 am—† Ralph & Evelyn Mikshowsky (M&CM)

SATURDAY, November 25th

~ 4:00 pm - † Karen Williams (RK&family)

Lector: Bill Weber

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, November 26th

~ 8:30 am—† Curtis Strittmater (CS)

Lector: Donnie Weber

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

**Contributions for the past week**

Adult Envelopes(35) :	\$ 3,531.00
Plate collection:	\$ 225.00
All Saints Day:	\$ 10.00
Votive candles	\$ 76.50
Christmas flowers:	\$ 30.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$3,872.50</b>

☞ Thank you Money Counters! ☞

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- **November 22**—No Religious Education classes
- **November 23**—Thanksgiving
- **December 8**— 6:00 pm mass *Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary* (Holy day of obligation)
- **December 13**—6:00 Confessions
- **December 23 & 24** — Fourth Sunday of Advent regular mass schedule (Sat-4:00pm; Sun-8:30am)

**Christmas mass schedule**

- **December 24** - 4:00 pm St. Joseph Parish  
8:00 pm—St. Peters —Middle Ridge
- **December 25** - 8:30 am St. Joseph Parish  
10:00 am—St. Peters—Middle Ridge

~ ENHANCE YOUR FAITH ~

\* **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**Tuesday: No Adoration ~ 8:30 am Mass**

~ 8 Ways to Pray During Eucharistic Adoration ~

- Read Spiritual Books
  - Offer a Holy Hour
  - Pray Spontaneously
  - Ask for Intercession
  - Write a Prayer Journal
  - Ask the Saints for help
  - Meditate
  - Read the 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 of each month 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.

**Dates open in December for Mass Intentions:**

Saturday AM, December 2nd 8:30 am mass,  
Friday, December 8 (Holy Day) 6:00 pm mass



**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



**Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Hard to imagine that the Liturgical Year is coming to its close. The weekend gospel draws our attention to the end times. We hear the story of three servants who were entrusted with certain talents. Two of them were industrious. The one with five talents made another five; the one with two, another two. But the third one was afraid of losing in the game so he hid his talent away. The tragedy of the third servant in the parable is that, out of fear, he hid what had been entrusted to him, even though he had the ability to use it well.

How often we are paralyzed by fear or false prudence into doing nothing, into trying to preserve ourselves! Sometimes, we don't take God's gifts seriously or think we have been given very little, and we use that as a rationalization for making no effort or producing little for God. We blame circumstances or others, but the fact is we are neglecting to produce the fruits God wants. The master didn't expect a return of five talents from the servant to whom he gave only one. He would have been happy with a return of one more, but the lazy servant closed in on his egoism, self-love, and laziness.

Are we making the best use of all God has given us, or have we neglected some things and taken others for granted? So, ask ourselves how are we using our particular gifts in the service of our Family, our Christian community and the wider society. Can I see the bigger picture, God's picture while making use of my talents?

Soon, Thanksgiving Day will be here. There are a lot of things in life for which we need to be grateful. I am thankful for the mess to clean up after a party because it means I am blessed with family and friends. I am thankful for the clothes that fit a little too snugly because it means I have had enough to eat. I am thankful for a lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, gutters that need fixing because it means I have a home. I am thankful for all the complaining I do about the government because it means we have freedom of speech. I am thankful for the one behind me in Church who sings off-key because it means I can hear. I am thankful for weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day because it means I have been productive. I am thankful for the alarm that goes off early in the morning because it means I am alive. I am thankful for the talents given whether five, two or one.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving. We have mass on Thanksgiving Day at St Joseph at 8.30 am.

*Have a blessed week! ~ Live Jesus*

*Fr Biju MSFS*



**WE ARE THE DIOCESE**  
**DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL**  
2023-2024



**St. Joseph Parish's Goal**

**\$21,915.00**

Recently, you should have received a letter regarding the Diocesan Annual Appeal. **Please prayerfully discern how you can contribute** to our shared mission to worship God, teach the Catholic faith and serve the needs of the human person.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

**Meat Raffle Fundraiser**



The Parish Pastoral Council will be conducting a Meat Raffle in December.

Prizes: 1—\$100.00 meat basket and 2 smaller meat/meal baskets.  
\$5.00 tickets will be sold after mass on December 2nd, 3rd, 9th, & 10th.  
Drawing will be on Saturday, December 16th (do not need to be present)

*Thank you* to PCCW for providing the delicious Soup Supper after mass this past Saturday! Hmmm—very good!

**PCCW Christmas Party**

All women of the parish are welcome to attend!



Sunday, December 10th  
at The Ridge

Social 5:30 pm ~ Dinner 6:00 pm  
Full menu, Dutch treat.

Our Parish welcomes  
*Evelyn Swartz-Jacobs*  
who is receiving the  
**Sacrament of Baptism**



On **Sunday, November 19th**



**MF Compact Tractor**

Recently, the Parish and the Cemetery accounts purchased this new MF Compact Tractor with loader, mower deck and snow blower attachments. This tractor will be very useful for our various grounds-keeping maintenance needs.

~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

~The Eucharistic Revival is meant to stir a deeper love for the incredible Gift of our Eucharistic Lord. The Eucharist is Jesus! Let us grow in our understanding and love for this incredible Gift. Jesus is our greatest Friend.



Encounter Jesus  
in the Eucharist.  
He waits for you!

Jesus loves each one of us and desires to be with us always. Jesus gives Himself to us in the Holy Eucharist, so that He can live in our heart. The Holy Eucharist is Christ's Body and Blood. We know that Jesus is our greatest Friend because He gives Himself to us completely in the Holy Eucharist. The word Eucharist means thanksgiving. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: *Jesus, Thank You for giving Yourself to me and being my closest Friend.*

**~St. Nicholas Event—December 3rd**

Come to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe for Holy Mass and stay to meet Saint Nicholas! Hear him tell the story of his life, sainthood, and how he became "Santa Claus." Join for cookies, hot chocolate, and picture opportunities. Learn more at <https://www.guadalupe Shrine.org/events>

~ DIOCESAN NEWS(cont.)~

~Solemnity of Our Lady of Guadalupe—December 12th

Nearly 500 years ago, Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to Saint Juan Diego in Mexico. The Solemnity of Our Lady of Guadalupe is December 12th. All are invited to celebrate at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, in La Crosse, WI. The day includes a Bilingual Mass offered by Cardinal Burke. Learn more at <https://www.guadalupe Shrine.org/events/solemnity-of-our-lady-of-guadalupe>

~Pilgrimage for Life - January 17-21, 2024

We are excited to offer the Pilgrimage for Life. We will be traveling by coach bus to Washington, DC to participate in the annual March for Life. This opportunity is for anyone ages 13 and up. The estimated cost is estimated to be \$400 per person. Parishes/Schools wishing to get a group to join us will have their participants complete the registration online by filling out all of the required forms and pay a non refundable deposit of \$100. The remainder of the fee will be paid to the parish/school. All information and registration link can be found at <https://diolc.org/yya/youth-opportunities/pilgrimage-for-life/>

~Please Support Project Milk this Season of Thanksgiving & Advent

Help the Diocesan Rural Life Committee spread hope and joy by contributing to Project Milk. Founded in 1984 to help feed the poor children of Casa Hogar in Peru, Project Milk provides whole milk powder to the orphanage and the surrounding community. Each year the Rural Life Committee seeks to raise enough money to ship 40,000 lbs. of milk powder at an approximate cost of \$80,000. One hundred percent of your monetary gift is used to feed these children and the poor. To give, visit <https://frjoesguild.org/donate/>, and select "Project Milk" as designation.

~Please Support "Hope's Door" Pregnancy and Family Resource Center

Hope's Door is being planned as a state-of-the-art pregnancy resource center for the La Crosse area. It will be an interfaith, Christ-centered facility that will offer compassionate assistance to women and families, including mentoring and classes, as well as medical resources like ultrasounds and abortion pill reversal treatment. Its services will be in harmony with Catholic teaching. For more information visit [www.diolc.org/respect-life](http://www.diolc.org/respect-life).

~Domestic Church Retreat - Save the Date

The next Domestic Church Retreat will be held April 13-14, 2024 at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Wisconsin Rapids. During the retreat, couples are invited to delve more deeply into the graces of their shared spiritual journey. The retreat's goal is to strengthen the couple's spousal union and lead them to experience complete harmony and joy in their marriage through simple formation and meaningful dialogue that intentionally places Christ in the center. To register and find out more information click this link: <https://diolc.org/marriage/marriage-enrichment/>

Dates of Community Events:

Date	Where	Event
December 2	St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley	Craft Show 8 am—2 pm
December 2	St. Joseph Workman Cathedral	Christmas Bazaar & Bake Sale 8 am - 2 pm
December 9	Holy Trinity	Cookie Walk & Craft Sale 8:00 a.m. until gone
December 9	Mary Mother of the Church	Cookie Walk & Craft Sale 7:30 am—1:00 pm

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

Use Your Talents!

God has given each of us talents, or things that we're good at. In today's parable, Jesus tells about a master who gave three of his servants large amounts of money, which were also called talents. Two of the men used the talents and earned more, but one just hid his talent and didn't use it at all. When the master returned he rewarded the men who had used theirs, but punished the man who hadn't.



Some people have many talents and can do lots of good things. Other people can only do a few things well. But no matter what you can do, God wants you to do your best.



What are some things you're good at? What are some things you are not very good at? Rather than think about the things we can't do, we should be happy to do the things we can, and do them for God! Some people are good at drawing or writing. They

can make people happy and teach people about God by drawing pictures or writing stories or letters. Some people are good at talking to people and making friends. They can show God's love and make people happy. Some people have a talent of being patient with others, and show Jesus' love that way. What are your talents? How can you use them to bring people closer to God?



ALWAYS  
pray  
and  
NEVER  
give up!

*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 the people of Israel and Gaza whose lives have been affected by the acts of war.
- 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](mailto:Sjrp2601@gmail.com)