

FROM THE PASTOR



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Stewardship Reflection

Our readings today remind us of God's authority. In the first reading, Moses says God will raise up a new prophet who will speak the words of God. In the second reading, Paul contrasts the divided loyalties of married people with those who are unmarried and have only the desire to please the Lord.

As we reflect on our Gospel, we recognize that God possesses all authority and that we want to give Him all authority. Jesus was teaching in the synagogue on the Sabbath. All were fixed on His words and astonished at what He had to say. Suddenly, everyone's attention shifted to a man with an unclean spirit who began to question Jesus and His authority. Jesus responded, "Quiet, come out of him!" and removed the evil spirit from the man. All were amazed at the healing of this man.

Life can sometimes look like the synagogue in Capernaum. We are living as disciples of Christ when we suddenly recognize evil around us — through events in our lives, temptations we are enduring, or by falling into sin. It can distract us, consume our attention, or even cause us to despair. In these moments of trial, we must remember the Healer in our Gospel today. Recall His words, "Quiet, come out of Him!" Jesus has the power and authority over evil, for He has conquered sin and death. He also has the power and authority over us. And when we invite Him to have that authority, He will heal us and help us persevere.

Today, we are reminded that God is in control, and we want Him to be in control. In our lives, Jesus can free us from anxiety and bring us into union with the Father in the kingdom to come. He is the loving Healer Who will work miracles in our lives if we give Him the authority to do so

Let us then put our trust in him – in the God who so loves us that he sent his only Son to speak and act on our behalf, on behalf of our salvation. We can then be free of anxieties about things of this world because when Jesus speaks, God acts.



Eucharistic Rally June 7, 2024

Eucharistic Procession with Bishop Callahan & Bishop Barron.

Inspiring speakers: Christ Stefanick, Immaculée Illibagiza,...

Music by the Luke Spehar Band

~ PARISH NEWS ~



Our Parish welcomes Ava Adalyn Morgan who received the

Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday, January 20th.

~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) Collection Jan. 27-28 or Feb. 3-4: The special collection envelopes that are in your box (and extras are located in the back of church) will support programs that address the root causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the country. In addition, 24% of the funds we collect remain in our diocese to fund local antipoverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. More information on CCHD can be found at www.usccb.org/cchd.

~A Minute with Jesus during the National Eucharistic Revival

Why does Jesus want to live in your heart?

God has created each person absolutely unique – there is only one of you. Jesus knows you and loves you, and wants to be with you always. Jesus has a love in His Heart that only you can receive. If you don't receive Jesus' love for you, it will be "wasted." And likewise, you have a love in your heart that only you can give to Jesus. If you don't give that love, there will be an empty place in Jesus' Heart. Let's pray this right now and every day this week. Jesus, I want to receive all the love You have for me, and I want to give You all of my love.

This week, read about how much God loves you in John 3:16. To make this personal, replace "the world" with your own name.

~Birthright—Baby Bottle Campaign

Birthright offer love, friendship, and support to women who are pregnant or think they may be pregnant. Birthright's focus is on loving the mother, reminding her that there is hope and ensuring she is not alone. Pick up a bottle today and fill with loose change or cash and return to the parish by February 18th.



THE EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE day will begin with a Eucharistic Procession. The Marian Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage (<https://diolc.org/pilgrimage/>) schedule is to transfer the Eucharistic Procession from the Bishop Robert Barron of Diocese of Winona-Rochester to the Bishop William Patrick Callahan Diocese of La Crosse on the morning of June 7. This historic moment will be an opportunity for people of all generations to join in the Eucharistic Procession as we journey to the La Crosse Center where we will immediately enter into Mass. Participants in this Eucharistic Procession do not have to buy a ticket for the rest of the day if they do not plan to stay for the events. The registration link along with the schedule of the day can be found at the following link <https://diolc.org/the-answer/>

~ PARISH INTENTIONS ~

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27TH

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary time

~ 4:00 pm—† Caroline Martin (LM)

Lector: Kathy Leis

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary time

~ 8:30 am— Our Parish Family

Lector: Paula Silha

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

MONDAY, JANUARY 29TH

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30TH

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary time

~ No 8:30 am Mass

~ 4:00 pm—† Joe Kuszewski (family)

Lector: Kathy Leis

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary time

~ 8:30 am— † Frank & Carol Seebauer (R&LM)

Lector: Jim Weber

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

No
Weekday
Masses

- **January 22—February 6th**—Father Biju will be going home to India to see family. Msgr Hundt will be celebrating weekend masses.
- **January 29—February 2**—No Weekday masses
- **January 31**—Religious Education Classes
- **February 5th and 6th**—No Weekday masses
- **February 7**—Religious Education Classes
- **February 14**— ☩ Ash Wednesday ☩
8:30 am mass , 6:30 pm mass



~ ENHANCE YOUR FAITH ~

* **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Tuesday: No Adoration ~ No 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 8:30 am 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 there are envelopes are in the back of church.

Contributions for the past week

Adult Envelopes(39) :	\$ 1,778.30
Plate collection:	\$ 245.00
Initial Offering(2):	\$ 5.00
Votive candles:	\$ 75.50
Total:	\$ 2,103.80

	2023-24 Goal:	\$21,915.00
	Pledged:	\$9,925.00
	Received:	\$8,895.00
	Remaining Amount Due:	\$13,020.00

We have pledged only 40.5% of our goal for this year ending June 30th. Please consider donating according to your financial status. Thank you for your generosity!

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.

~ DIOCESAN NEWS (continued) ~

~Old Palms

If you have any old palms that you would like to have properly disposed of, please bring them to church with you and drop them off in the box in back of church.

~Enrollment in Catholic Schools

Enrollment for Cathedral Elementary, St. Patrick's Elementary, Blessed Sacrament Element, Aquinas Middle School and Aquinas High School are now open! Aquinas Catholic Schools welcome you to enroll for the 2024-2025 school year. ACS is Committed to providing a safe and structured learning environment for its students. Call 608.784.8585 to schedule a tour!

~A Biblical Walk Through The Mass (Lenten 5-week bible study)

We need to recommit ourselves to the central act of our faith with passion and joy. This marvelously written aid will help us join ourselves to the Lord as he offers himself to the Father in the Sacrifice of the Mass. This Lenten 5-week religious education series will begin the week of February 18th and will be at several local parishes. Registration is required and is available at www.stpatsonalaska.com or calling Amy Capelli at (608)783-0847 or email at amy_capelli@charter.net

~World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life (Celebrated Feb. 3-4)

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 Feb. 2. 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. The celebration of World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life is transferred to the following Sunday in order to highlight the gift of consecrated persons for the whole Church.

Baby Jesus is Presented in the Temple



On February second we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple. That is the day that Saint Joseph and Our Lady took the baby Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem to consecrate Him to God. The Jews were supposed to dedicate their first-born sons to God, so Mary and Joseph were obedient to the law even though their

Baby was God Himself!

This was a most amazing moment, even though almost nobody noticed it; here was the great Temple where the people came to worship God, and now God had actually come into it—as a little Baby! But only Mary and Joseph and the prophets Simeon and Anna knew what had happened.

Saint Paul tells us that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. Even time you receive Holy Communion, it's like baby Jesus entering the Temple. When you go to Communion, remember that you know that amazing secret—that eve though the rest of the world might not know, you have just received Jesus! What a special moment!

"Brothers and sisters, I should like you to be free of anxieties." - 1 Corinthians 7:32

How much anxiety do we bring upon ourselves by constantly worrying about not having enough or attaining more things?

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

Unscramble: Jesus Casts out a Demon

Sort out the letters to fill in the blanks. Use the letters in the boxes to fill in the last row of boxes.

And immediately there was in their synagogue a (NMA) with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, (ESSJU) of Nazareth? Have you come to (YDSETRO) us? I know who you are, the (OYLH) One of God."

But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and (MEOC) out of him!"

And the unclean (TRSIPI), convulsing him and crying with a loud (IOCEV), came out of him.

And (YEHT) were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, (YSNIAG), "What is this? A new teaching!"

With he commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."

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



- For those who are sick or suffering in any way, may the healing and strength of our Lord Jesus Christ come upon them and give them comfort and peace.
- For Father Biju in his travels to India to visit family
- 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

God won't necessarily give you everything you want, but He will provide everything you need. Try this – use the word “pray” instead of “worry” in the future. Then, spend your time in prayer instead of worrying...