

~ PARISH INTENTIONS ~

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH

~No Mass

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH

~No Mass

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

~ 8:30 am Mass— † George Bahr (MB)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary time

~ 4:00 pm—† Mike Brown (D&TB)

Lector: Teresa Brown

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary time

~ 8:30 am— Our Parish Family

Lector: Sally Miller

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- **February 6th**—Father Biju returns from India
- **February 5th and 6th**—No Weekday masses
- **February 7**—Religious Education Classes
- **February 14**— † Ash Wednesday †
8:30 am mass, 6:30 pm mass— St. Joseph’s Parish
8:00 pm mass—St. Peters/Middle Ridge
- **February 18**—Return Birthright Baby Bottles

~ ENHANCE YOUR FAITH ~

* Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday: No Adoration ~ No 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 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.

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.

Contributions for the past week

Adult Envelopes(28) :	\$ 1,375.00
Plate collection:	\$ 267.80
Catholic Campaign Human Dev:	\$ 45.00
Initial collection:	\$ 3.00
Total:	\$ 1,690.80

	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!

FROM THE PASTOR



**Miracles,
Prayer &
Preaching**

Mark 1: 29-39

**Fifth Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

Stewardship Reflection

Our readings today remind us that Christ came to serve. The focus of Jesus' entire life was on others. He came to fulfill His Father's mission — the salvation of mankind. He labored for this mission by becoming the humblest of servants.

In today's Gospel, Simon says to Jesus, "Everyone is looking for you." Jesus did not seek after the praise. Instead, He responded, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also." Jesus was already looking to whom He could serve next.

Christian stewards are humble servants who labor for our Father's mission. We should strive to imitate the Perfect Steward, who was constantly aware of the needs of those around Him and put His gifts to good use. Our practice of stewardship begins right here in our home, parish, and community. He calls us to live each moment in awareness of our Father's mission and gratitude for all He has given us.

Jesus tells us that the way to be attentive is through prayer. Before Jesus decided to go to the nearby villages to preach, He first went off to pray. Through prayer, Jesus could hear what His Father was asking of Him. We, too, are called to spend time in daily prayer — we will then become aware of the opportunities to serve the Lord.

Let us commit to finding some quiet time this week to pray. Let us ask the Lord — how can I serve You better throughout my days? And let us pray, 'Make me humble, Lord.'



	5-year Goal:	\$140,000.00
	Pledged:	\$148,255.00
	Received:	\$59,767.50
	Remaining Amount Due:	\$80,232.50

~ PARISH NEWS ~

Weekly Bulletins:

If you would like to receive the weekly bulletin by email, please send an email to sjrp2601@gmail.com with your request.



Reminder for Food Donations:

Please bring any food donation to the back of church. These food items will be taken to a local food pantry to assist families in need.

~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

~A Minute with Jesus during the National Eucharistic Revival

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.

~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.



~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!

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/>



Eucharistic Rally

June 7, 2024

Eucharistic Procession with Bishop Callahan & Bishop Barron.

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

Music by the Luke Spehar Band

~ DIOCESAN NEWS (continued) ~

~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



~The Seven Last Words of JESUS ON THE CROSS FEBRUARY 27; MARCH 5, 12, 19 - Tuesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Presenter: John McHugh Investment: \$10 per session
For hundreds of years, it has been a tradition in Christian churches to reflect on Jesus' final words from the cross on Good Friday and during the season of Lent. Join biblical scholar John McHugh as he explores those words of Jesus and how they were mirrored in Jesus' public ministry, and what they mean for us today. Although the program is meant to be experienced over all four weeks, participants may attend individual sessions.

~Fish Fry—Mary, Mother of the Church, La Crosse

will be holding a Fish Fry on **Friday, February 16**, from 4:00 - 7:00 PM, dine-in or carry-out. The price is \$12 for 2-piece and \$14 for 3-piece dinner and includes baked or batter fried fish, baked potato or fries, coleslaw and roll. \$5 kids meal includes grilled cheese, fries, fruit and milk. Beer, wine and desserts available at dine-in for additional cost.

~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.

Prayer for the Faithful

We pray for those who are called to the consecrated life, may they be faithful witnesses of God's love. May they always reveal the love of Christ to those they encounter and continue to enrich our world by their dedicated lives of prayer. Lord hear us...



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 young men and women to listen to the Holy Spirit in their hearts and respond to the cry from deep within to vocations of priesthood and religious life.
- 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

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 4th, 2024**



At the end of today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells Simon that they will go to the nearby villages to preach. Can you find your way through the maze to the nearby village?

Spending Time with God



In today's Gospel reading, Our Lord went to Simon and Andrew's house, where He spent the evening healing the sick and casting out demons. But early the next morning before the sun came up He went away into the wilderness to pray.

At first we wonder why Jesus would have to pray- He is God, after all! But He was also human so He needed to take some time to be with His Heavenly Father. And that is what real praying is- it's being with God and talking to Him and listening to Him.



Like Jesus, we also need to spend time with God. Even if we are always doing His work, like helping people or studying His truths, we still need to take some time to talk with Our Father in Heaven. Starting today, take a few minutes every day to go to a quiet place and talk with God.