

~ PARISH INTENTIONS ~

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH

~5:30 pm—† Ralph & Evelyn Mikshowsky (M&CM)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH

~5:00 pm—*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

~5:30 pm—† Harold Bahlinger (S&SM)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

Ash Wednesday

~8:30 am—† Reiny & Darlene
Kammel (family)

Lector: Donna Clements

~6:30 pm—† George & Evelyn Miller (T&MP)

Lector: Paula Silha



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH

~ 8:30 am Mass— † Elaine Bina (G&KF)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary time

~ 4:00 pm—Our Parish Family

Lector: Bill Weber

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary time

~ 8:30 am— † Bill Silha (D&JD)

Lector: Sally Miller

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- **February 14**— † Ash Wednesday †
8:30 am mass—St. Joseph’s Parish
6:30 pm mass— St. Joseph’s Parish
Religious Education class (all grades)
to attend the 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday mass
8:00 pm mass—St. Peters/Middle Ridge
- **February 18**—Return Birthright Baby Bottles
- **February 21**—Religious Education classes
- **February 21**—7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

~ 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 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(23) : | \$ 1,395.00 |
| Plate collection: | \$ 290.00 |
| Catholic Campaign Human Dev: | \$ 100.00 |
| Word & Song, Hosts donation: | \$ 400.00 |
| Birthright donation: | \$ 25.00 |
| Total: | \$ 2,210.00 |

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|--|------------------------------|--------------------|
| <p>WE ARE THE DIOCESE DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2023-2024</p> | 2023-24 Goal: | \$21,915.00 |
| | Pledged: | \$9,925.00 |
| | Received: | \$8,895.00 |
| | Remaining Amount Due: | \$13,020.00 |

Please consider donating according to your financial status.

FROM THE PASTOR



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

I am back from India. Had wonderful time with my family and I had a chance to visit the mission and meet some of our fathers working in north east of India. Time to reconnect and visit. Thank you for your prayers.

As I landed I heard the disappointing news about the upcoming closure of Catholic hospitals, HSHS Sacred Heart in Eau Claire and St. Joseph's in Chippewa Falls after nearly 140 years of service to the community. Four years back I began my ministry there. It's impossible to recount the many lives touched and healed through these hospitals—both spiritual and physical. Extension of Jesus healing ministry.

In the gospel we encounter Jesus heals a leper. We read - A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." Mark 1: 40-45. The man with leprosy took the initiative, approaching Jesus and asking for healing. In doing so, the leper violated the religious customs of the day by approaching a person who was clean. The confidence of the leper in Jesus' ability to heal him is evident in the words of his request. Jesus touched him and healed him, a sign of Jesus' compassion for the man. How do we deal with people who are ostracized by the society. Are we willing to reach out to them and bring comfort to them?



February 11 is World Day of the Sick, an observation started by St. John Paul II as a way for believers to offer prayers for those suffering from illnesses. The Pope initiated the day in 1992 to encourage people to

pray not only for those who suffer from illness but also for their caregivers. The day coincides with the commemoration of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Sunday, Feb. 11 is World Marriage Day. This annual observance is to honor husband and wife as the foundation of the family, the basic unit of society. The very celebration of world marriage day is an opportunity to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family. As I congratulate all the married men and women on this special day, I thank them sincerely for their faithfulness and sacrifice in living out their married life. ***Congratulations to David and Paula Hilby as they celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary.***

LENT is upon us! This year Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day are both on February 14! As we receive ashes on our forehead, let it be a visible symbol of our acknowledgement of our mortality and our dependence on a God who offers us His merciful love always. Let it be a time of renewal. I invite you to focus on at least one area of your life which needs some attention. I also invite all families to spend some time in prayer, if possible, in the church, or participate in Eucharistic Adoration, Stations of the cross, and certainly participate in the Mass. *Happy Lent!*



Congratulations to Evelyn Jacobs as she receives her first communion. Thanks to Barb Dickman for helping her to prepare for the great day.

Live Jesus, Fr Biju MSFS

~ PARISH NEWS ~

Lenten Regulations:

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14. Lenten regulations are as follows:

1. Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent, and Good Friday.
2. In addition to abstaining from meat, Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, until they celebrate their 59th birthday, are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to this regulation may eat only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Norwegian Pine plants—Free.

There are 3 Norwegian Pine plants in back of church.
If you are interested, please take and give them a good home!

~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

~A Minute with Jesus during the National Eucharistic Revival
Jesus wants us to know He is continually with us.

Often times, our mind begins to wander at Mass because we only see bread and wine. What contributes to our distractions is the bombardment of noise and images in our minds that come through our physical senses (hearing, seeing). Therefore, we are much less attuned to the world of the spirit and the much deeper spiritual realities that are right here, all around us. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: *Jesus, help me to learn to be quiet and reveal to my heart the truth that the Eucharist is really You present under the appearance of bread and wine.* This week, read about Jacob in the desert, who was very much afraid, and came to realize that God was present right there with him. As with Jacob, we can say as we pray before the Blessed Sacrament, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it." (Genesis 28:10-17)

~Women's Lenten Retreat

Are you struggling to carve time for spiritual enrichment? Join the Women's annual Morning of Reflection on Saturday, March 2nd at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, La Crosse. The FREE event starts with 8 am Mass followed by Rosary & Adoration. Hospitality in the Undercroft (lower level) and presentations will follow. In this time of Eucharistic Revival, the theme is FAITH & THE REAL PRESENCE: Recognizing Jesus in the Breaking of the Bread. This event is sponsored by the La Crosse Diocesan Council of Women and Catholic Daughters of America. All are welcome!

~Cabin Feverfest: St. Peter's Parish in Middle Ridge will be hosting their annual Euchre tournament & Luncheon on Sunday March 3rd. The doors open for lunch at noon and the card games start at 1:00 PM. The cost is \$15 per person which includes entry in the tournament, a variety of soups, snacks & beverages. Prizes will be awarded. Please call 608-452-4680 with any questions.

~Fish Frynder is Live!

Looking for a Fish Fry or Lenten meal tonight or any Friday during Lent? Check out the Diocese Fish Frynder at <http://diolc.org/fishfrynder> and find one closest to you!



~ 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

Franciscan Spirituality Center
 FEBRUARY 27; MARCH 5, 12, 19
 Tuesdays, 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

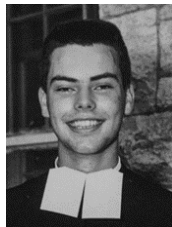
will be holding a Fish Fry on **Friday, February 16**, from 4:00 - 7:00 PM, dine-in or carry-out. The price is \$12 for 2-piece and \$14 for 3-piece dinner and includes baked or batter fried fish, baked potato or fries, coleslaw and roll. \$5 kids meal includes grilled cheese, fries, fruit and milk.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

~St. Patrick's Onalaska—Lent Fish Fry

St. Patrick's Parish (Onalaska) will be having Friday Fish Fry's during lent serving from 5 pm 0 7:30 pm Dine-in or carry-out. Price is \$9 for a one piece dinner; \$12 for 2-piece and \$15 for a 3-piece dinner and includes baked or batter fried fish, baked potato or fries, salad bar, roll and milk or coffee. Free grilled cheese meals for kids ages 5 and under. Beer, wine, soda and desserts available for additional cost.

~Feast of Blessed Brother James Miller – Feb. 13

A native of Stevens Point and a De La Salle Christian Brother and missionary, Brother James Miller was gunned down while repairing a wall at the school where he worked in Huehuetenango, Guatemala on Feb. 13, 1982. He was declared a martyr and beatified by Pope Francis on Dec. 7, 2019. He stands as an example of fidelity to the Gospel and humble and fearless service on behalf of the poor and the vulnerable. To learn more, visit diolc.org/blessed-brother-james-miller.

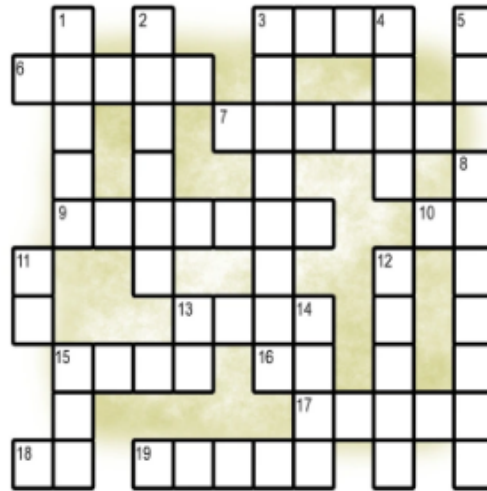


LENT
Prayer · Fasting · Charity

This holy season of Lent is an opportunity to be healed and cleansed on our journey as disciples of Christ. Let us consider what we can do to offer acts of reparation so that we might be purified and one day partake in the resurrection of Christ.

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

The Leper Cross-Word



kneeling if
 touched in
 begged to
 people be
 sternly he
 Jesus go
 began tell
 whole man
 proof kept
 made leper
 down hand

A _____ (6a) came to Jesus and _____ (3d) _____ (14d) _____ (2d) him and said, " _____ (5d) you wish, you can make me clean." Moved with pity, he stretched out his _____ (13a), _____ (8d) him, and said to him, "I do will it. _____ (11d) made clean." The leprosy left him immediately, and he was _____ (15a) clean. Then, warning him _____ (9a), he dismissed him at once.

He said to him, "See that you _____ (4d) no one anything, but _____ (16a), show yourself to the priest and offer what Moses prescribed; that will be _____ (12d) for them."

The _____ (15d) went away and _____ (19a) to publicize the _____ (17a) matter. _____ (13d) spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for _____ (1d) to enter a town openly. He remained outside _____ (18a) deserted places, and _____ (7a) _____ (3a) coming _____ (10a) him from everywhere.

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

THE POWER OF
PRAYER

- 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 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