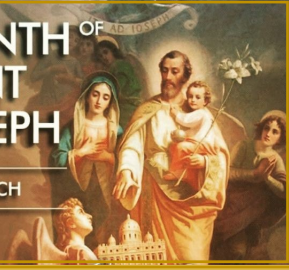


MONTH OF SAINT JOSEPH

MARCH



St. Joseph Parish of St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33 • La Crosse • WI 54601

March 10, 2024—Fourth Sunday of Lent

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
Monday5:30 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



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

- John 3:16 -

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

'Thank you' for your time and talent to support our parish.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Coordinator:
Stacy Burns

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, MARCH 9TH

Fourth Sunday of Lent

~ 4:00 pm- † Earl Martin (RM)

Lector: Kathy Leis

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH

Fourth Sunday of Lent

~ 8:30 am- Our Parish Family

Lector: Sally Miller

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

MONDAY, MARCH 11TH

~5:30 pm-† Elaine Bina (SE)

TUESDAY, MARCH 12TH

~ 5:00 pm—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

~ 5:30 pm-† Harold Bahlinger(S&SM)

THURSDAY, MARCH 14TH

~ 8:30 am Mass-† Reiny & Darlene Kammel (Family)

SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH

Fifth Sunday of Lent

~ 4:00 pm- † Madonna Bahr (Leis family)

Lector: Bill Weber

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, MARCH 17TH

Fifth Sunday of Lent

~ 8:30 am- † Francis Schmidt (K&RS)

Lector: Paula Silha

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers



Contributions for the past week

Adult Envelopes(38) :	\$ 2,385.00
Plate collection:	\$ 311.00
Initial Offering:	\$ 2.00
CCHD:	\$ 10.00
Easter Flowers:	\$ 400.00
BirthRight:	\$ 366.96
Votive candles:	\$ 105.50
Total:	\$ 3,580.46

Thanks
for your
Generosity!

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- **March 10**-Daylight savings time starts - Remember to set your clocks ahead 
- **March 13**—7:00 pm Stations of the Cross †
- **March 13**—Religious Education Class
- **March 13**—6:30 pm Confessions at St. Joseph
- **March 20**—7:00 pm Stations of the Cross †
- **March 24**—Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
- **March 25**—9:00—6:00 pm Confessions at Cathedral
- **March 28** - 7:00 pm Holy Thursday 
- **March 29**—3:00 pm Good Friday
- **March 30**—8:30 pm Easter Vigil
- **March 31**—8:30 am Easter Sunday

~ Ways to 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.


* Wednesdays during Lent:

Pray the Stations of the Cross

7:00 pm at St. Joseph

7:30 pm at St. Peters



2023-24 Goal:	\$21,915.00	WE ARE THE DIOCESE	DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2023-2024
Pledged:	\$10,140.00		
Received:	\$9,400.00		
Remaining Amount Due:	\$12,515.00		

We have pledged only 46.27% of our goal for this year ending June 30th. Please consider donating according to your financial status.

FROM THE PASTOR



Fourth Sunday of Lent

This weekend we celebrate the fourth Sunday of Lent. The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called *Lætare* (Rejoice) Sunday. Since this Sunday occurs in the middle of

Lent, as *Gaudete* Sunday is celebrated midway through Advent, *Lætare* Sunday reminds us of the Event we look forward to at the end of the penitential season. As on *Gaudete* Sunday, rose-colored vestments may replace violet, with flowers on the altar. These outward signs symbolize the Church's joy in anticipation of the Resurrection, a joy which cannot be contained even in Lent.

The Gospel of John tells us about a night time call Jesus received from a prestigious Jew named Nicodemus. He was a wealthy Pharisee and member of the Sanhedrin. He meets Jesus by night and begins a long religious discussion. Jesus tells him "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." This is the first of three references in John's Gospel to Jesus being "lifted up" (cf. 8:28, 12:32-34).

Here John refers to an Old Testament story given in Numbers 21:4-9. On their journey through the wilderness, the people of Israel murmured and complained, regretting that they had ever left Egypt. To punish them, God sent a plague of deadly serpents. When the people repented and cried for mercy, God instructed Moses to make an image of a serpent in bronze and to hold it up in the midst of the camp so that those who looked upon the serpent might be healed through the power of God.

Jesus thus explains through it, God's plan of salvation by referring to the story of Moses and the bronze serpent. He reveals the Good News that God will show His love for mankind by subjecting His own Son to suffering and death as ransom for the sins of the world. The only reason for that is John 3:16 says "For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." This is the summary of the Gospel message of salvation through Christ Jesus. God's motive is love and God's objective is salvation. Remember He died for us.

Have a blessed lent! ✠✠✠ Live Jesus, Fr Biju MSFS

Funeral arrangements for Don Bina.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on **Saturday, March 16, 2024** at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Burial will follow with military honors in the church cemetery. Visitation will be held at the church on **Friday, March 15, 2024 from 3:30-7 p.m concluding with the Rosary at 7 p.m.** and prior to Mass from **9:45-10:45 a.m. on Saturday, March 16.**

~ PARISH NEWS ~

Thank you PCCW for hosting



Fun Time!



Parish Fundraiser!

Tickets will be sold after masses on March 9 & 10, 16 & 17, and 23 & 24 with drawing on March 24 (Palm Sunday) after mass.



There will be 3 Easter baskets for the Raffle. 1 adult and 2 children

~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

~A Minute with Jesus during the National Eucharistic Revival

As you take "steps forward," your faith in Jesus' true Presence in the Eucharist will grow.

We cannot simply convince ourselves through reason that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist. One of the best ways to grow in this faith is to spend some time in conversation with Jesus, truly present in a Catholic Church. Go there and share something with the Lord that is on your heart. You will notice that probably without saying or feeling anything special, you will leave with a quieted heart. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: *Jesus, help me commit to spending some time in conversation with you in Church.* This week, read about how we can always find Jesus in His Father's house in Luke 2:41-51.



We need Revival: Attend "the ANSWER" Eucharistic Rally on June 7 as it travels through the Diocese of La Crosse

A revival involves the Holy Spirit opening our hearts in a deeper way so we can literally place Jesus Christ at the center of our lives. Join fellow parishioners and people from around the Diocese to encounter Christ in a deeper way and be transformed by inspiring presentations and prayer. Bishop Robert Barron, world renowned evangelist, will give the homily at Mass. Visit diolc.org/the-answer or use your smartphone's camera to scan the QR code to the right for more information. You won't want to miss this!



~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

~Death and Resurrection; A Lenten Concert with Organ, Flute and Soprano - March 10, 2024 @ 3:00—4:00 pm

Shrine of Guadalupe, 5250 Justin Rd., La Crosse, Wisconsin 54601
As part of the Riverland Chapter of the American Guild of Organists' Lenten series, an organ concert will be presented here at the Shrine that The concert, being on Laetare Sunday, is a Lenten recital titled, "Death and Resurrection."
The Shrine's magnificent 50-rank, 40-stop pipe organ will be used to great effect, and a tour of the organ will be available immediately following the concert. This event is free and open to all.

DCCW Spring Convention "Celebrate Life"

April 13th 9:30 am -4:00 pm Radisson, La Crosse
You are invited to come hear pro-life leader Abby Johnson at the La Crosse Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (DCCW) Biennial Convention. Abby was a Planned Parenthood director before undergoing a profound conversion in 2009, when she witnessed an ultrasound-guided abortion. Her story was portrayed in the major 2019 film Unplanned. To learn more and to register, visit ldccw.org, or scan the QR code to the right.



~Fish Fry—Mary Mother of Church on March 15th 4:00—7:00 pm

Dine-in or Carry-out, Baked or Fried Cod, Coleslaw, baked potato or fries, roll, 2-piece \$12; 3-piece \$14;
\$5.00 Kids menu-grilled cheese fries, fruit;
Beer Wine and Dessert available at dine-in for an additional cost

~Chrism Mass |March 26 | St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral

The Chrism Mass is one of the diocesan highlights at which the bishop blesses the oils for the celebration of the Sacraments of Baptism and the Anointing of the Sick, and consecrates the Sacred Chrism used in the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Orders. Priests also renew their priestly promises at this Mass, and the faithful pray for them.
The Chrism Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, March 26 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral in La Crosse. If you are unable to attend the Mass will be live streamed at diolc.org/live.

A Time for a Change of Heart

"Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart"; for I am "gracious and merciful."

(Joel 2:12; Exodus 34:6)

We want to prayerfully seek the strength of the Holy Spirit so He will lead us in purification which is a process of grace working within us. Actual grace comes from prayer and doing acts of kindness. We receive sanctifying grace, which is God's own divine life, in the Sacraments. This process requires our cooperation and a change of heart, which involves the whole interiority of the person. Let us pray and ask the Holy Spirit to "Create in me a clean heart" as a new way to respond to those around us. (Psalm 51: 10) God gives us the strength and power to change our sinful attitudes and behaviors. So, the process of daily conversion, and sometimes of the hour or minute, involves God supplying what we need and our responding to His love through cooperating with His grace. This is a gradual process and takes effort. A good place to begin is by taking quiet time to be with Jesus, to rest in Him and reflect upon His Word in the Bible.

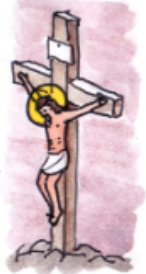
~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

For God so Loved the World



When God made the world He wanted the people to be His friends and always live in happiness. But instead of choosing to love God completely, the people sinned. They were cut off from the happiness of God because they chose to love themselves more than they loved God.

But God still loved the people so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to save the people from their sins. Now we just need to choose to believe in Jesus, and to love Him. As today's Gospel reading says, "...so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life."



How can we turn to Jesus so that we can be saved from our sins?

Here are a few things that can help you a lot:

1. When you wake up in the morning, tell Jesus that you are offering everything that happens today to Him.
2. Every day look at a crucifix (a cross with Jesus on it.) Think about how much Jesus loves us. How much do we love Him back?



3. Each night before you go to sleep, think about your day. Did you show your love for God today? If you did something bad, be sorry and think about how can you do better tomorrow.

Pray today and always



Lent is a time when more time should be set aside for prayer. Praying with Scripture is a privileged place to encounter Jesus. In this simple way of prayer, the Holy Spirit makes a connection between the Scripture passage and the person's life.

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.
 - That we may show our gratitude for Jesus' ultimate sacrifice by generously making sacrifices in our own lives.
 - For all struggling with depression or anxiety, may the Lord pour his grace upon them and grant them healing and comfort.
 - All the military men and women who are supporting our freedom.
 - All political leaders, may their decisions be made for the good of all citizens, born and unborn.
 - 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.
 - For the intentions listed in our parish book of prayer.
- To add a request call 608-788-1646 or email Sjrp2601@gmail.com