



St. Joseph Parish of St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse WI 54601

April 6, 2025 ~ *Fifth Sunday of Lent*

PASTOR

Fr. Biju C 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

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 Schedule:

Saturday..... 8:00 pm
Sunday..... 10:00 am

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Wednesday..... 8:00 am
Friday 8:00 am

“Let the one among you who is without sin
be the first to throw a stone at her.”



**CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE (608-788-1646 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com)
TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR:**

- ◆ Joining the Parish
- ◆ Weddings
- ◆ Baptisms
- ◆ Anointing of the sick (also call Fr. Biju cell phone)
- ◆ If you are home-bound and would like to be visited

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
davidteresabrown457@gmail.com
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, APRIL 5TH

~8:30 am - † Emil Bahr (MB)

~4:00 pm - † Bill Patterson (SP)

Lector: Donnie Weber

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH

~8:30 am - † Evelyn Rutz-Thornton (AH)

Lector: Dan Steiger

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

MONDAY, APRIL 7TH

~5:30 pm - Msgr Hundt (S&SM)

TUESDAY, APRIL 8TH

~5:00 pm—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 10TH

~8:30 am

SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH—Palm Sunday

~4:00 pm - † Billy and Patty Silha (D&JD)

Lector: Jim Weber and Sally Miller

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH—Palm Sunday

~8:30 am - † Ken & Lois Davis (J&SD)

Lector: Donna Clements and Lorie Liss

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

~ Contributions for the past week ~

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|------------------------|--------------------|
| Adult Envelopes (39) : | \$ 2,310.00 |
| Plate collection: | \$ 289.00 |
| Easter flowers: | \$ 90.00 |
| Votive candles: | \$ 75.25 |
| Initial offering: | \$ 8.00 |
| Total: | \$ 2,772.25 |

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- April 8 ~ Bible Study (after 5:30 pm mass)
- April 9 ~ 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross at St. Joseph
- April 9 ~ Religious Education Classes
- April 14 ~ 9:00 am—6:00 pm Confessions at St. Joseph Workman Cathedral, La Crosse
- April 15 ~ Bible Study (after 5:30 pm mass-last class)
- April 15 ~ 7:30 pm Pastoral Council meeting



HOLY WEEK

- April 13 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
- April 17 ~ **Holy Thursday**
7:00 pm Mass at St. Joseph
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
8:00—11:00 pm at St. Joseph
8:00 pm Mass at St. Peters
- April 18 ~ **Good Friday**
2:30 pm Stations of the Cross at St. Joseph
3:00 pm Service at St. Joseph
12:30 pm Stations of the Cross at St. Peters
1:00 pm Service at St. Peters
- April 19 ~ **Easter Vigil**
8:30 pm Mass at St. Joseph
8:30 pm Mass at St. Peters
- April 20 ~ **Easter**
8:30 am Mass at St. Joseph
10:00 am Mass at St. Peters

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|--|------------------------------|--------------|
| | 2024-25 Goal: | \$23,335.00 |
| | Pledged: | \$ 21,788.00 |
| | Received (47) : | \$ 20,828.00 |
| | Amount Due: Due June 2025 | \$ 2,257.00 |



~ PASTOR LETTER ~



The Gospel for the fifth Sunday of Lent continues to offer lessons about God's mercy and forgiveness. Last Sunday we heard the Parable of the Prodigal Son from the Gospel of Luke. Today we hear not a parable, but the report from John's Gospel

of an encounter among Jesus, the scribes and Pharisees, and a woman caught in adultery. The sinful woman's story of sin committed and sin forgiven in the Gospel of today, shows the inexhaustible mercy and compassion Jesus gives to repentant sinners.

It is a story of caution for those who are quick to condemn others and unwilling to admit their own mistakes. It is a touching story of the mercy of God given to every sinner (you, me and all sinners) if we are honest before the Lord. This story is one of God's gracious care and mercy for each of us and not punishment. After the Scribes and Pharisees have left, Jesus takes up his role as the authentic judge of the woman before him. He is the only true judge, he who, being without sin, is the only one that could condemn her. But Jesus stands up for her.

He tells her "Go and sin no more." Look at the way our Lord's answer upheld justice without forgoing clemency. He did not say the woman should not be stoned, for then it would look as though he were opposing the law. At the same time, He did not say 'Let her be stoned', because he came not to destroy those, he found but to seek those who were lost. He just tells her "Go and sin no more." Lord does indeed pass sentence, but it is sin he condemns, not people. Our Lenten disciplines are to break through the hard shell of self-righteousness, and then look into our hearts. Remember that love, compassion, and upholding the dignity of our sisters and brothers are the marks of the Laws of the Kingdom of God.

Next weekend we begin the holiest week of the Church year celebrating Holy Week beginning with Palm Sunday. I encourage you to attend every day celebrations so that we all might enter more fully into these profound mysteries of our faith. I encourage you to attend the Chrism mass which is on the 15th of April, 10.30 am at the Cathedral.



Have a blessed lent!

Live Jesus ~ Fr Biju MSFS

~ PARISH NEWS ~



Our Parish welcomes **William Joseph Weber** who received the Sacrament of Baptism last Sunday, Blessings to William and his family!

Cemetery Flower Order

Forms to order flowers are located in the back of church. Prices are the same as last year. \$100 to order the urn, if needed, and flowers, or \$40.00 for just the flowers if you already have the urn. Please return your order form and payment by Sunday May 4.



High School Students Scholarship Opportunity

The PCCW is offering graduating high school seniors that will be attending college in the fall an opportunity to apply for a scholarship. To apply please submit a short essay describing your involvement in the parish and plans for future schooling, a transcript of their grades and photo if available. Please mail to the parish office - W2601 St Rd 33 La Crosse, WI 54601 or put in the collection box at church. Applications are due by May 11th.

Next PCCW meeting: Monday, April 21st 6:30 pm

~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

A Minute with Jesus: Jesus is the "living Bread from Heaven."

Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from Heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever." (John 6:51). Jesus gave this living bread for the first time to His apostles at the Last Supper. Jesus gives this living bread to us in holy communion. The living bread is Jesus Himself. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: **Jesus, please strengthen my faith to believe that You are the "living bread" received in holy Communion.** This week, read the explanation that Jesus gives that He is the "living Bread from Heaven" in John 6: 48-51



Fr Biju's last mass at St. Joseph Parish will be on

◆ **Tuesday, April 22nd (5:30 pm)** ◆

After mass, there will be a Reception for Father Biju. A light meal will be served. Please plan to attend to thank Father Biju for his years of ministry at our parish and to wish him well at his new Parishes.

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~Pancake Breakfast in Coon Valley, Palm Sunday, April 13th.

American Legion Post 116 will be having a pancake breakfast at the Coon Valley Legion Hall. Serving 8:00—Noon. Meal will consist of pancakes, sausage links, scrambled eggs, biscuits & gravy.

~**Birthright Baby Bottle Campaign** The Birthright Baby Bottle campaign ended last weekend. Please return the Birthright baby Bottles or if you want to contribute, you can write a check to Birthright and put it in the offertory.

~**Divine Mercy Sunday - April 27:** The Deanery of the La Crosse

Diocese has chosen the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe for the celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday. You are invited to make a pilgrimage for Divine Mercy Sunday on April 27. The schedule for the day: 9:00 AM Latin Mass, 11:00 AM Spanish Mass, 12:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet in Spanish, 1:00 PM English Mass, 2:30 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 2:45 PM Divine Mercy Reflection & Consecration by Cardinal Burke, 3:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet led by Cardinal Burke, 3:15 PM Benediction & Reposition, 3:30 PM St. Faustina Relic Blessing & Veneration. Confessions will be available 30 minutes before the 9 & 11 AM Masses until all are heard and then at 12 Noon - 4 PM. Cart shuttles will be available for pilgrims from 8AM-5PM. For more information, please call the Shrine at (877) 799-4059. *"On that day (Divine Mercy Sunday), the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment."* – Diary of St. Faustina #699



~**April 26 - "Faith & Recovery: Catholic Keys to Freedom from Substance Abuse"** All are invited to a breakfast program featuring two extraordinary speakers:

- Joe McGivney – A lifelong alcoholic whose brain was so damaged it led to his being institutionalized with an incurable psychosis, until one morning he woke up suddenly and completely healed.
- Keaton Douglas – Executive Director of the iTHIRST initiative and creator of the iThirst Spiritual Companionship Training, which forms lay leaders and clergy for the mission of accompanying those suffering from substance use disorders and their families. For more information and to register for this inspiring morning program at Holy Cross Diocesan Center, visit diolc.org/faith-recovery



~**Chrism Mass | April 15, 2025 |Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman** The Chrism Mass is one of the diocesan highlights at which the Bishop blesses the oils for the celebration of the Sacraments of Baptism, 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 April 15, at 10:30 am at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral. Please consider attending!

~**St. Patrick Catholic Church Lenten Friday Fish Fry, Onalaska, WI**

\$15 3-piece Fish Dinner \$12 2-piece Fish Dinner
\$9 1-piece fish or grilled cheese dinner
FREE Grilled Cheese dinner to children age 5 and under
Dine-in meals include: Baked or batter-fried Cod, Baked potato or fries, Salad bar, Dinner roll, coffee or milk (Beer, wine, soda, and desserts are available for an additional cost.)

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

How Does Jesus Treat Sinners?



In the Old Testament, God gave His people rules that said they should punish the people who sinned. That's why in today's Gospel the Pharisees and scribes brought a sinful woman to Jesus to see what He had to say about the law.

Instead of telling them that they should punish her according to the law, Jesus told them that they should only punish her if they themselves had never sinned.



Sometimes we hear about a sin that someone else did. God does not want us to be mean to that person because of what they did. Does that mean that they didn't do a sin? No. Jesus told the woman to go and not sin again. That means that she did sin, but He was giving her another chance. We should try to be merciful like Jesus, and we should be kind to sinners because we are sinners too.



With God's mercy and love, let us offer our prayers

- * For all who are sick, may Christ who knew pain and suffering in his own life, fill them with healing and hope.
- * For Luke Sawaya and Will Sawaya as they journey to priesthood and Brother Matthew Kotek as he continues his religious path.
- * For our world, may Christ's peace touch the hearts of leaders and influencers and lead them to harmony
- * For all who struggle to care for loved ones, may the Lord in his mercy offer provision for their needs, .
- * For all the military men and women who are supporting our freedom.
- * 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.

A Prayer for Lenten Grace

Loving God,
During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you. Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude, so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.
Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul and remind me of the grace of simplicity.
Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and, in so doing, re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.
May this season be a grace-filled time to rekindle my love for and faith in you.
Amen.



To add a request call 608-788-1646 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com