



# St. Joseph Parish *of* St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse WI 54601

**June 29, 2025**

## *Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles*

**Pastor** (starting August 1, 2025)

Father Sen (Sengole Vethanayagam)

**Parish Director**

Deacon David Allen

**Priest Moderator**

MSGR Robert Hundt

**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday ..... 4:00 pm

Sunday ..... 8:30 am

**WEEKDAY SCHEDULE**

**ADORATION**

Tuesday ..... 5:00 pm

**COMMUNION SERVICE**

Tuesday ..... 5:30 pm

Thursday ..... 8:30 am

**CONFESSIONS**

3:30—3:45 pm (before Saturday 4:00 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

**St. Peter's Parish, Middle Ridge**

(608) 452-4680

**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday ..... 8:00 PM

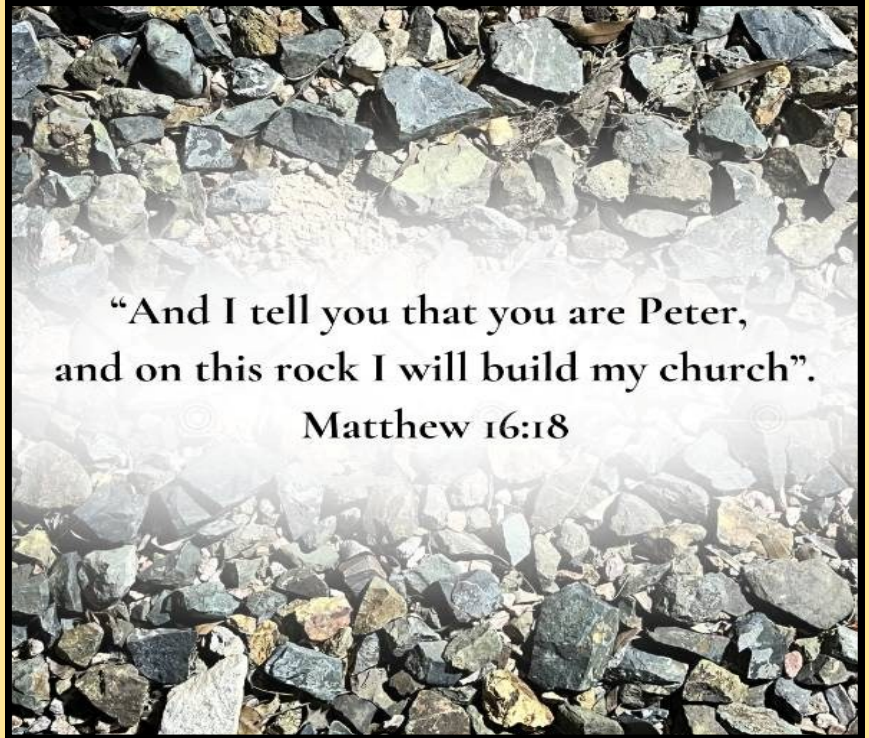
Sunday ..... 10:00 AM

**COMMUNION SERVICE**

Wednesday ..... 7:00 PM

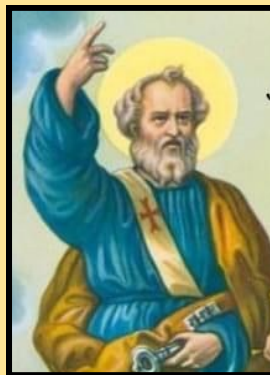
**ADORATION**

Wednesday ..... 7:30 PM to 8:30

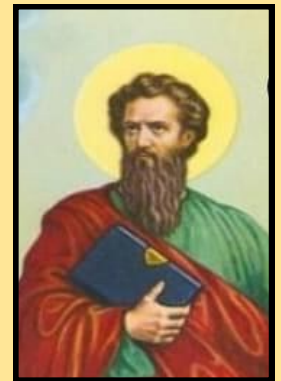


**“And I tell you that you are Peter,  
and on this rock I will build my church”.**

**Matthew 16:18**



## **Feast of Saints Peter and Paul**



**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**

Director:

Lorie Liss

*‘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, JUNE 28TH**

(Fr. Timothy Reither)

~4:00 pm - † Bob Strittmater and members of the  
Guanella and Strittmater families (CS)

Lector: Cecilia Sawaya

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

**SUNDAY, JUNE 29TH**

(Fr. Timothy Reither)

~8:30 am - † Herbert Clements (L&amp;DC)

Lector: Paula Silha

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

**TUESDAY, JULY 1ST**~5:00 pm—*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

~5:30 pm - Communion Service (Deacon Allen)

**THURSDAY, JULY 3RD**

~5:30 pm - Communion Service (Deacon Allen)

**SATURDAY, JULY 5TH**

(Msgr David Kunz)

~4:00 pm - † Randy Bahr (MB)

Lector: Bill Weber

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

**SUNDAY, JULY 6TH**

(Msgr David Kunz)

~8:30 am - † Reiny &amp; Darlene Kammel (J&amp;SD)

Lector: Donna Clements

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

## ~ Parish Calendar ~

- **July 26**—Rescheduled March for Life Wisconsin in Madison
- **August 2** ~ Fr. Sen celebrates his first mass at our parish
- **August 9**—“Still the Answer” Eucharistic Rally 2025  
Pablo Center in Eau Claire

## ~ EMBRACE YOUR FAITH ~

\* **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Tuesday evenings: 5:00 pm; 5:30 pm Communion Service

~ 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** - Call the office (608)788-1646 or email [sjrp2601@gmail.com](mailto:sjrp2601@gmail.com) to arrange the anointing of the sick.

\* **Confession**

3:30—3:45 pm before 4:00 pm Mass or by appointment.

\* **Mass Intentions**

If you would like to schedule mass intentions, please contact the Parish office phone #788-1646 or there are envelopes in the back of church or email [sjrp2601@gmail.com](mailto:sjrp2601@gmail.com). **Mass Intentions Fee is \$20.00**

**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 (23) :	\$ 1,069.00
Plate collection:	\$ 257.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 1,326.00</b>



*This Independence Day, we celebrate the gift of freedom. As Catholics, we remember true freedom is the ability to choose what is good, to live in truth and to serve others in love.*



~ Stewardship Reflection ~



**SOLEMNITY  
OF THE  
SAINTS  
PETER AND  
PAUL**

In June, we celebrated significant moments in the life of the Church — Pentecost, the Most Holy Trinity, and Corpus Christi — culminating with the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul. Though they are very different men, they are united in faith, mission, and martyrdom, and the Church has honored them together since the third century.

St. Peter, the first Pope, was chosen by Christ as the rock on which the Church would be built. The Catechism tells us that because of the faith he professed, Peter remains the “unshakeable rock of the Church.” Despite his human weaknesses, Peter’s loyalty, repentance, and leadership serve as a powerful model of stewardship.

St. Paul, once a persecutor of Christians, became one of the Church’s greatest evangelists. In today’s second reading, Paul reflects on his mission, saying, “I have finished the race... the crown of righteousness awaits me.” The Greek word he used for “crown” — *stephanos* — refers to a victor’s crown, rather than a royal one, illustrating his view of faith as a race well run for the sake of Christ.

Although they were martyred separately, tradition holds that Peter and Paul were in Rome at the same time, and their shared witness and sacrifice bind them closely together in Church history. They embody two essential aspects of stewardship — Peter in his faith and leadership, and Paul in his zeal and wisdom.

As stewards, we are called to follow their example—to build the Church through our commitment, to overcome our failures through God’s mercy, and to proclaim the Gospel with courage. Like Peter and Paul, we are invited to give all we have for the sake of Christ and His Church.

**First Reading: Acts 12:1-11**  
**Second Reading: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18**  
**Gospel: Matthew 16:13-19**

In the first reading Peter is arrested, but prayer is made on his behalf and he is rescued by the angel of the Lord. In the second reading, Paul tells Timothy that he is being poured out like a libation and that he has finished the race. In the Gospel, Peter responds to Jesus’ question about his identity by saying, *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.* Jesus declares that he will give Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

- ♦ The remodeling at the rectory continues: Some electrical updates to be done, main floor bathroom window to be replaced, upstairs bathroom flooring to be replaced (Due to the additional plumbing that had to be done. (When remodeling, you may run into additional updates). If you would like to contribute, you can put donations in an envelope (marked Rectory remodel) and put in the offertory. Thank you.

**Welcome  
to our new members this past year:**

- \* Ryan Hundt \*
- \* Jon and Laurie Kammel \*
- \* Lorie Liss \*
- \* Chris, Cecilia, William, (Luke is a member already) Maximillian, Sophia, Rita, Blaise, Gianna, and Chiara Sawaya \*
- \* Tanner Schmitt and Malorie Petersen \*

~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

**~A Minute with Jesus: “Need Hope? Take A Minute to Get to Know the God of All Hope”**

“May the God of all hope fill you with joy and peace in believing so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope” (Romans 15:13). Hope is



a theological virtue that we receive from God at Baptism, which disposes us to live in a relationship with our heavenly Father, Jesus – the Son of God – and the Holy Spirit. (See Catechism, paragraphs 1812 -1813) We grow in this profound gift when we ask God to increase hope in us. The gift of hope enables us to trust in God’s promises that are expressed throughout Sacred Scripture and fulfilled by Jesus, and to trust in His faithfulness and love.

**~122nd St. Charles Homecoming Picnic Sunday, July 6th,** at the church, 707 Eagle St., Genoa. Food will be served from 11 am to 2 pm. Each meal includes Pogy’s grilled chicken and sides, as well as a serving of homemade risotto, which is a cheesy rice delicacy passed down through generations of Italian immigrants who settled in the area. Raffle drawings will begin at 3 p.m. Most events will be held outdoors, with dining options available inside the adjacent school. Meals cost \$15 each, smaller hot dog plates available for younger attendees for \$6. For more information, visit St. Charles School and Parish Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/StCharlesSchoolGenoa>.

**~DARE to Follow July 8-10 at Holy Cross Diocesan Center**

We are called to be Holy Men of God. Dare to Follow is for young men in grades 6-10 who are interested in hearing where God is calling them. Join us for activities, discernment, and time with Bishop Battersby and priests from our area. <https://diolc.org/priesthood/2025-dare-to-follow/>

## ~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

### ~3rd Annual Picnic on the Lawn – A Community Celebration

Saturday, July 26, 2025 | 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM;

St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley, WI

All are welcome to join us for our 3rd Annual Picnic on the Lawn! This free community event features delicious pork prepared by Simply Smoked, walking tacos, kids' hot dogs and ice cream treats. Live music by Jen Wilder (11:30 AM – 1:00 PM) and Leather and Lace (1:00 – 3:00 PM), a bounce house, dunk tank, parents vs. kid's games, and more!


Goodwill donations are appreciated. Some of the entertainment and beverages will be available for a small fee. Come enjoy a wonderful summer day with friends, family, and neighbors!

**~Calling All Catholic Women!** If you are a Catholic woman over the age of 21, please consider joining our Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court La Crosse #1183. We are currently fifty-two members strong and we want to grow! We meet monthly, the second Wednesday, from Sept. – June, 10:00 am, at Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman, 530 Main, Undercroft. The Catholic Daughters are one of the oldest and largest organizations of Catholic women in the Americas. Catholic Daughter women enjoy each other's company at monthly meetings, share Catholic spirituality, give generously to local and national charities, and work for the church and community. To learn more about our court and the Catholic Daughters, please contact Karol Smith, 608-769-1270, email: [kschlo3004@aol.com](mailto:kschlo3004@aol.com) or visit [www.catholicdaughters.org](http://www.catholicdaughters.org). We'd love to meet you.

**~ONE FLESH, A marriage enrichment night to celebrate NFP awareness week. Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at 6:00 pm.** At the St. Peter's Parish Rectory (Middle Ridge). For couples currently using or interested in Natural Family Planning. Dr. and Mrs. Mark Koehne will speak on the beauty of NFP. RSVP to Rachel Persson by July 13 (608) 386-9543). There will be light snacks and wine served. Come and connect with other couples regarding Natural Family Planning.

**~Prayer Changes Things:** Let Us Pray for Peace Will you gather your family for 10 minutes a day to pray one Decade of the Rosary? The Rosary is a Scripture-based prayer. It begins with the Apostles' Creed, which summarizes the great mysteries of our Catholic faith. The Our Father, which introduces each mystery, is from the Gospels. The first part of the Hail Mary is the angel's words announcing Christ's birth and Elizabeth's greeting to Mary and the second part is asking Mary to pray for us. The Mysteries of the Rosary center on the events of Christ's life. The repetition in the Rosary is meant to lead us into restful prayer, providing guidance to situations that we face. The gentle repetition of the words helps us to enter into the silence of our hearts, where Jesus dwells.

**Pope  
Leo  
XIV**

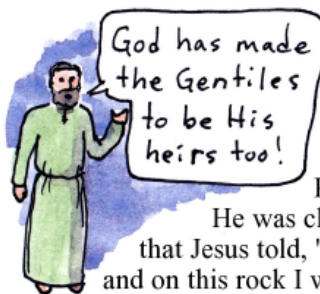


## LET US PRAY

THAT WE MIGHT AGAIN  
LEARN HOW TO  
DISCERN, TO KNOW  
HOW TO CHOOSE  
PATHS OF LIFE, AND  
REJECT EVERYTHING  
THAT LEADS US AWAY  
FROM CHRIST AND  
THE GOSPEL.

## ~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

# Peter and Paul



Today we are celebrating the feast of Saints Peter and Paul. They are such important saints that their feast day takes the place of the usual Sunday. Saint Peter was the chief of the Apostles. He was close to Our Lord, and the only one that Jesus told, "you are Peter (which means rock) and on this rock I will build my Church..." Saint Peter had a hard time accepting that Jesus had to die, and he also denied Jesus. But he was sorry afterward and became a strong leader for the disciples after Jesus went back into Heaven. Saint Peter was the Church's first pope.

Saint Paul was a Jew who at first was against the Christians. He even helped to persecute them. But then Jesus appeared to him and Paul became a Christian and a great preacher. His mission was to preach to the Gentiles, the people who didn't know about God or His promises. He wrote many letters that are now part of the Bible.

Both Saint Peter and Saint Paul preached and taught about Jesus and brought the Faith to many people and places. But the Roman government did not like the Christians. The emperor Nero began killing the Christians, and among those killed were Peter and Paul. Their deaths didn't stop the Church from growing, though. When people die for God it brings even more grace into the Church.

You are Peter...



Today we should thank God for sending us these great saints, and we can also pray that we will help to spread the Faith.



*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.
- † That we remember we are just passing through this life and to live each day with passion and purpose.
- † For an up-building of all vocations in the Church and in a particular way for priestly vocations to the Diocese of La Crosse from our parish.

To add a request call 608-788-1646 or email [sjrp2601@gmail.com](mailto:sjrp2601@gmail.com)