

THE PARABLE  
OF  
THE RICH FOOL  
Luke 12:13-21



# St. Joseph Parish of St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse WI 54601

August 3, 2025

*Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**Pastor**

***Father Sen***

Fr. Sengole Vethanayagam  
(715) 615-1774

**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday..... 4:00 PM  
Sunday ..... 8:30 AM

**WEEKDAY SCHEDULE**

**ADORATION**

Tuesday ..... 5:00 PM

**MASS**

Tuesday ..... 5:30 PM  
Thursday ..... 8:30 AM

**CONFESSIONS**

3:30—3:45 pm (before Saturday 4:00 Mass)  
or by appointment

**PARISH OFFICE** 608-788-1646

sjrp2601@gmail.com ~ Bulletin deadline:  
Wednesday ~ 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

**WEEKDAY MASS**

Wednesday..... 7:00 PM

**ADORATION**

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

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to introduce myself as I begin as your Pastor at the St. Joseph & St. Peters Parishes.

I was born in 1967 in a little village in India. My dad died about three months before my birth. My saintly mom lived 46 years after the death of my father. In the year 2013, my mother died unexpectedly due to heart attack.

My parents had 8 children. Three of my siblings died in their infant ages. Now we are five alive. My siblings had 12 children all together. Two of my nieces are nuns.

I can never explain enough about my lovely mom. She inspired me to become a priest.

*It is God's plan that I am your shepherd.  
God knows that you needed me and I needed you.  
By the grace of God, I will dedicate myself  
to you my God given people.*

*I encourage you all to keep up the family spirit  
between our parishes.*

*Please do not hesitate to reach out to me in any situation.*

*I will do what I can. And God will do the rest.*

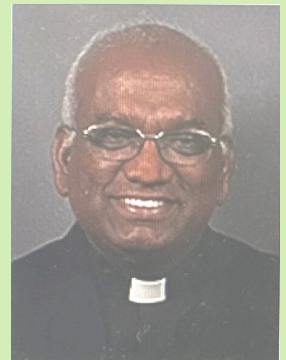
*I will be with you as long as God wants me to.*

*I am a strong believer of the Plan and Providence of God.*

*Let us listen to Him.*

*With Prayers and Blessings,*

***Father Sen***



**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  
Lorie Liss-DRE

**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, AUGUST 2ND**

*First Saturday Mass celebrated  
by Fr Sen at our parish  
~4:00 pm - † Therese Hess*

Lector: Jim Weber (M&CB)  
Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 3RD**

*First Sunday Mass celebrated by Fr Sen at our parish  
~8:30 am - Our Parish Family*

Lector: Donna Clements  
Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 5TH**

~5:00 pm—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
~5:30 pm - † Reiny & Darlene Kammel (J&SD)

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 7TH**

~8:30 am - † Arnold & Jean Meyers (L&DC)

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 9TH**

~4:00 pm - Deacons of the La Crosse Diocese(D&MA)  
Lector: Bill Weber  
Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 10TH**

~8:30 am - † Bill Patterson (SP)  
Lector: Dan Steiger  
Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

## ~ Contributions for the past week ~

Adult Envelopes (26):	\$ 1,799.00
Plate collection:	\$ 363.00
Mission Co-op:	\$ 31.00
Votive candles:	\$ 146.00
Assumption:	\$ 10.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 2,349.00</b>

**First Reading:** Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23  
**Second Reading:** Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11  
**Gospel:** Luke 12:12-13

Much of life is spent in toil, working to earn what we need to support ourselves and our families. Though this pursuit is necessary and good, the Lord reminds us not to fall into the trap of allowing work to become the sole foundation of our lives, particularly not to the extent that it leads us to forgo or delay building a life of discipleship.

## ~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- **August 9**—"Still the Answer" Eucharistic Rally 2025  
Pablo Center in Eau Claire
- **Aug. 15**—the celebration of the *Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary* into heaven, which means that at the end of her life on earth, Mary experienced the "resurrection of the body" promised to all believers at the end of time who faithfully follow Jesus Christ.
- **September 13** ~ Chicken Q hosted by our PCCW



*Meet & Greet  
Gathering  
for Father Sen*

**On Tuesday,  
August 5th  
6:00—7:30 pm**

## ~ EMBRACE YOUR FAITH ~

\* **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Tuesday evenings: 5:00 pm; 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** - 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**

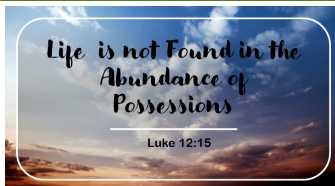
**CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE**

**(608-788-1646 or email [sjrp2601@gmail.com](mailto:sjrp2601@gmail.com))**

**TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR:**

- ◆ Joining the Parish ◆ Weddings ◆ Baptisms
- ◆ Anointing of the sick
- ◆ If you are home-bound and would like to be visited

## ~ STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION ~



### EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY

#### IN ORDINARY TIME

Today's Gospel offers encouragement from Heaven for those living as faithful stewards. It reminds us of our reasons for choosing this way of life. Admittedly, some may see our focus on serving God and others as foolish, but God's opinion matters most. Spoiler: Christian stewards are not foolish! God affirms your choices, showing they hold great value.

In this passage, Jesus makes it clear that life isn't about "stuff," as he illustrates with the parable of the wealthy businessman who thought he had everything under control. The man had so much stuff that he didn't have space to store it all. So, focusing only on earthly possessions and not on what is above, he decided to build a bigger storage place. Patting himself on the back, he thought about the good times he would enjoy in the years to come. But Jesus tells us that the day would turn out to be the man's last on earth. And he had spent it thinking only of himself. How foolish!

Don't be ashamed of choosing a different way of life from those around you. Be confident as you prioritize what is above. You are wise in God's eyes, a faithful steward. And

## Jesus teaches us not to be greedy



In today's Gospel reading, a man tells Jesus that his brother is being unfair to him. But Jesus knows that the man is just being greedy, so He tells him the parable of the rich farmer. One year he had such a good harvest that he couldn't fit it all into his barns. He tore down his old barns and built new ones, so that he could store his food for many years. But just when he thought he would be able to rest and enjoy his food, God told him that he would die.

This parable is a warning against being greedy. Jesus is not saying that we should not save some food or that we shouldn't save our money. He is just telling us to remember that we are going to die one day, and then everything we saved is going to be useless for us. He wants us to use the things we have wisely, but not be too attached to them.



Think of something that is really special to you. How would you feel if you lost it or it was taken away? Do your feelings show that you care too much about things? Try to think of your belongings in such a way that if you lost them you wouldn't be too upset. After all, none of your stuff is going to matter to you when you die!

## ~ PARISH NEWS ~

♦ **Mission Co-op Appeal.** Thank you for your generosity in supporting the missions at the Our Lady of Fatima School in India.



♦ **Chicken Q** on Saturday, September 13th— PCCW will be hosting a Chicken Q (prepared by Pogy's Catering).

**'Thank you' to Deacon David Allen and Monsignor Hundt for guiding our parish through the last few months.**

**Also 'Thank you' to all of the priests who were able to celebrate our weekend masses and Deacon Allen for leading us in communion services during the week.**

## ~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

**~Jubilee Year of Hope: Need Hope? Take a Minute to Get to Know "the God of All Hope" (Rom 15:13)**

It is by God's gift of hope that we trust Jesus is with us and will help us through every difficulty, so that we might live with Him forever. Hope helps us to put our priorities in order, so that our relationship with God is central in our lives. We cannot "muster" the virtue of hope with our own will power, but we can ask Jesus for an increase of hope and cooperate with this gift so that our trust in Him might increase. "May the God of all hope fill you with a joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope"

**~DAY AT THE LAKE** Sunday August 3rd, 2025 11:00 to 2:00 Swarthout Park / Lake Neshonoc West Salem W3373 WI-16 We're looking forward to sharing a Sara Style Smile with you! Please feel free to contact Sherry Hougom, 608-792-1045, for more information and registration.

**~ Jubilee 2025 - "Pilgrims of Hope"**

A meaningful way to participate in the Jubilee Year of Hope is by making a pilgrimage, which is different from a vacation. A pilgrimage is to a sacred place and involves stepping out of the normal routine with the goal of coming closer to God. Making a pilgrimage reminds us that in our everyday lives we are pilgrims on a journey to heaven, and therefore, our desire is to grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ with whom we hope to spend eternity. Take this opportunity to receive an abundance of God's grace by making a pilgrimage. The following locations have been set aside as places of pilgrimage:

*The Cathedral of Saint Joseph the Workman - La Crosse*

*The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe - La Crosse*

*Sacred Heart of Jesus Church - Eau Claire*

*Church of the Resurrection Catholic Church - Wausau*

*Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church - Nekoosa*

If planning a pilgrimage outside of normal open hours, call ahead to ensure that the church will be unlocked. For more information on Jubilee 2025 visit: [diolc.org/jubilee-2025-pilgrims-of-hope](http://diolc.org/jubilee-2025-pilgrims-of-hope)

**Pray That we may remember that the many possessions we strive to acquire are worthless in the eyes of the Lord.**



## ~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

### ~Rural Life Day - Sept. 22, 2025 - Warrens, WI

Join us for the 44th Annual Rural Life Day at the Van Wychen Family Farm in Warrens on Monday, Sept. 22! Mass with Bishop Battersby at 10:00 AM will be followed by awards, the blessing of farm animals, crops, and machinery, and a delightful lunch. The Van Wychen Farm is located at 3365 Auger Road, Warrens, WI 54666. This is a day to celebrate rural life and to rejoice in the way its values contribute to the Church at large.

~**Enrollment to Aquinas Catholic Schools** for this school year is now open to current & new families! Call (608) 784-8585 to schedule a tour!

Cathedral Elementary School (La Crosse): 3P - 2nd Grade

St. Patrick Elementary School (Onalaska): 3P - 6th Grade

Blessed Sacrament Elementary School (La Crosse): 3rd Gr- 6th Gr

Aquinas Middle School (La Crosse): 7th Grade - 8th Grade

Aquinas High School (La Crosse): 9th Grade - 12th Grade

Aquinas Catholic Schools is a Christ-centered family devoted to nurturing students of all faiths through educational excellence in its vibrant Catholic tradition. Contact [info@aquinasschools.org](mailto:info@aquinasschools.org) with any questions or visit [www.aquinascatholicschools.org/enrollment](http://www.aquinascatholicschools.org/enrollment) to get started.

### ~"Still the Answer" Eucharistic Rally 2025—August 9th

You won't want to miss "Still the Answer," the Eucharistic Rally at the Pablo Center in Eau Claire on Saturday, August 9th! We have an incredible opportunity to pause, reflect and be renewed in Jesus' presence. This eucharistic rally will bring together Catholics from across the diocese for a day of faith, fellowship and encounter like no other.

### ~Action Alert on Behalf of our International Priests: Urge Congress to Support Foreign-Born Religious Men and Women and the Communities They Serve

An increasing number of priests, religious sisters and brothers, and others serving the Church throughout the United States will be forced to abandon their ministries if policymakers do not act soon. Unfortunately, many parishes, schools, and other Catholic institutions have already had to part with men and women who served them for years because of challenges with the Religious Worker Visa Program. To learn more, and to make your voice heard in favor of the bipartisan Religious Workforce Protection Act, visit [votervoice.net/USCCB/home](http://votervoice.net/USCCB/home). The Diocese of La Crosse is grateful for the ministry of nearly 30 international priests!



## POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTION

August

### FOR MUTUAL COEXISTENCE

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

## ~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

### The Rich Farmer Word-Find

"Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does NOT consist of POSSESSIONS." There was a rich man whose LANDS PRODUCED a BOUNTIFUL HARVEST. He asked himself, 'What shall I do, for I do not have SPACE to store my harvest?' And he said, 'This is what I shall do: I shall TEAR down my BARNs and build LARGER ones. There I shall store all my GRAIN and other GOODS and I shall SAY to MYSELF, "Now as for you, you have so MANY good things STORED up for many years, REST, EAT, DRINK, be MERRY!" But GOD said to him, 'You FOOL, this NIGHT your LIFE will be DEMANDED of you; and the THINGS you have PREPARED, to whom will they belong?'

Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not RICH in what matters to God.

M D O P B A R N S E A T  
E N P R O D U C E D T B  
R R O E U E D R I N K M  
R I S P N M Y S E L F A  
Y C S A T A E G R A I N  
G H E R I N T E A R H Y  
O R S E F D N O T G A G  
O E S D U E L I F E R R  
D S I E L D G O D R V F  
S T O R E D S P A C E O  
L A N D S T H I N G S O  
E D S A Y Y N I G H T L

Find the words from today's Gospel that are written in CAPITALS. Use the left over letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

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\_\_\_\_\_.



### 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)

