

St. Joseph Parish *of* St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse WI 54601

September 21, 2025

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Pastor

Father Sen

Fr. Sengole Vethanayagam
(715) 615-1774

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

1st Saturday of the month....8:30 AM
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

Barb Mikshowskey-Administrative Assistant
Office hours vary, please call 608-788-1646 to
leave a message or email sjrp2601@gmail.com
Bulletin deadline: Wednesday

St. Peter's Parish, Middle Ridge

(608) 452-4680

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday..... 8:00 PM
Sunday 10:00 AM

WEEKDAY MASS

Wednesday..... 8:00 AM
Friday..... 8:00 AM



The person who is
TRUSTWORTHY

In very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones;

and the person who is
DISHONEST

in very small matters is also dishonest in great ones.

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

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

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

"Whoever serves me, the Father will honor." John 12:26

~ PARISH INTENTIONS ~

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

~4:00 pm - Our Parish Family

Lector: Bill Weber

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST

~8:30 am - † Gerald Kneifl (Kneifl family)

Lector: Paula Silha

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD~5:00 pm—*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

~5:30 pm - † Mike Brown (RB)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH

~8:30 am - Rural life

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH

~4:00 pm - † George & Evelyn Miller (T&MP)

Lector: Kathy Leis

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH

~8:30 am - Our Parish Family

Lector: Sally Miller

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- **September 21** ~ Catechetical Sunday
- **October 8** ~ *Sauerkraut Supper*
at St. Peters/Middle Ridge
- **October 21** ~ Pastoral and Finance Council meeting

~ 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 to arrange the anointing of the sick.

* **Confession**

3:30—3:45 pm before Saturday 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. **Mass Intention offering is \$20.00**

~ Contributions for the past week ~

Adult Envelopes (39):	\$ 2,455.00
Plate collection:	\$ 283.00
Total:	\$ 2,738.00

*No servant can serve two masters.*First Reading: Amos 8:4-7Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-8Gospel: Luke 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

The prophet Amos warns those who take advantage of others that the Lord will remember their actions. In his Letter to Timothy, Paul asks that people should pray for everyone, including rulers and those in authority, for God wishes all to be saved. Jesus teaches that just as one must be prudent and trustworthy managing worldly affairs, so one must be, and even more so, in service to God.

Donations: Here are some ways to contribute:

- 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.
- Use the online giving portal set up by the Diocese: <https://diolc.org/st-joseph-parish-st-joseph-ridge/> (processing fees maybe 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)

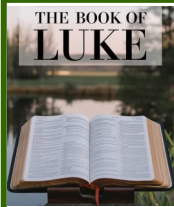
CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE
(608-788-1646 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com)
TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR:

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

Pray that we recognize everything we have, including our money, is a gift from God,
and to generously share our wealth to support the mission of our Church, locally and around the world.



~ STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION ~



**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

After the readings, we cannot say we haven't been warned about the dangers of mixed-up priorities. God's Word is very clear today on the importance of putting Him first in all parts of our lives.

In the First Reading from Amos. The Lord has strong words for those who would exploit the poor and whose priorities are not in line with God's.

In the Second Reading from St. Paul's letter to Timothy, Paul provides the solution to the self-centeredness condemned in our First Reading. The solution is to imitate Christ, "who gave Himself as a ransom for all." Instead of focusing on Himself and how to "get ahead," Christ gave Himself completely for our sake. That is how we should live.

In our Gospel passage from Luke, the Lord shows us how to bridge the gap between worldly priorities and eternal priorities. Jesus tells the parable of the dishonest but clever steward who is about to be fired when the master discovers the steward has been wasting his property. Realizing he will soon be unemployed, the clever steward reaches out to the debtors of his master to negotiate deals, making friends who will look out for him when he loses his job.

What if we applied that same effort to our own tasks as faithful stewards of all God's gifts to us? To our ministries, and to the ways we could create more time for prayer as individuals, couples, families, and a parish? What if we got as inventive with managing our finances as the "bad steward" did, so we could give more generously to the poor and to advancing God's kingdom here on earth? That's our lesson and our challenge.

How Stewardship influences one's discipleship:

In our Catholic faith, stewardship is a transformative way of living that greatly influences a person's spiritual growth by fostering a closer relationship with God, strengthening personal faith, and building a sense of community (aka the kingdom of heaven on earth). It is an ongoing process of conversion, shifting from self-centeredness to a grateful acknowledgment that everything is a gift from God.

How stewardship fosters a deeper relationship with God: By practicing stewardship, a person strengthens their connection to God through gratitude, prayer, and trust in divine providence.

•**Gratitude and humility:** Recognizing that all you have—including your time, talent and treasure—comes from God instills a profound sense of gratitude. This moves the heart away from seeing possessions as a right and toward a humble appreciation of God's generosity.

•**Trust and reliance:** A steward understands that God is the owner and provider of all things. This recognition fosters a profound sense of trust and reliance on God to meet all our needs, even in times of uncertainty or financial hardship.

•**Intimacy through prayer:** Stewardship is rooted in prayer, which is essential for nurturing a personal relationship with God. Through intentional time spent in prayer and reflection, a steward listens for God's call and guidance on how to utilize their gifts most effectively.

•**Imitating Christ:** Jesus is the ultimate model of stewardship, holding nothing back for himself but pouring out his divine nature in love for humanity. By imitating Jesus' self-sacrificial love and service, a person grows closer to him and becomes more like him.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

Religious Education classes started September 17th.



If you have not returned your registration forms, please email Lorie lorieraeliss@gmail.com or call (715) 630-4809

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September 21 has been designated Catechetical Sunday 2025. The theme is "Always be ready to give an explanation for a reason for your hope." (1 Pet 3:15) Parents are truly the primary catechists of their children. They prepare the soil, plant the first seeds of faith and are to foster faith in an ongoing way. On Catechetical Sunday, we not only highlight the work of catechists in parishes and schools, but we also commend parents and guardians and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation.

Learn and Grow with Jesus together

Rectory Remodel:

Over the summer, there were updates completed in the Rectory, but there are a few more updates that need attention. The steps going upstairs are small, short steps being 'awkward' to use. Also the carpet is showing signs of wear. Therefore it has been decided to replace the steps with the standard step layout and replace the carpet.

If you would like to contribute to this project, please make your check payable to St. Joseph Parish. You can mail your check to St. Joseph Parish, W2601 State Rd 33, La Crosse, WI 54601 or put it in the weekend offertory. Thank you.

~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

~ Jubilee Year of Hope 2025 Jesus is Our Hope (1 Timothy 1:1)

In our culture in which the rates of anxiety and depression are at an all-time high, hope is a profound gift from God that is especially important for each person. Scripture connects the gift of hope with the symbol of the anchor because hope grounds us in the sure and firm foundation of salvation in Christ. We open ourselves to the gift of hope when we read Sacred Scripture. During this Jubilee of Hope 2025, we do well to commit to five minutes a day of slowly reading one passage from the Bible, starting with the first chapter of the Gospel of Luke. As we reflect on God's Word, our hope will be strengthened, and we will trust Our Lord in a more profound way.

~Honoring Villa St. Joseph

There will be a closing ritual at the Villa on Friday, September 26th at 3:00 PM. You are invited to join in honoring the sacred memories of the Villa St. Joseph. RSVP (608)782-5610.

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

The 44th Annual Rural Life Day will be held at the Wetherby Cranberry Co., 3365 Auger Road, Warrens, WI on Monday, September 22th. Join Bishop Battersby for Mass at 10:00 am. This is your chance to celebrate rural life, enjoy the beauty of God's.

~Pins & Pirouettes Save the Date! Saturday, October 11.

Come support the Aquinas High School Dance and Wrestling teams by watching their fun partner performances!

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~40 days for Life: You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion that runs from Sept. 24-Nov 2. There is an opening rally on Thursday, Sept. 25 at noon at the Northside Community Church with speaker Ramona Trevina who once worked as a manager of Planned Parenthood and is now an outreach director for the 40 Days for Life. Visit 40daysforlife.com/lacrosse for more information.

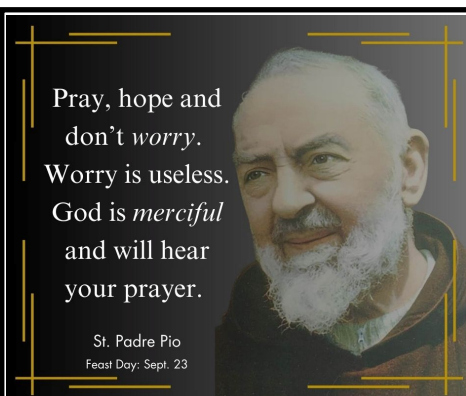
~Blood Drive—St. Joseph Ridge ~ Monday, October 6th 1-6:00 pm
If you have thought about donating blood, you have the opportunity on Monday, May 5th at the Town of Greenfield town hall. You can make an appointment on the Versiti website (versiti.org/wi) or call 877-232-4376 or you can stop in on the 5th. Please consider. Great need!

~Mass of Hope and Healing | Sep 23 | Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman: Bishop Gerard Battersby will celebrate a Mass of Hope and Healing on Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 6:30 pm at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman, La Crosse. This Mass will be offered for anyone grieving the loss of children through miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, abortion, stillbirth, accident or infant death. Volunteers with name tags will be present to offer assistance, support and comfort.

~Annual Pancake Breakfast – Oct 12, 2025

St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley will hold their annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, October 12, 2025 from 7:30 AM – gone or Noon (whichever comes first). Meal includes: delicious stack of pancakes with local real maple syrup, eggs, sausage, applesauce, milk, orange juice and coffee! Also purchase a tasty treat to take home from the bake sale! \$10 for adults, \$5 children ages 6-12, 5 and under free. Make your pancakes just the way you like them with our topping bar!

~Pilgrimage to Mexico with Fr. Tim Oudenhoven - Marian Messengers February 8-13. Come and visit Our Lady of Guadalupe with Fr. Tim Oudenhoven. We will be walking the actual steps of St. Juan Diego and learning firsthand of the incredible message and mission that Mary has for us! For More information visit: www.marianmessengers.org or call 800-842-4842 (Select International Tours in partnership with Theology of the Body Institute)



Feast Day
Memorial of
Saint Pio of
Pietrelcina
(Padre Pio).
September 23rd

Padre Pio bore the
stigmata, the wounds of
Christ, for 50 years. He

received these wounds in 1918 while praying after Mass before a crucifix, during a profound vision of Christ. They remained open and bleeding for the rest of his life.

He was known to spend up to 15–18 hours a day in the confessional, welcoming thousands of souls back to God's mercy. His deep prayer and devotion to the Eucharist drew countless people closer to Christ.

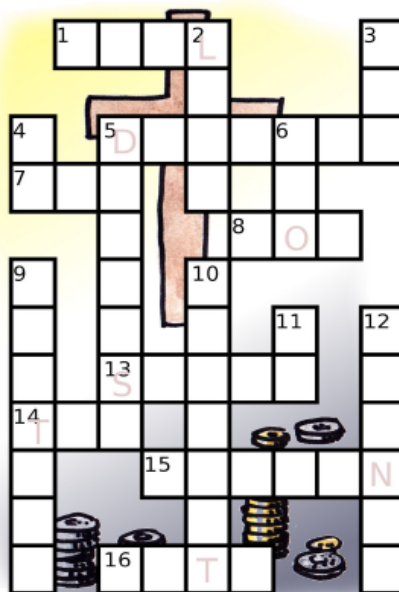
Because he lived so recently (1887–1968), many still remember him as a living witness of holiness in our own time.

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

Whom Do You Serve? Cross-Word

Use the words in the list to fill in the blanks in today's Gospel reading and fit them into the puzzle.

A=Across D=Down



CANNOT
HATE
MASTERS
SERVANT
MAMMON
THE
SERVE
HE
DESPISE
YOU
TWO
ONE
LOVE
NO
DEVOTED
GOD
WILL

" _____ 4D _____ 10D can serve _____ 6D
_____ ; 9D for either _____ 11D will _____ 16A
the one and _____ 2D _____ 14A other, or he
_____ 1A be _____ 5A to the _____ 7A
and _____ 5D the other. _____ 8A
_____ 12D _____ 13A _____ 3D and
_____ " 15A

Believing that our Father in heaven always hears and answers us, let us approach him humbly with our petitions.

† For the Church, may the Holy Spirit renew and sustain her mission, let us pray to the Lord.

† For public officials, may the Lord inspire them in advocating for just policies to protect human life at all stages, let us pray to the Lord.

† For all who suffer with chronic illness, may Jesus, the Divine Physician, heal them in body and spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

† For this faith community, may God watch over us and protect us always, let us pray to the Lord.

† For all who have died in the peace of Christ, may they find eternal peace in his heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.

Father in heaven, hear our prayers and answer them in your goodness, we ask, through Christ our Lord.

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

