

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

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse WI 54601

## September 28, 2025

### *Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*



#### Pastor

***Father Sen***

Fr. Sengole Vethanayagam  
(715) 615-1774

frsengolevema@gmail.com

#### 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 Mikshowsky-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

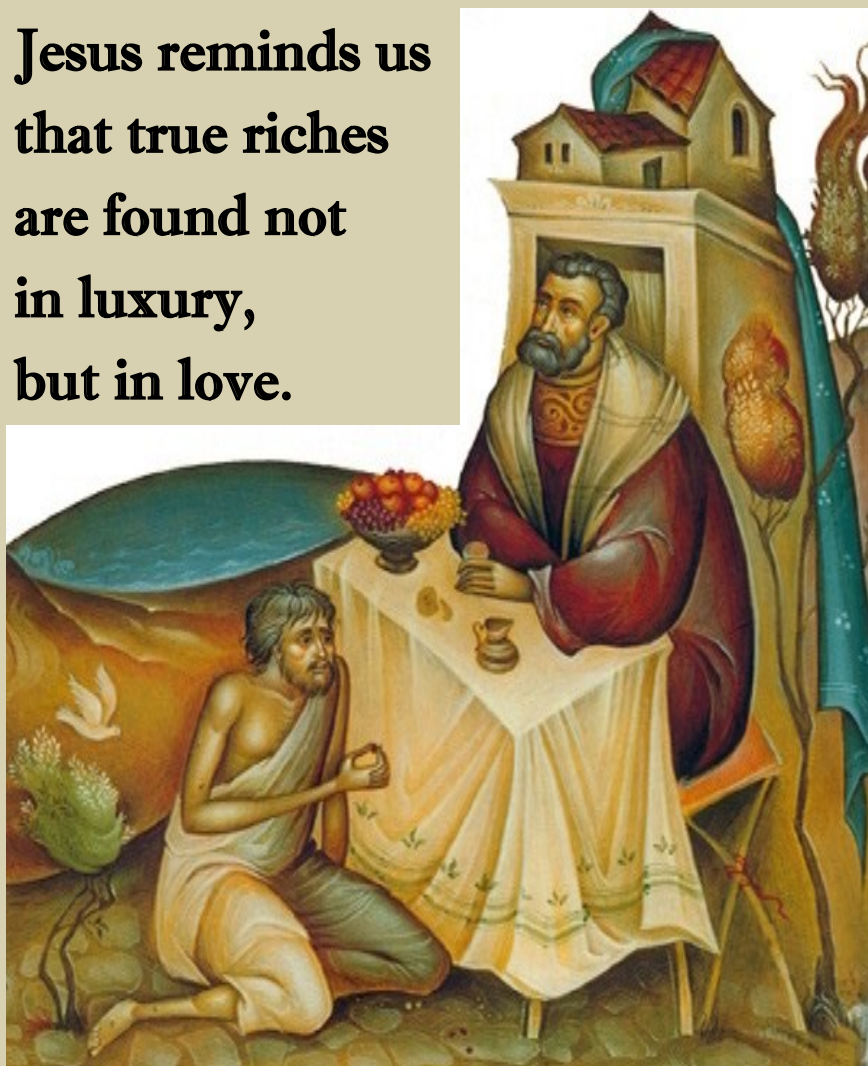
Sunday ..... 10:00 AM

#### WEEKDAY MASS

Wednesday..... 8:00 AM

Friday..... 8:00 AM

**Jesus reminds us  
that true riches  
are found not  
in luxury,  
but in love.**



#### **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, 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

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH**

~5:00 pm—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
 ~5:30 pm - † Jim Drexler (MD)

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2ND**

~8:30 am - † Jim Drexler (MD)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4TH**

~8:30 am - † Jim Drexler (MD)  
 ~4:00 pm - † Robert Dowiasch Sr (CB)  
 Lector: Kathy Leis  
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5TH**

~8:30 am - † Alice, Robert, Larry, Patty, Bill Silha  
 Lector: Paula Silha (D&JD)  
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

## ~ Contributions for the past week ~

Adult Envelopes (34):	\$ 4,852.00
Plate collection:	\$ 329.00
Donation -> Rectory steps:	\$ 400.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 5,581.00</b>

Lazarus and the Rich Man

First Reading: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

The word of God teaches us to pursue righteousness rather than selfishness. When we ourselves suffer, as Jesus did for us, we grow in humility and empathy toward others. We learn to re-evaluate our priorities and place love for God and our neighbor above pleasure, power, and wealth. Though not a good in itself, suffering can change our hearts, move us to repentance, and return us to God.

## ~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- **October 8 ~ Sauerkraut Supper**  
at St. Peters/Middle Ridge
- **October 21~** Pastoral and Finance Council meeting
- **October 25 & 26 ~** Diocesan Annual Appeal begins

Bishop Battersby is inviting all of us to begin a serious process of renewal and conversion, personally and institutionally, throughout the Diocese of La Crosse. You are invited to attend a 90-minute session. A team will travel to facilitate 40 of these, inviting all of us to share in the first steps of what will be an extended process of strategic and pastoral planning. Please signup on this website:  
[www.dioalc.org/rebuildmychurch](http://www.dioalc.org/rebuildmychurch)



Next session in our area will be at  
**St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Sparta**  
 on Sunday, September 28th 1:00 pm

**Communion Antiphon:**

(Prayed prior to receiving the Eucharist)

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,  
 by which you have given me hope.  
 This is my comfort when I am brought low.

## ~ 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 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](mailto:sjrp2601@gmail.com). **Mass Intention offering is \$20.00**



~ STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION ~

**TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

We have all been given great power by God in the form of Time, Talents, and Treasure. Today's readings remind us that this power is meant to be used for good. And that failing to do so has eternal consequences.

We recognize the urgency of using our gifts wisely, as highlighted in today's Gospel passage from Luke. Our Lord shares the powerful parable of the rich man who neglects poor Lazarus during their lives. At the moment of the rich man's death, he descends to the netherworld, while Lazarus is taken to eternal joy and comfort in the bosom of Abraham. The rich man deeply regrets his neglect of Lazarus's needs, but it is too late for regret. His actions have unfolded, and now he must face the consequences of not using the gifts God provided. This parable also reassures us that living a stewardship way of life brings joy and comfort in this life and the next.

Pursuing God's kingdom and caring for the poor are not trivial matters. Our Lord clearly emphasizes this repeatedly in the Scriptures and through the ongoing teachings of our 2,000-year-old Church. We are free to ignore these teachings and live for ourselves instead. However, there will be tragic consequences for us in the end. Since we are meant for eternity, living selfishly on this earth doesn't truly bring us lasting happiness.

So, how can we use our great powers for good? By embracing a stewardship way of life. *By putting God first in all areas of our lives* — in how we spend our time, how we share our talents, and how we give of our financial resources. Stewardship living challenges us to step out of our comfort zones and into commitment to the Lord and what matters to Him.

**Rectory Maintenance:**

Last week a window was replaced in the Rectory's main floor bathroom. (The window was old and painted shut-could not be opened).



Then looking at the windows, the outside framework on some of the windows need painting!

Rick Meyer was able to get the painting done this week. Thank you Rick!

~ PARISH NEWS ~



Thank you to the parishioners that have stepped up to assist parents in teaching the Faith to our youth. It wouldn't happen without them!

Rueben Mendoza ~ Grade 10 &

Confirmation Preparation

Terry Dickman ~ Grade 9

Mary Reeck ~ Grade 7 and 8

Grace Bayer ~ Grade 5

Becca Amundsen ~ Grade 3

Stacey Burns - Substitute; Sherry Hougom and Lisa Meyer to host and assist with for our special events.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to them if you would like to make a contribution to their classroom for needed materials, or assist with anything.

It really does take a village and we are all on the same journey to help one another to get to heaven.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Just a reminder to students that they should be working on their Art Contest Design as the final project is **due October 15**. Their teacher must approve of their design before they get their canvas to use for the project.

The Art work is to represent the

**Theme: Our Catholic Faith Gives Hope to the World**

Parishioners are needed to assist with judging the Art.

**Learn and Grow with Jesus together**

**Rectory Project ~ Stairs going upstairs**

The steps 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.

~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

**~ Jubilee Year of Hope ~ Jesus is Our Hope (1 Tim 1:1)**

God created you out of love. He knows and loves you unconditionally and He wants you to know Him. As with any relationship, you need to continue to deepen your friendship with Jesus in an ongoing way. Ask Jesus to increase your hope in Him, with the confidence that He knows you, even with your weaknesses and sins and He will always love you unreservedly. You can trust Him! Jesus said, "I came that you may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). Let us not miss this opportunity during the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025.

**~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](http://40daysforlife.com/lacrosse) for more information.

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~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](http://versiti.org/wi)) or call 877-232-4376 or you can stop in on the 5th. Please consider. Great need!

~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](http://www.marianmessengers.org) or call 800-842-4842 (Select International Tours in partnership with Theology of the Body Institute)

~Reasons To Celebrate!

*Wedding Anniversary Blessings:* At the first weekend masses Father Sen will bless all of the Wedding Anniversaries for the month.

*Birthday Blessings:* At the second weekend masses, Father Sen will bless the birthdays for the month.

~October is Respect Life Month:

In October, the Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the first Sunday of October is designated as Respect Life Sunday. To support these annual observances, the USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities provides materials to help Catholics understand and value the gift of human life and help build a culture that cherishes and protects it. See this website <https://www.respectlife.org/respect-life-month> to view and download resources.

~Franciscan Spirituality Center's new podcast

**'What is Spirituality?'** Your host, FSC spiritual director Steve Spilde, explores a variety of topics related to our understanding of connection, the divine, compassionate listening and the search for meaning and wholeness. See the website: <https://www.fscenter.org/content/programs-retreats/podcast-what-is-spirituality>

**Annual Sauerkraut  
Supper**  
Eat-In or Carry-out

**St. Peter's Church**  
Middle Ridge, Wisconsin  
(W697 Highway 33, Rockland, WI)

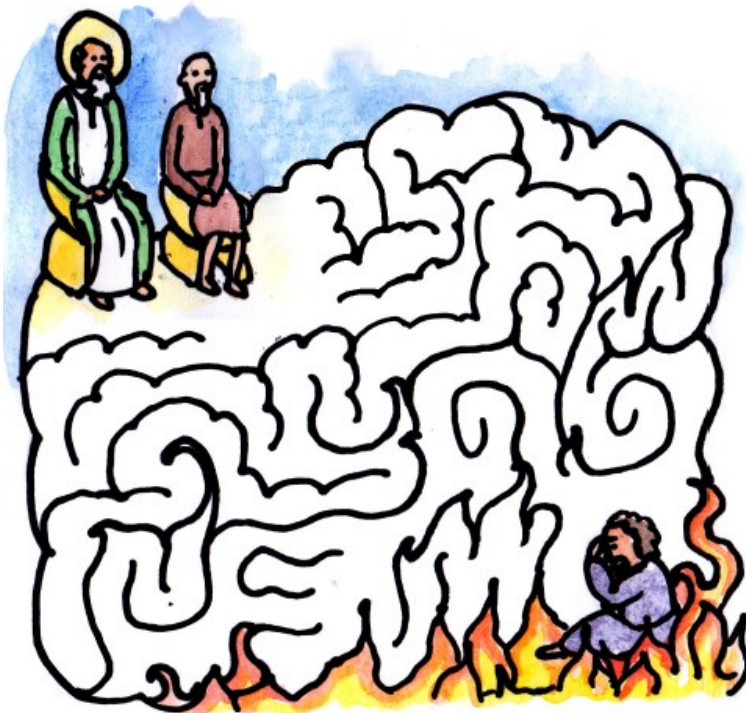
**Wednesday October 8, 2025**  
Serving 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Church-made Kraut & Pork, Polish Sausage, Glazed carrots, Mashed potatoes and Gravy, Home-made pie

Cost of Dinner <b>\$16.00</b> Raw Kraut (2.5 lb) available for <b>\$5.00</b>	Beverage Tent Bake Sale Raffles
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~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

**26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**September 28th, 2025**



Luke 16:19-31

*In Jesus' parable, the rich man  
asks Abraham to send Lazarus to him  
with a drop of cool water.  
But can Lazarus cross between  
Heaven and Hell?  
See if the maze will let him cross.*

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

† For an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, may God equip young men and women to respond to his call to prayer, service, and sacrifice, 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 members of our faith community, may Jesus deepen our commitment to spreading the Gospel message, 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.

**Heavenly Father, we praise your goodness and ask you to look with favor upon our petitions which we offer. Through Christ our Lord.**

