

St. Joseph Parish *of* St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse WI 54601

January 11, 2026 ~ *The Baptism of the Lord*



*“Behold the One
of whom John
said: I have seen
and testified
that this is the
Son of God.”*

John 1:32, 34

Pastor Father Sen

Fr. Sengole Vethanayagam
(715) 615-1774

frsengolevema@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE

Paula Silha—Administrative Assistant

Barb Mikshowsky - Bookkeeper

Office hours vary, please call 608-788-1646

sjrp2601@gmail.com

CONFESSIONS

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

St. Joseph Parish, St. Joseph Ridge

(608) 788-1646

Weekend Mass Schedule

1st Saturday of the month 8:00 AM

Saturday 4:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM

Weekday Schedule

ADORATION

Tuesday 5:00 PM

MASS

Tuesday 5:30 PM

Thursday 8:00 AM

St. Peters Parish, Middle Ridge

(608) 452-4680

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 8:00 PM

Sunday 10:00 AM

Weekday Schedule

Wednesday 8:00 AM

Friday 8:00 AM

ADORATION

Wednesday 7:00 PM with

Benediction at 8:05 PM

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, JANUARY 10TH

~4:00 pm - † Guanella & Strittmater Families (CS)

Lector: Jim Weber

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11TH

~8:00 am - Our Parish Family

Lector: Donna Clements

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13TH~5:00 pm—*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

~5:30 pm - For the Intentions of Father Sen (D&TB)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15TH

~8:00 am - Reiny & Darlene Kammel (J&SD)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17TH

~4:00 pm - Our Parish Family

Lector: Bill Weber

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18TH**The Baptism of the Lord**

~8:00 am— † Sharon (LeJeune) Tarpening (S&SM)

Lector: Sally Miller

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- ♦ **January 10 & 11**—Blessing of January Birthdays
- ♦ **January 14**— Religious Education classes continue
~ Grades 1 to 5, 6:pm to 6:55 pm
~ Grades 6 to 10, 7:05 pm to 8:55 pm
- ♦ **January 19**—PCCW Mtg, 6:30 pm at School Hall
All ladies of the Parish are welcome.
- ♦ **January 21**—Religious Education classes continue

~ 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 with
Spending time with our Dear Lord!!!

* **Anointing of the Sick**—Call Father Sen at (715) 615-1774 or 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 Mass or by appointment.

* **Mass Intentions**

Weekday and weekend mass intentions are available. Please contact the Parish office phone 608/788-1646, use envelopes in the back of church, or email sjrp2601@gmail.com.

A Mass Intention offering is \$20.00

~ Contributions for the past week ~
(New Year's Day and Weekend masses)

Adult Envelopes (43):	\$1,665.00
Plate collection:	\$ 316.85
Initial Offering (16):	\$ 130.00
Solemnity of Mary:	\$ 105.00
Total Contributions:	\$ 2216.86



2025-26 Goal:	\$23,975.00
Pledged:	\$ 17,635.00
Percent of Goal Rec'd	70.01%
Received:	\$ 16,785.00
Amount Under Goal:	\$ 7,190.00

Thank you, and may God bless your generosity.

Your contributions, regardless of size, are sincerely appreciated and acknowledged. Your support is valued, and as members of our community, you are greatly appreciated. There is more information regarding the Diocesan Annual Appeal at this link

<https://diolc.org/stewardship/appeal-portal/>

~ STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION ~



January 11, 2026 -

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

IS 42:1-4, 6-7; PS 29: 1-4, 9-10; ACTS 10:34-38; MT 3:13-17

Today marks the close of the Christmas season, but before we return to Ordinary Time, we have one more great feast to celebrate — The Baptism of the Lord. Today's feast is a perfect opportunity to reflect on the privileges and responsibilities we all share as Christian stewards by virtue of our Baptism. At our Baptism, we became adopted sons and daughters of God and members of His Holy Catholic Church. Unknowingly, this moment also marks the beginning of our journey as Christian stewards, disciples of Jesus Christ, called to follow His example and share the Gospel message daily. In our second reading from the Acts of the Apostles, St. Peter offers a glimpse of Jesus, whom we should imitate. "He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him." This should inspire us to follow Jesus' example of doing good to everyone we meet. In the Gospel passage from Matthew, we see Jesus humbly standing before John for baptism. His act of humility and willingness to unite Himself to us invites us to reflect on our own humility and desire to serve as His disciples in daily life. And when we do strive with all our might to live out our Baptismal call to Christian stewardship, we will experience the profound honor of knowing that we, too, are God's "beloved" sons and daughters "with whom He is well-pleased."



Sincere Sympathy

to the family of

Patrick Clements

who passed away on Thursday, January 1th.

Funeral Services were held Thursday, January 8 at 11:00 am

Please offer Prayers for Patrick's family

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May the soul of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

- + **Volunteers needed!** Give back and serve our Parish family. You can help by becoming a Mass server, Eucharistic minister, Usher or Lector. Training is provided. To find out more, add your name to the interest list on the bulletin board in back of church.
- + Families of Religious Ed classes grades 9-12, look for an email from Lorie Liss in the new year with information about the potential **Mission Trip to Casa Hogar in Lurin, Peru.** In addition to St. Peter's Middle Ridge, students from St. Teresa Kolkata will also be welcomed to participate.
- + **Food donations:** Please continue to bring non-perishable food donations to the back of church. Donations will be taken to the Hunger Task Force which supplies food pantries in our area. Donations will be delivered monthly.
- + **Rectory phone:** A phone line and phone have been added to the sacristy/rectory. The ringer is turned off but the line is active and available for outgoing calls.
- + **First Aid Kit:** The Parish has a first aid kit located in the confessional near the back of church. Additional signage will be posted to alert people of the location as needed.

~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

~Jubilee Year of Hope The New Year 2026: Jesus is Our Hope (1 Tim. 1:1) Moving forward in this New Year, we are called to be beacons of hope in the world, as called for in Romans 15:13: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope." Let us continue to ask the Lord to increase our faith and hope in Him so that as beacons, we will help others to encounter Jesus through acts of love and mercy.

~Embracing the Call to Holiness – The Eau Claire Deanery and the La Crosse Diocesan Council of Catholic Women jointly sponsor the "Call to Holiness" A Woman's Retreat day being hosted by St. James the Greater Catholic Church in Eau Claire on March 14, 2026. Registration forms are located on the tables in the back of church, early bird registration ends February 15th. Women from all over the diocese are welcome to attend. Contact the parish office.

~Mardi Gras—Save the Dates:

Mardi Gras Ball: Sat., January 31, 2026, 4:30pm Radisson Ballroom, Tickets are \$75.00 and can be purchased online at: www.lacrossemaidigras

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~



National Religious Freedom Day:
January 16—Observed annually since 1993, to celebrate the right of religious diversity, freedom of conscience, and the right to practice faith without coercion.

~January 17 Pro-Life Workshop with Emily Geiger:

Effective Dialogue with 'Pro-Choice' People - What we've learned from talking with thousands. Join us for an engaging and practical workshop with Emily Geiger of the Equal Rights Institute, designed to help Catholics communicate the truth about the dignity of human life with clarity, charity, and confidence. Emily's proven approach to pro-life dialogue has been tested on college campuses across the country. A dynamic and thoughtful speaker, she has appeared on MSNBC, EWTN, Relevant Radio, Focus on the Family, Christianity Today and more. This workshop will equip participants with concrete tools for meaningful, respectful conversations—especially in challenging or emotionally charged situations.

Date: Jan. 17 Time: 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Location: Our Lady of Peace Parish, 1414 W 5th St., Marshfield 54449

Visit diolc.org/respect-life for complete details

Celebrating Growth: The 156 parishes of our diocese have been taking Mass counts for over two decades. Average Mass attendance in 2025 was 42,952 - an increase of 1.5% from 2024. Even with a large number of deaths, our Mass attendance has increased each year for five straight years. Praise God!

Spiritual Communion

Clip this prayer to use as needed when you are not able to receive communion.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

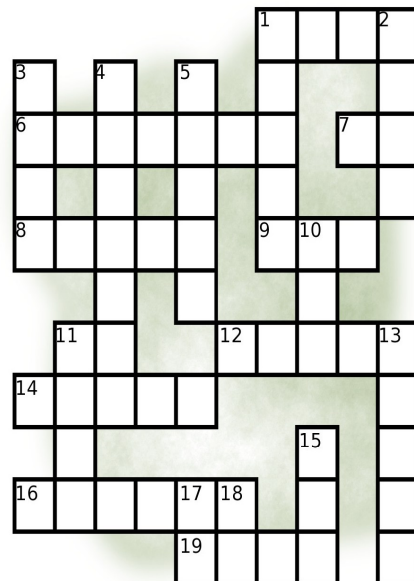
My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire You with all my heart.
Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,
I ask You to come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already in my heart
and unite myself to You completely.
Please do not let me ever be separated from You.
Amen.



~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

Jesus' Baptism Cross-Word Puzzle

See if you can find all these words relating to Jesus' baptism and fit them into the puzzle:

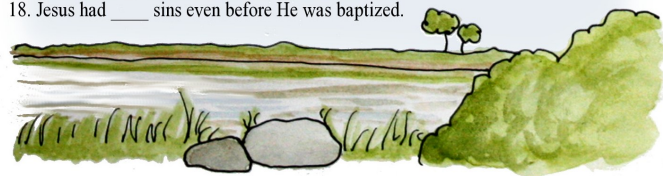


Across:

1. What was the name of the man who baptized Jesus?
6. The _____ opened and the Holy Spirit came down.
7. John said to Jesus, "You should baptize _____!"
8. John baptized with _____.
9. "This is my beloved _____ with whom I am well pleased."
11. "This _____ my beloved Son..."
12. _____ Jesus was baptized He came out of the river.
14. Once John had said about Jesus, "I am not worthy to _____ His sandal"
16. What was the name of the river where Jesus was baptized?
19. Jesus _____ John that it was fitting for Him to be baptized.

Down:

1. Who had never done a sin but was baptized anyway?
2. John said, "I _____ to be baptized by you!"
3. Jesus did this to _____ us how important baptism is.
4. The John in this story is called John the _____.
5. They _____ a voice from Heaven.
10. John came _____ of the desert to preach and baptize.
11. When we are baptized, the Holy Spirit comes _____ our soul.
13. Jesus was baptized in a _____.
15. The Heavens opened and the Spirit of _____ appeared.
17. Jesus came from Galilee to John _____ the Jordan.
18. Jesus had _____ sins even before He was baptized.



Trusting in God's merciful and abundant love, we bring our prayers and petitions to him.

+ May our Parish Family grow in faith and hope, as we help others encounter Jesus as we practice of our faith.

+ For all who feel separated from their faith, may we be a welcoming parish family and help them to return to the practice of their faith, we pray to the Lord...

+ For all those who have lost loved ones during the past year that they will find comfort in family, friends and neighbors, peace in the coming of Jesus and hope for healing in the new year, we pray to the Lord...

God our Father, we beg you to hear and grant our prayers, through Christ our Lord.