

St. Joseph Parish *of* St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse WI 54601

February 1, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



*It is better to be a child
of God than king of the
whole world.*

ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA

Pastor Father Sen

Fr. Sengole Vethanayagam
(715) 615-1774

frsengolevema@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE

Paula Silha—Administrative Assistant

Barb Mikshowskey - 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 31ST

~4:00 pm - † Francis Schmidt & Roxanne Blakely (IS)

Lector: Cecilia Weber

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST

~8:00 am - † Brent Clements (C&SC)

Lector: Lorie Liss

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD~5:00 pm—*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

~5:30 pm - † Irene and Larry Trinkes (RB)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH

~8:00 am - † Herb Breidel (TV)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

~8:00 am - Our Parish Family

~4:00 pm - † Madonna Bahr (DL)

Lector: Donna Clementa

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: La Verne Clements

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

~8:00 am - † Ken and Lois Davis (J&SD)

Lector: Teresa Brown

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- ◇ **January 31 & February 1**—Blessing of February Wedding Anniversaries
- ◇ **January 31 & February 1**—Four Chaplains Sunday Recognition
- ◇ **February 4**—Religious Education
- ◇ **February 7**—8:00 am 1st Saturday of the month morning mass
- ◇ **February 7 & 8**—St. Blaise, Blessing of Throats
- ◇ **February 8**—Coffee and Conversation following the 8am Mass in the Parish/School Hall

~ 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 ~

Adult Envelopes (37):	\$ 2,272.00
Plate collection:	\$ 302.00
Initial Offering (1)	\$ 5.00
Total Contributions:	\$ 2,579.00



2025-26 Goal:	\$23,975.00
Pledged:	\$ 17,660.00
Percent of Goal Rec'd	73.7%
Received:	\$ 16,835.00
Amount Under Goal:	\$ 7,140.00

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 ~



February 1, 2026 - Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

ZEP 2:3 – 3: 12-13; PS 146: 6-10; 1 COR 1: 26-31; MT 5: 1-12A

The Gospel Reading for today is commonly known as the Sermon on the Mount. Many consider it the epitome of Jesus' teachings. To be sure, it tells us how we are to live and the attitudes we are to adopt. We must remember that those who were waiting and hoping for the Messiah expected a military leader who would lead them in battle against their oppressors. Reflect on how these teachings challenge your daily actions and attitudes, thereby deepening your spiritual life.

In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus offers a perspective that invites us to embrace spiritual humility. He begins the Beatitudes with "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Recognizing our own spiritual poverty can foster humility and dependence on God's guidance, which are essential to our growth and faith journey.

That is why we often say that living God-centered lives is central to stewardship. Being a disciple of Christ means being a steward of our many gifts and blessings. Some scholars believe that Jesus may have given this sermon often during His ministry. Those who followed Jesus and became the earliest Christians, the first members of the Church, were fond of quoting and referring to what the Lord said on this occasion. As stated, Jesus provides the secret to living a good life. If we rely on Him and follow Him, we will be blessed.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

+ **Lenten Preparation Opportunities:** Lent begins on Feb. 18th with Ash Wednesday. Here are some ways to plan your Lenten growth.

1. **Parish Bible Study:** Plans are being made to host a book study during Lent. More details coming.

2. **Ascension app:** Find daily Lenten video reflections At this site. www.ascensionpress.com/pages/ascension-app

3. **Hallow prayer and meditation app:** (downloadable on App Store and Google Play) Find God's Peace in Prayer. Join Mark Wahlberg and Jonathan Roumie on Hallow. Free prayers have a sparkle icon.

4. **Stations of the Cross:** You are welcome to come and pray the Stations of the Cross on Wednesdays during Lent at 7pm at St. Josephs.

+ **Palm Basket:** A basket has been placed in the back of church for your old palms. Ashes used for Ash Wednesday come from these palms.

+ **Food donations:** Please continue to bring non-perishable food donations to the back of church. Office staff delivered donated items to the Hunger Task Force this week. Thank you for your generosity. .

+ **Church envelopes:** Boxes that remain are located in the Parish Office. Call the office to have your box brought to Church for pick up. Donation statements were mailed this week.

+ **Visits to the Homebound:** Fr. Sen will begin visits to Parish members who are homebound Feb. 5th and the first Thursday of every month.

+ **PCCW Offering Coffee and Conversations:** Feb. 8th following the 8am Mass is the first PCCW Parish Coffee and Conversation. Please come to the Parish/School Hall for coffee, muffins and juice. Gatherings are also planned for March and April.

+ **Parish Office Hours:** Tentative staffing will be Tues., Thurs., and Fridays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Changes will be posted on the Parish/School Hall Doorway. Thank you for your patience during the move and new staff training.

Welcome to
Harlow
Rose
Hougum
daughter of
Siera and
Tim Hougum.



Harlow was baptized on
Sat., January 24th.

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~

~Jubilee Year of Hope The New ~Trust! God's Gift of Hope Never Disappoints Christian hope anchors our souls to the promises of God, who is faithful and true. It assures us that no matter our failures, His mercy and love are stronger.

~Pancake Breakfast! Coon Valley American Legion is hosting a pancake breakfast on Sun., February 1st from 8:00AM to Noon. Pancakes, sausage, biscuits and gravy, coffee and Juice.

~Catholic Charities Warming Center: Extreme weather this Jan. prompts even greater needs at the Warming Center. Needed are volunteers, monetary donations, or personal care items.. Learn more by visiting their website at: www.cclse.org/la-crosse-warming-center/

~Rachel Ministries: Do you know someone who is carrying the grief and sorrow of losing a child through miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirth, or abortion? Rachel Ministries of the Diocese of La Crosse offers a compassionate heart and confidential help. Call 608.860.6698 or email Hope4U@diolc.org.

~TV Mass Times and Channels: Mass is broadcast on La Crosse Channel 19 at 9:30 am Sunday.

~Diocesan Annual Appeal Continues: Please continue to consider making a donation. Envelopes and forms are in the back of church. Amounts over goal are returned to our Parish.

~Worldwide Marriage Encounter- February 13-15, 2026 Sparrows Nest at The Abbey, 17304 Havenwood Dr, Sparta Looking for a way to rekindle the love and romance in your marriage? Your marriage is your most important human relationship. This powerful experience of discovery helps you renew your commitment, deepen your intimacy and reignite the passion that brought you together. Space is limited....apply by phone to Apply by phone to save your spot today 888-574-5653

~Fish Fry Season is coming! Lent brings opportunities to enjoy fish fries at a neighboring parish. St. Pat's, Onalaska and St. Charles Borromeo, Genoa, both host Friday Fish Fry events

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

Beatitudes Word Find

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

Find the words in CAPITALS from today's Gospel reading in the puzzle and use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks.

"Blessed are the POOR in SPIRIT, for theirs is the kingdom of HEAVEN. Blessed are they who MOURN, for they will be COMFORTED. BLESSED are the meek, for they will INHERIT the land. Blessed are THEY WHO hunger and thirst for RIGHTEOUSNESS, for

they will be SATISFIED.

Blessed are the MERCIFUL, for they will be shown MERCY.

Blessed are the CLEAN of HEART, for they will see GOD.

Blessed are the PEACEMAKERS,

for they will be called CHILDREN of God.

Blessed are they who are PERSECUTED for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the KINGDOM of heaven.

Blessed are you when they INSULT you and persecute you and utter every KIND of evil against you FALSELY

BECAUSE of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be GREAT in heaven."

If you be like Jesus, you

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

+ For the protection of all life from conception to natural death, we pray to the Lord...

+ For lasting resolutions to conflicts around the world, especially in Ukraine and the Middle East., we pray to the Lord...

+ For those in consecrated life, that they may persevere in their commitment to the Lord and serve with joyful hearts and total dedication, we pray to the Lord...

+ For reasonable resolutions to concerns about immigration and respect for those who looking for a better life, we pray to the Lord....

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

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