

St. Joseph Parish *of* St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse WI 54601

March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Lent



Put
GOD
in the center—
and everything will
come together.

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
Vacant-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

~ STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION ~



March 22, 2026 - Fifth Sunday of Lent
EZ 37:12-14; PS 130:1-8; ROM 8:8-11; JN
11:1-45 or JN 11:3-7, 20-27, 33b-45

At this point in our Lenten journey, it is tempting to grow weary of the spiritual disciplines we have embraced. Today's readings inspire us to remain faithful, in grateful response to a God who loves us so much.

In our first reading, the prophet Ezekiel speaks God's own words to us. "I will put my spirit in you that you may live... I have promised, and I will do it, says the Lord." Our God wants to be so closely united to us that we are one with Him. He has promised He will do it. But only if we make room for Him by making Him THE priority of our lives. Putting God first is a grateful response that pleases Him greatly.

How can we do this? Our second reading, from Romans, tells us. "Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh... You are in the spirit if only the Spirit of God dwells in you."

The disciplines of Lent and a stewardship way of life are wonderful gifts that free us from excessive attachment to "the flesh." The sacrifices we make as Christian stewards are not meant to restrict our freedom and joy. Quite the contrary. They are tools to help us find the real freedom and joy that come only when we make room in our lives for God.

As we draw closer to the Passion of our Lord, let us deepen our Lenten resolutions and our stewardship way of life, inviting the Holy Spirit to take over more and more of our lives. By Easter, we will be freer to rejoice in Him and truly pleasing to God.

Are you hearing the call to return—
 to the sacraments and to your Parish Family?
 Pray for the grace to make a good confession.
 Use this prayer.

Come, Holy Spirit, enlighten my mind that I may clearly see all my sins. Move my will to sincere sorrow, trusting in Your Divine Mercy. May this confession make me ever more worthy to be a living tabernacle for my Eucharistic Lord.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

† **Diocesan Annual Appeal:** \$4,805 is still needed towards the Annual Appeal goal. Thanks for your support. Amount over goal is returned to our Parish.

† **Holy Week Participation Opportunities:**

Holy Thursday—Washing of the Feet—Fr. Sen would like to have 12 Parish members participate in Holy Thursday, Washing of Feet. Families, couples or individuals may volunteer. Please let Fr. Sen know your interest.

Holy Thursday—Adoration Hours: after services to 11pm. Sign up on the bulletin board in Church.

† **Cemetery Flowers Mailing:** Information about Cemetery Flowers will be mailed in the next week. Please watch for the mailing and respond if you participate in this opportunity.

† **Eucharistic Ministers:** Father Sen provided training and review to these Parish Members who have agreed to serve. They will be commissioned to this ministry on Palm Sunday weekend Masses.

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Mary Reeck | Stacy Burns |
| Terry Dickman | Barb Dickman |
| Jolene DeMaiffe | Paula Silha |
| Sally Miller | Donna Clements |
| Barb Mikshowsky | Teresa Brown |
| Michelle Hundt | Mary Marshall |
| Darlene Hundt | Lorie Liss |

† **PCCW Scholarship:** The PCCW is offering graduating high school students attending college this fall to apply for a scholarship. To apply please submit a short essay describing your involvement in the parish and plans for future education, a transcript of your grades and photo if available. Please mail to the parish office—W2601 St Rd 33, La Crosse, WI 54601 or put in the collection box at church. Applications are due by May 15th.

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~



During the holy season of Lent, the Church invites us to deepen our prayer, fasting and almsgiving as we prepare our hearts for Easter. Almsgiving is more than just an act of kindness; it is a response of love to Christ, who teaches us to care for the poor and to see Him in those who are suffering. All that we have is a gift from God, and Lent calls us to offer those gifts back to Him through generous service to others. Our sacrifices and offerings also strengthen the Church's mission to bring the light of Christ to the world. By supporting the works of the Church, we help care for both the material and spiritual needs of our brothers and sisters. May this Lenten season renew in us a spirit of gratitude, compassion and trust, so that with joyful hearts, we may grow closer to Our Lord and love our neighbor more faithfully.

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

~Chrim Mass | March 31, 2026 |Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman The Chrim Mass is one of the diocesan highlights at which the Bishop blesses the oils for the celebration of the Sacraments of Baptism, the Anointing of the Sick, and consecrates the Sacred Chrim used in the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Orders. Priests also renew their priestly promises at this Mass, and the faithful pray for them. The Chrim Mass will be celebrated on March 31, at 10:30 am at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral. Please consider attending!

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

~Lenten Regulations:

Lenten regulations are as follows:

1. Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent and Good Friday.
2. Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, until they celebrate their 59th birthday, are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to this regulation may eat only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. Abstinence from meat also applies to this age group.

~Fish Fry Season is here! Have you enjoyed a Lenten fish fry? St. Pat's, Onalaska and St. Charles Borromeo, Genoa, both host Lenten Friday Fish Fry events. Call ahead for timing and dates.

~Healing Mass and Service Monday, March 23, 2026—

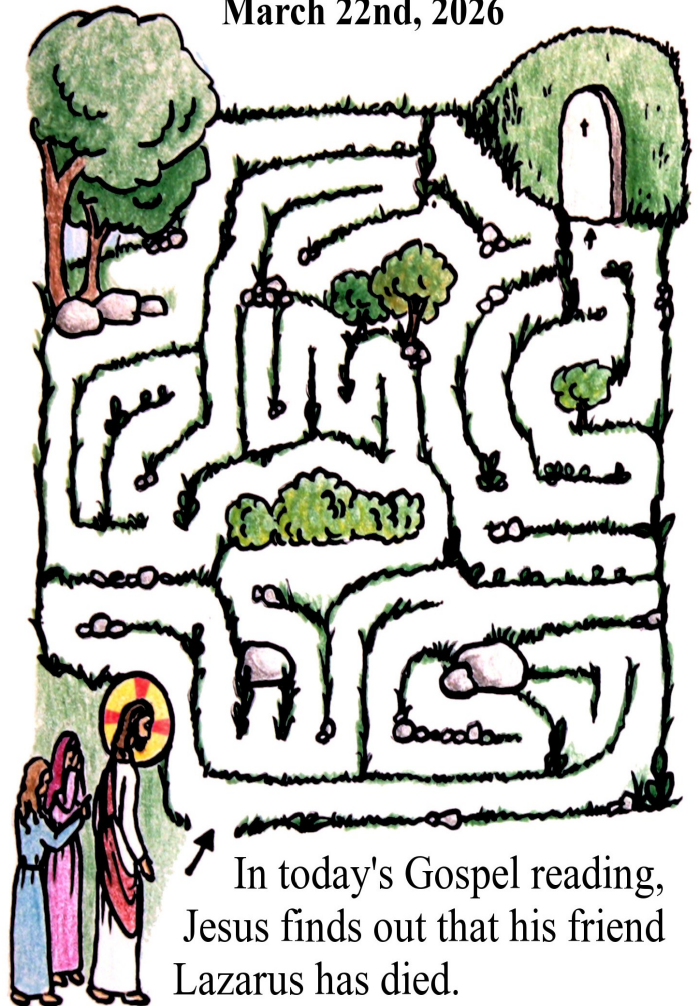
Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Viroqua, will host this service. All are welcome to attend
4:30 PM Adoration (with Praise & Worship, Rosary, Divine Mercy, and Confessions)
5:30 PM Mass; 6:00 PM Corporate Prayer for Healing
7:00 PM Individual Prayer Ministry

~Sacrament Of Reconciliation— It is recommended that Catholics receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least twice each year. You may have been away from this healing sacrament and Lent is the perfect time to return. Chapter 1 of **The Seven Pillars of Catholic Spirituality** book given during the Christmas Season, provides insight to the value of this sacrament. Page 38 of the book includes a QR code you can scan to request a free "Simple Guide to Confession". Check it out. Ponder these thoughts as you consider your journey back to reconciliation:

- + You wash and clean your car to remove salt, mud and dirt—doesn't your soul deserve to be clean?
- + You would not eat a meal off of a dirty plate—receiving communion without your soul being clean keeps you from receiving the full joy of Jesus.

Reconciliation/Confession opportunities are included on pg. 2 of this bulletin.

**Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 22nd, 2026**



In today's Gospel reading, Jesus finds out that his friend Lazarus has died.

Can you find your way through the maze to the tomb where Jesus will raise him from the dead?

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

- + For lasting resolutions to conflicts around the world, especially in Ukraine and the Middle East., we pray to the Lord...
- + For reasonable solutions to concerns about immigration and respect for those looking for a better life, we pray to the Lord....
- + That each of us will dedicate time during this season of Lent to grow our relationship with Jesus, we pray to the Lord. . .

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

Your requests are welcome! Call 608-788-1646 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com

Fasting ~ Praying ~ Almsgiving