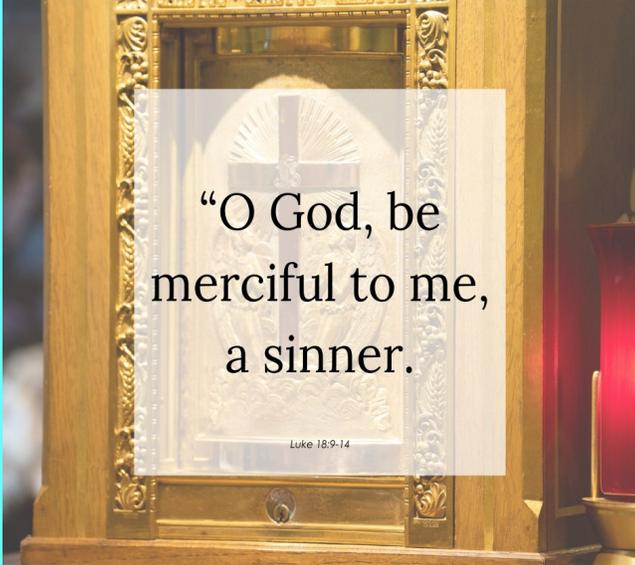


St. Joseph Parish *of* St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse WI 54601

March 8, 2026

Third Sunday of Lent



“O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.”

Luke 18:9-14

“Seven words. That was the only prayer the tax collector had, and Jesus said he was the one who went home right with God.”

“These seven are enough.”

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

~ PARISH INTENTIONS ~

SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH

~8:00 am First Saturday Mass—Parish Family
 ~4:00 pm—† Ralph and Evelyn Mikshowsky (M&CM)
 Lector: Donnie Weber
 Eucharist Minister: Barb Mikshowsky
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, MARCH 8TH

~8:00 am—† Terry and Darryl Miller (T&MSP)
 Lector: Sally Miller
 Eucharist Minister: Volunteer
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

TUESDAY, MARCH 10TH

~5:00 pm—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 ~5:30 pm - † Guanella and Strittmater Family (CS)

THURSDAY, MARCH 12TH

~8:00 am - † Larry Silha (D&JD)

SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH

~4:00 pm—† Earl Martin (RM)
 Lector: Bill Weber
 Eucharistic Minister: Mary Reeck
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteer

SUNDAY, MARCH 15TH

~8:00 am— Parish Family
 Lector: Grace Bayer
 Eucharist Minister: Volunteer
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

~ Contributions for the past week ~

Adult Envelopes (45):	\$ 2781.00
Plate collection:	\$ 292.95
Initial Offering (1)	\$ 4.00
Easter Flowers (8) :	\$ 360.00
Total Contributions:	\$ 3437.95
Total weekly amount needed to cover Parish budget :	\$2800.00

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- ◇ **March 8**—Coffee and Conversation: *Muffins, juice, coffee following 8:00 am, Mass. Sponsored by our PCCW.*
- ◇ **March 7 & 8**—Blessing of March Birthdays after Mass
- ◇ **March 9**—Holy Week Liturgy Planning Mtg, 6:00 pm
- ◇ **March 11**—Stations of the Cross, 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm (Confirmation students lead at 7pm)
- ◇ **March 12**- Parish & Finance Council Meeting, 6:30 pm
- ◇ **March 16**—Eucharistic Minister Meeting, 6 pm
- ◇ **March 18**—Stations of the Cross, 5:30 pm

~ 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 (715) 615-1774 or the office (608)788-1646 or email to request anointing. Email: srp2601@gmail.com

*** 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 608/788-1646, use envelopes in the back of church, or email sjrp2601@gmail.com.

Mass Intention offering is \$20.00



2025-26 Goal:	\$23,975.00
Pledged:	\$ 18,420.00
Percent of Goal Rec'd	75%
Corrected -Received:	\$ 18,120.00
Corrected-Amount	\$ 5855.00

Please consider a donation to the Diocesan Annual Appeal

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 ~



March 8, 2026 - Third Sunday of Lent

EX 17:3-7; PS 95:1-2, 6-9; ROM 5:1-2, 5-8; JN 4:5-42 OR JN 4:5-15, 19B-26, 39A, 40-42

Today's readings for the Third Sunday of Lent focus on the theme of thirst, reminding us that a stewardship way of life both satisfies our longing for Christ and helps us respond to Christ's thirst for souls.

In our first reading from Exodus, the Israelites complain of thirst despite all God has done to free them from slavery. Yet when Moses cries out for help, God provides abundantly, bringing water from the rock to satisfy His people. This reminds us that God's generosity is always present, helping us feel cared for and confident in His ongoing provision.

In today's Gospel, we hear of the powerful encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well, beginning with His simple request: "Give me a drink." He then tells her that He can offer living water — water that truly satisfies. This story reminds us that responding to Christ's call can transform our lives and those of others.

These words speak directly to us as well. Christ asks us to "give Him a drink" by sharing the gifts we have received with Him and with others for His sake. Yet it is Christ Himself who fills us with the living water of His grace.

God invites each of us to play a part in bringing others to Him through a stewardship way of life. This Lent, may we respond to that invitation with renewed commitment, offering our time, talent, and treasure so that many may come to know Christ. In doing so, we help quench His thirst for souls, giving our efforts a deep sense of purpose and significance.

St. Joseph confirmation students participated in a Lenten Retreat at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Please keep these young people in your prayers as they prepare to be confirmed in April. Thanks to Ruben Mendoza Medrano, their teacher for coordinating.



~ PARISH NEWS ~

+ **Lenten Preparation Opportunities:**

1. Parish Book Study: Session 4 is Tuesday, March 10th. All are welcome to join. Contact Lisa Meyer for info.
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: Wednesdays at 5:30pm.
5. Donate to local organizations that serve those in need. Parish Food Drive, Catholic Charities, La Crosse County Jail Ministry, Salvation Army.

+ **Diocesan Annual Appeal**: \$5,855 is still needed towards the Annual Appeal goal. Amount over goal is returned to our Parish. Thanks to those who have donated.

+ **Parish Office Hours**: Staffing in March will be Tues., Thurs., and Fridays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Changes will be posted on the Parish/School Hall Doorway.

+ **PCCW—Updates**: -The PCCW is in need of a Secretary. Contact Mary Jo Hess or Lori Clements for more information. PCCW dues—\$13.00 per year.

+ **Daylight Savings Time begins on March 8th. We spring ahead one hour. Remember to reset your clocks.**

+ **Parish Food Drive**: In February, 25 lbs of food was collected. The Hunger Taskforce, which supplies area food pantries says "Thank you!"

+ **Communion to the Homebound**: Fr. Sen and Sally Miller visited 8 homes this week and provided communion to 9 parish members.

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~ **Be Disciples, Make Disciples**: "We are a church that exists to be disciples who make disciples." This is the Great Commission Jesus gave us in Matthew 28:18-20. It's why any Catholic parish or school exists. When you look at how the parishes and schools in your area spend their money, time, and energy, are they prioritizing this purpose of being disciples who make disciples? We invite you to take this question to Jesus. Reflect on how you can share your faith and invite one person to join you.

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

Third Sunday of Lent
March 8th, 2026

N⁵ E⁸ S¹⁴ I²

I¹² E⁶ L⁴ R¹³

R⁹ T¹⁵ V⁷ L³

T¹⁰ W¹ H¹¹

Jesus says that if we drink
His living water, we

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
10 11 12 13 14 15



~ **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.

~ **Aquinas Catholic Schools Coaching Opportunities**

Coaches for HS Boys Soccer, HS Softball and MS Track and Field are needed. Contact AHS Athletic Director, Pam Donarski (pam.donarski@aquinasschools.org)

~ **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 any part of the evening.

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.

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 resolutions 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