



ST JOSEPH PARISH

St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33
La Crosse WI 54601



April 26, 2026—Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Jesus in dark times
let me always trust
in you.**



Pastor **Father Sen**

Fr. Sengole Vethanayagam
(715) 615-1774
frsengolevema@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE

Paula Silha—Administrative Assistant
Barb Mikshowsky - Bookkeeper
Office hours T, TH, FR 10-1:00
608-788-1646 sjrp2601@gmail.com

CONFESSIONS

3:30—3:45 pm
(before Saturday 4pm Mass)

St. Joseph Parish, St. Joseph Ridge

(608) 788-1646

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM

Weekday Schedule

ADORATION

Tuesday 5:00 PM

MASS

Tuesday 5:30 PM
Thursday 8:00 AM

1st Saturday of the month 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...Rosary 7:00 PM ,
Eucharistic Exposition 7:20,
Benediction at 8:05 PM

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Bill Weber—Chair
Teresa Brown—Secretary
Dave Brown-Cemetery Rep
Lori Clements -PCCW Rep
Stan Clements
Ann Degenhardt
Terry Dickman-Finance
Council Rep
Bob Kotek
Stacy Burns-Music
Lorie Liss-DRE

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL:

Terry Dickman—Co-Chair
Dan Steiger—Co-Chair
Mary Jo Hess-Secretary
Dave Brown-(Bldg & Grnds)
and Cemetery Rep
Barb Braun

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

Director:
Lorie Liss

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
Lisa Meyer
Paulene Connell
Mary Beth Smith

Sacristan:

Sally Miller

"Whoever serves me, the Father will honor." John 12:26

~ PARISH INTENTIONS ~

SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH

~4:00 pm—† Earl Martin (RM)
 Lectors: Cecelia Sawaya
 Eucharistic Minister: Mary Marshall
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH

~8:00 am - † Bob and Angie Dickman (T&BD)
 Lector: Sally Miller
 Eucharistic Minister: Barb Dickman
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

TUESDAY, APRIL 28TH

~5:00 pm—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 ~5:30 pm—†Ralph & Evelyn Mikshowsky
 (Mikshowsky Family)

THURSDAY, APRIL 30RD

~8:00 am - † Patty Silha (J&DD)

SATURDAY, MAY 2ND

~ 8:00 am—† Herbert & Joyce Clements (D&LC)
 ~4:00 pm - Unity in the Church
 Lector: Bill Weber
 Eucharistic Minister: Mary Reeck
 Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

SUNDAY, MAY 3RD

~8:00 am - † Marie Servais
 Lector: Dan Steiger
 Eucharistic Minister: Sally Miller
 Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers



∞ Thank you Money Counters! ∞

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- ◇ **April 29**—Final Religious Education class with mass at 6:30 pm followed by a pizza party. *Parish members are welcome to attend and all students are expected to attend.*
- ◇ **May 2**—Blessing of May Wedding Anniversaries
- ◇ **May 9**—Blessing of May Birthdays
- ◇ **May 9**—Mother's Day, PCCW will sell roses to support a pro-life organization
- ◇ **May 17**— 3:00 pm—Parish Picnic Planning Meeting Join the Parish and Finance Councils to help plan our Parish picnic and future events. All welcome!

~ 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!!!

* **To Request the Anointing of the Sick**
 Contact Father Sen (715) 615- 1774, or the Office (608)788-1646 or email srp2601@gmail.com

* **Confession** 3:30—3:45 pm before Saturday 4:00 Mass

* **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

~ Contributions for the past week ~

Adult Envelopes (45):	\$ 2368.00
Plate collection:	\$ 212.00
Easter Offering (1):	\$ 50.00
LDDCW Collection:	\$ 5.00
Donation:	\$ 500.00
Votive Lights:	\$ 99.75
Total Contributions:	\$ 3234.750
Parish weekly budget needed:	\$ 2,800.00

~ STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION ~



**April 26, 2026 -
Fourth Sunday of Easter
ACTS 2:14A, 36-41; PS 23:1-3A, 3B4-6;
1 PT 2:20B-25; JN 10:1-10**

Today's readings on this fourth Sunday of Easter offer us a glimpse into the heart of our loving Savior. He is the Good Shepherd, and we can trust Him confidently as we embrace the stewardship way of life.

This endearing image of Jesus as our shepherd and His personal love for each of us is described in our Gospel passage from John through Jesus' own words. Here, we see Jesus' description of Himself as the "Good Shepherd". He says, "The sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they recognize his voice".

This image of Jesus as our shepherd inspires us to fulfill our stewardship by giving of our time, talent, and treasure as a sincere expression of gratitude for His love and guidance.

Embracing this lifestyle requires trust on our part. But Christ has shown Himself worthy of our trust. He "bore our sins in His body". He calls Himself our shepherd, and He offers Himself as the protector of our souls. He has held back nothing of Himself and His goodness from us. He would never ask us to do anything that could harm us. He tells us, "I came so that [you] might have life and have it more abundantly".

This Easter season, let us renew our commitment and gratefully entrust ourselves and our lives to Him, filling us with hope and a sense of a fresh start for our spiritual journey.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

† **Opportunities to Serve your Parish:** Have an interest in the operation of St. Joseph Parish? The Pastoral and Finance Councils have opportunities available to learn and serve the Parish. Council members assist with planning events, organizing programs, and strengthening connections within our parish community. People who served in the past or those who have not served are welcome. If you are interested or would like more information, please speak with Fr. Sen or email sjrp2601@gmail.com.

† **Diocesan Annual Appeal:** \$2,230 is still needed towards the Annual Appeal goal. Thanks for your support. Amount over goal is returned to our Parish.

† **PCCW Scholarship:** Applications are due May 15th for the PCCW scholarship for graduating high school students attending college. Apply by submitting 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.

† **Communion to the Homebound** April communion visits occurred April 23 with 8 homes visited and communion distributed to 9 people. Thank you Fr. Sen and Barb Mikshowsky.

† **Parish Food Drive:** Food donated will be delivered to the Hunger Taskforce on April 28. Thanks for your generosity.

† **Casa Hogar:** The link below includes photos of Casa Hogar. The trip will be next March 19-29, 2027. It will be during Holy Week which promises to be an absolutely amazing experience! Space is limited to 15 people, high school aged students through adults and is a joint venture between St. Joseph and St. Peters in Middle Ridge. If you are interested, even a little, please contact Lorie Liss through the parish email or leave a message for her on the parish phone or message her at lorieraeliss@gmail.com. before April 22nd. Once we know who might be interested we'd like to have a meeting to talk about cost, fundraising, logistics, paperwork and vaccination requirements. Hopefully that would be a joint meeting with Middle Ridge and possibly Coon Valley and West Salem parishes. <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ehpeu7cmr8tKTOFFo0T60XbSy3zEDfXY/edit?slide=id.p1#slide=id.p1>

† **Roses for Mother's Day:** Mother's Day is May 10th. PCCW members will have roses available after mass May 9 and 10. Cost is \$3 for one or \$5 for two roses. Funds are donated to a local Pro-Life organization.

† **Congratulations to Fr. Sen on the 31st Anniversary of his ordination as a Priest on April 30, 2026.**

	2025-26 Goal:	\$23,975.00
	Pledged:	\$ 21,745.00
	Percent of Goal Rec'd	91%
	Received:	\$ 21,670.00
	Amount Under Goal:	\$ 2,230.00

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

~ Rural Life Seed Corn Opportunity~—The Diocese of La Crosse Chapter of Catholic Rural Life, in partnership with a local family farm and a seed dealership, has been entrusted with a generous opportunity to give back to our farming community. We are pleased to offer 30 bags of current-year, high-quality 99-day seed corn -- free of charge -- to be shared among three deserving recipients. This gift is intended to support approximately 25–30 acres for each family farm. We recognize that agricultural finances can present challenges, and it is our privilege to walk alongside those in our community during difficult seasons. Please direct all inquiries to our Rural Life Committee Chair -- Anne Marie Ellwing: Annemarie.elwing@wallstonellc.com.

~Support Vocations at the 6th Annual Vocations Golf Outing – June 15! Join 6th Annual Diocese of La Crosse Vocations Golf Outing and Dinner on Monday, June 15, 2026, at Fox Hollow Golf Course. All proceeds support men discerning and preparing for the priesthood. Register today [at this link](#) or contact Reneé Orth at 608.791.2667 / rorth@diolc.org or Tom Kieffer at tjkieffer16@yahoo.com.

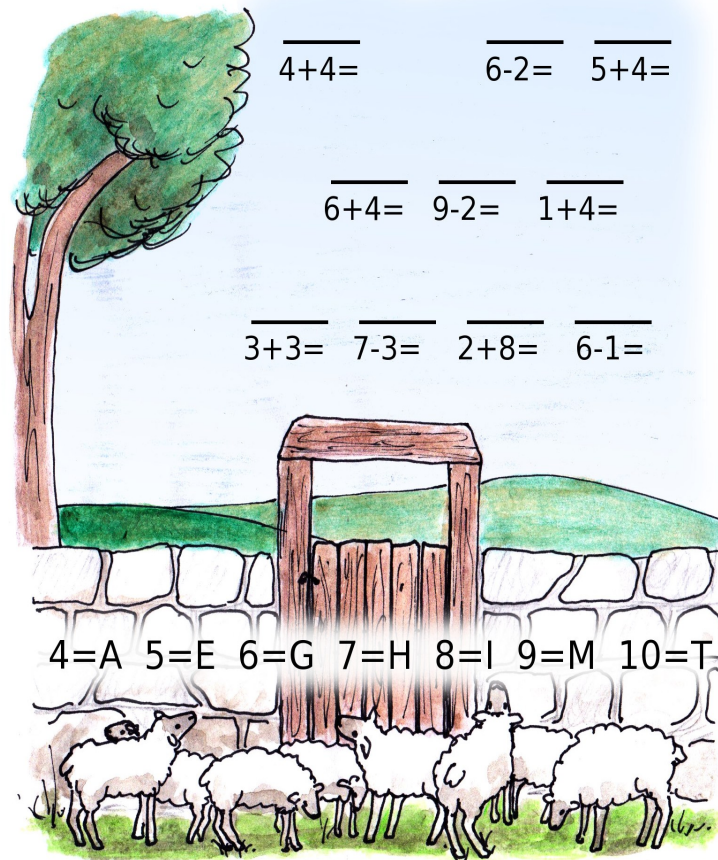
~Blood Drive—St. Joseph Ridge ~ May 4th 1-6:00 pm
Please consider donating blood. The next opportunity is Monday, May 4th at the Greenfield Town Hall. Make an appointment on the Versiti website (versiti.org/wi) or call 877-232-4376, or stop in. Thanks for considering

~Parish Novena for Pentecost: The celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost will be Sunday, May 24. A nine-day Novena will begin on Friday, May 15th. The focus of this novena each day is a gift of the Holy Spirit. These supernatural gifts are wisdom, understanding, right counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord. The novena is available at this website—<https://diolc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Novena-to-the-Holy-Spirit-begins-on-Friday-May-15-2026.pdf>

~Franciscan Spirituality Center Free Program Offerings~The FSC offers a variety of free events and programs. Check out the offerings; support groups for those with overwhelming grief, depression, opportunities for creativity, wellness, growing hope and improving mental health. <https://www.fscenter.org/>

~Catholic Girls Group for Middle School Age Girls: Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Cashton, WI is hosting a monthly Catholic Girls Group on the 4th Sunday of each month at 4-5:30 pm. The gathering will include a bible reading, learning about a Saint and a team –building activity. This event runs from April to Jan. 2027.

**Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 26th, 2026**



$4+4=$ $6-2=$ $5+4=$
 $6+4=$ $9-2=$ $1+4=$
 $3+3=$ $7-3=$ $2+8=$ $6-1=$

4=A 5=E 6=G 7=H 8=I 9=M 10=T

What did Jesus say about the sheepfold?
Figure out the math questions
and then fill in the blanks
with the letters the numbers represent.

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 a respectful solution to concerns about immigration and support for those looking for a better life, we pray to the Lord...
- + For favorable weather for farmers and a successful growing season, we pray to the Lord.
- + For young people to consider serving the Church through a vocation in the religious life, 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 sjr2601@gmail.com