



ST JOSEPH PARISH

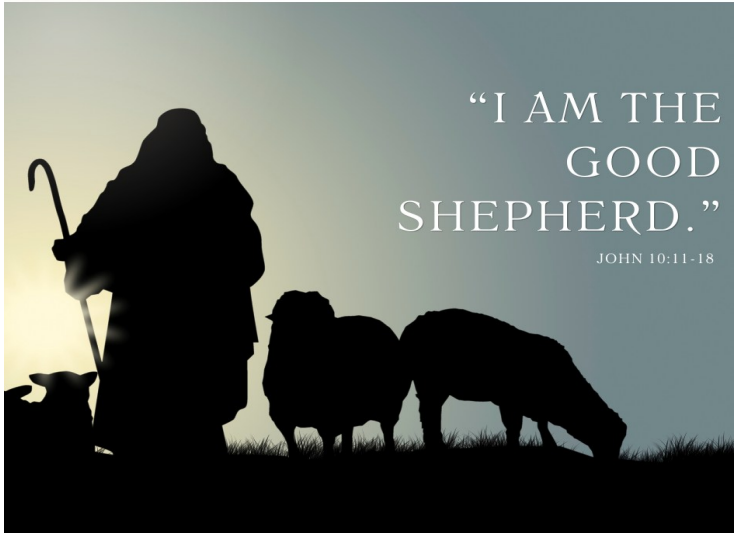
St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33
La Crosse WI 54601



May 3, 2026—Fifth Sunday of Easter

“I know mine, and mine know Me.”



“I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD.”

JOHN 10:11-18

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 Mass 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
Barb Braun
Dave Brown-(Bldg & Grnds)
and Cemetery Rep

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, MAY 2ND

~ 8:00 am—† Herbert and Joyce Clements (L&DC)

~4:00 pm—Unity in the Church

Lector: Bill Weber

Eucharistic Minister: Mary Reeck

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, MAY 3RD

~8:00 am - † Marie Servais (Servais Family)

Lector: Jim Weber

Eucharistic Minister: Sally Miller

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

TUESDAY, MAY 5TH

~5:00 pm—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

~5:30 pm— † Reiny and Darlene Kammel (S&JD)

THURSDAY, MAY 7TH

~8:00 am - † Mike and Rose Brown (D&TB)

SATURDAY, MAY 9TH

~4:00 pm - † Madonna Bahr (DL)

Lector: Bill Weber

Eucharistic Minister: Barb Mikshowsky

Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

SUNDAY, MAY 10TH

~8:00 am - † George and Evelyn Miller (T&MSP)

Lector: Sally Miller

Eucharistic Minister: Jolene De Maiffe

Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- ◇ **May 2 & 3**—Blessing of May Wedding Anniversaries
- ◇ **May 7**—Communion to the Home Bound
- ◇ **May 9**—Blessing of May Birthdays
- ◇ **May 9**—Mother's Day, PCCW will sell roses to support a local pro-life organization
- ◇ **May 11-16**—Fr. Sen on Retreat, No weekday
- ◇ **May 17**—Ascension of the Lord
- ◇ **May 17**— 3:00 pm—Parish Picnic Planning Mtg. 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.

Donations: Here are some ways to contribute:

- If you use online banking and would like make your contribution using **Bill Pay**, set up St. Joseph Ridge Parish as a payment and the bank will mail it directly to the parish.
- Use the online giving portal set up by the Diocese: <https://diolc.org/st-joseph-parish-st-joseph-ridge/> (processing fees maybe deducted from your contribution, which average 3% for debit and credit cards and \$.75 for EFT, ACH)
- **Drop off** a contribution in the church donation box
- **Mail in** your weekly/monthly offering to parish office (W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse, WI 54601)

~ Contributions for the past week ~

Adult Envelopes (30):	\$ 2475.00
Plate collection:	\$ 221.00
LDDCW Collection (4):	\$ 92.00
Total Contributions:	\$ 2788.00
Parish weekly budget needed:	\$ 2,800.00

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE

(608-788-1646 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com)

TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR:

- ◆ Joining the Parish ◆ Weddings ◆ Baptisms
- ◆ Anointing of the sick
- ◆ If you are home-bound and would like to be visited



~ STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION ~



May 3—Fifth Sunday of Easter

ACTS 6:1-7; PS 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 PT 2:4-9; JN 14:1-12

The readings for this fifth Sunday of Easter present us with themes of dwelling places and home. As Christian stewards, we recognize that this world is not our permanent home. We are pilgrims here, making our way through the stewardship way of life toward our true home — heaven.

Yet as we journey toward heaven, we are called to make our home here — whether in a household of one or in a full and busy family — a true “domestic church.” In other words, the stewardship way of life begins long before we set foot on parish grounds. Stewardship starts at home. It begins with our families — our domestic churches.

The domestic church plays a key role in our sanctification because it is the primary place where we learn and practice selfless love for others. In our Gospel reading from John, Jesus speaks of heaven as a home with many dwelling places. “In my Father’s house, there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?” This is a beautiful image of the glory that awaits us and of the personal love our Lord has for us — preparing a place for each one of us who remains faithful to Him.

Let us respond to this great love by becoming good stewards of our homes, making them true “domestic churches” where we honor God through prayer, care for one another, and practice generous hospitality.

Remember, stewardship begins at home! Let us commit today to making our households true domestic churches that reflect God’s love and care.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

† **Serve your Parish:** The Pastoral and Finance Councils have opportunities available to learn and serve the Parish. If you are interested or would like more information, please speak with Fr. Sen or email sjrp2601@gmail.com.

† **Communion to the Homebound** May communion visits will occur May 7th. Please contact Fr. Sen or the Parish Office if you would like to have a visit..

† **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.

† **Confirmation Students receive Quilts:** Thank you to the PCCW for supporting the beautiful quilts! Thanks to Maxine Jacobs, Diane Elsen and Sue Scherer for their handiwork. Quilts were presented on April 29th at the Closing Mass for the Religious Education Program school year.



† **Summary of Religious Education Program— Lorie Liss:**
Our program is tiny but mighty—21 students. We would love to welcome any new students and their families, especially any entering 2nd grade, preparing for First Holy Communion and 9th grade as Confirmation is now a 9th and 10th grade requirement. The program requirements are set by the Diocese and we are happy to follow what is set. I hope to incorporate some service activities for students to get involved with, as Church is much more than a weekend visit. We implemented a new “Theology of the Body” series this year with Seventh and Eighth grade and it seems to have been well received. We always welcome more catechists and volunteers to assist as well.

† **Thank you to Our:**
Catechists: Becca Amundsen, Grace Bayer, Mary Reeck, Terry Dickman, and Ruben Mendoza.
Substitutes: Lisa Meyer, Stacy Burns and Bill Weber
Special Events Creator: Sherry Hougom
Director: Loris Liss

Fr. Sen



2025-26 Goal:	\$23,975.00
Pledged:	\$ 21,995.00
Percent of Goal Rec'd	92%
Received:	\$ 21,945.00
Amount Under Goal:	\$ 2,030.00

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~ 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.

~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.

~US Bishops' Action Alert - Urge Dialogue and Peace in Middle East: To make your voice heard in favor of dialogue and peace in the Middle East, respond to the U.S. Bishops' action alert by visiting [this website](https://www.votervoice.net/USCCB/Campaigns/136528/Respond) <https://www.votervoice.net/USCCB/Campaigns/136528/Respond>

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

**Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 3rd, 2026**



*In today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells the disciples
the way to the Father in Heaven.
Do you know which is the way?
Follow the squiggly line to find out!*

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

- + For Bob Kotek and his family as they mourn the loss of his brother, Dan Kotek who passed away last Sunday unexpectedly.
- +For lasting resolutions to conflicts around the world, especially in Ukraine and the Middle East., we pray to the Lord...
- + Gratitude for the Catechists serving youth in our Religious Education Program, let us pray to the Lord.
- + May all students who participated in our Religious Education Program continue to grow in faith this spring and summer, we pray to the Lord....
- + For favorable weather for farmers and a successful growing season, we pray to the Lord.

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

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