



ST JOSEPH PARISH

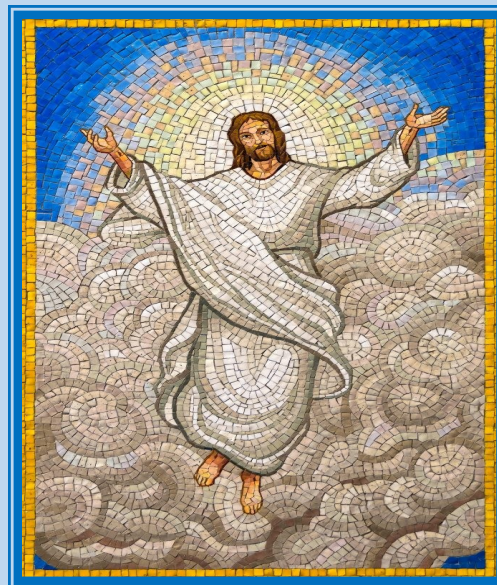
St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33
La Crosse WI 54601



**May 17, 2026 - Seventh Sunday of Easter
Ascension of the Lord**

*He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.*



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

Adoration: Tuesday ... 5:00 PM

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday5:30 PM

Thursday8:00 AM

1st Saturday of the month.. 8:00 AM

St. Peters Parish, Middle Ridge

(608) 452-4680

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday.....8:00 PM

Sunday10:00 AM

Weekday Schedule

Wednesday8:00 AM

Friday.....8:00 AM

ADORATION

Wednesday....Rosary 7:00 PM

Eucharistic Exposition 7:20 PM

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 16TH

~4:00 pm— Parish Family
 Lector: Cecilia Sawaya
 Eucharistic Minister: Barb Mikshowsky
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, MAY 17TH

~8:00 am - † Curtis Strittmater (CS)
 Lector: Grace Bayer
 Eucharistic Minister: Donna Clements
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

TUESDAY, MAY 19TH

~5:00 pm— Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 ~5:30 pm - † Jesus Mendoza (RM)

THURSDAY, MAY 21ST

~8:00 am - † Ralph and Evelyn Mikshowsky (MF)

SATURDAY, MAY 23RD

~4:00 pm - † Strittmater and Guanella Families (CS)
 Lector: Bill Weber
 Eucharistic Minister: Mary Marshall
 Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

SUNDAY, MAY 24TH

~8:00 am - Parish Family
 Lector: Dan Steiger
 Eucharistic Minister: Darlene Hundt
 Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- ◇ **May 17** - Ascension of the Lord
- ◇ **May 17** - St. Isadore Blessing will be offered after Mass for all those involved in farming, gardening.
- ◇ **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!
- ◇ **May 24** - Pentecost Sunday
- ◇ **May 25** - Memorial Day, Mass at the Catholic

~ 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 (40):	\$ 2696.00
Plate collection:	\$ 431.00
LDDCW Collection (1):	\$ 10.00
Total Contributions:	\$ 3137.00
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 17, 2026 - The Ascension of the Lord
ACTS 1:1-11; PS 47:2-3, 6-9; EPH 1:17-23;
MT 28:16-20

Today we celebrate the great feast of the Ascension of our Lord — the moment when, 40 days after His Resurrection, Jesus was lifted up into heaven as the apostles looked on.

It must have been an extraordinary sight. But the first reading tells us they were not meant to remain there for long. “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?”

In other words, do not just stand there. Act.

This message is for us as Christian stewards. We have been given every grace and blessing — through the Mass and the sacraments, the Word of God, and the gifts of our time, talent, and treasure — to inspire gratitude and a desire to serve.

We are not meant merely to receive these gifts. We are meant to use them — in gratitude to the One who gave them.

Like the apostles, we are called “to be [His] witnesses... to the ends of the earth.” We do this not by our own strength but through the power of the Holy Spirit at work within us.

Pray that the next time
 worry, anxiety, or fear enters your life,
 make GOD your first choice
 and not your last resort.

WE ARE THE DIOCESE
DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL
 2025-2026



2025-26 Goal:	\$23,975.00
Pledged:	\$ 22,325.00
Percent of Goal Rec'd	93%
Received:	\$ 22,275.00
Amount Under Goal:	\$ 1,700.00

~ PARISH NEWS ~

† **Your Participation is Needed:** Please consider this opportunity to give back to your Parish Family. The Pastoral and Finance Councils have opportunities available to serve the Parish. If you are interested or would like more information, please speak with Fr. Sen or email sjrp2601@gmail.com.

† **Pray the Rosary in May:** The Rosary focuses on the pivotal moments in the lives of Jesus and Mary, known as the “mysteries.” In reflecting on these major events of Jesus’ life, you will grow in your awareness of how much Jesus loves you personally. You will also be guided by the Holy Spirit to make connections between each mystery of Jesus’ life and your own life. And you may ask the Holy Spirit to help you see how this mystery gives you guidance.

Praying the Rosary, with the repetition of the Hail Marys, creates a quiet, contemplative space which allows the mind and heart to focus on God. Take five minutes to pray a decade of the Rosary (one Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, and Glory Be) with your family. This simple prayer makes a connection between the mystery and your own life.

† **Parish Food Drive:** Please continue to bring nonperishable food to the back of church as you are able. Thank you for your generosity.

† **Diocesan Annual Appeal:** Donations for this year’s Appeal are accepted until June 30, 2026. \$1,700 is still needed. Amount received over goal is returned to the Parish for Parish needs.

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~ **Consecrating Our Country to the Sacred Heart of Jesus:** You are invited to join in a historic moment. As part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the birth of our nation, the bishops of the United States will consecrate our country to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The consecration, which is a “setting apart” and blessing for us and our nation, will take place on June 11th, 2026. Contact the Parish Office for the consecration prayer and more information.

~ **Holy Trinity Parish Chicken Que**—Wednesday, May 20th, 11:00am to 5:30pm, 1/2 chicken, coleslaw, beans and bun, \$12.00, Holy Trinity Parish, 13th and Park Ave., La Crosse, Drive Through or call for Delivery call 608-782-2028 Ext. 2

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

~May is Mental Health Awareness Month: Let us look to our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph to teach us how to prioritize the things that matter most. This article from CatholicPsych breaks down elements of St. Pope John Paul II's encyclical on St. Joseph the Worker: [Lessons from JP II on St. Joseph.](#)

~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/>

~Legacy of Love: Celebrating Decades of Married Life: The Diocese is pleased to introduce a new way of celebrating wedding anniversaries! Couples celebrating milestone anniversaries 10th, 20th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 70th, or 80th will be invited to participate in "Legacy of Love: Celebrating Decades of Married Life." This free event will begin with Mass and include pictures with Bishop Battersby followed by a simple reception. Couples can register by calling Laura Boden at 608.791.2680 or emailing her at lboden@diolc.org.

~Mass for the Home Bound: Those unable to attend weekend mass in person can view a televised Mass on La Crosse Channel 19 at 9:30am on Sundays.

~ Job Opportunities at Aquinas Catholic Schools: Positions are available at Aquinas Catholic Schools: teachers in elementary, middle and high school, food service staff, after school care and coaching. For more information on how to apply please visit: aquinascatholicschools.org/enrollment

~Memorial Day Honors at Local Cemeteries: Coon Valley American Legion Post 116 will be performing military honor at local cemeteries on May 25, Memorial Day. The color guard will visit Hellwig Cemetery at 7:15am, Koeth Cemetery at 7:30am, Trinity Church Cemetery at 7:24am, St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery at 8:15am and St. Mary's Cemetery—Northridge at 8:30 am. Coon Valley will also have a Parade at 10:30 and a Memorial Presentation following the Parade.

~Memorial Day Mass at the Catholic Cemetery: A Mass honoring the Dead will be celebrated at the alter in the Veteran Section of the Catholic Cemetery in La Crosse. Services will be Memorial Day, May 25, 2026 at 11:15 am. Msgr. Robert Hundt will be the principal celebrant. All are welcome to join to honor veterans.



*Feast of the Ascension
May 14th or May 17th, 2026*

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



What does today's Psalm say about the Ascension? Use every other letter from the box of letters above to fill in the blanks below.

G _ _ _ _ _
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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 relaxing and safe summer break for all students, teachers and school support staff
- + For favorable weather for farmers and a successful growing season, we pray to the Lord.
- + For protection and health of Pope Leo, leader of our Catholic Church.

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