

Our Church's

125th
Anniversary

125th Anniversary
is being celebrated
on August 22nd.
Please come and
help us celebrate!



St. Joseph Parish

St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33
La Crosse WI 54601

July 26, 2026



SEE WHAT *love*
THE FATHER HAS
lavished UPON US,
LETTING US BE CALLED
children of God.

For that is
what we are!

(1 John 3:1)



Pastor Father Sen

Fr. Sengole Vethanayagam
(715) 615-1774

frsengolevema@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE

Paula Silha—Administrative Assistant

Barb Mikshowsky - Bookkeeper

Summer Hours Vary

(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: Wednesdays

Exposition, Rosary, Adoration,
and Confession ...7:00 PM

Benediction at 7:55 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:

Lisa Meyer
Paulene Connell
Mary Beth Smith

Sacristan:

Sally Miller

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

~ PARISH INTENTIONS ~

SATURDAY, JULY 25TH

~4:00 pm - † Therese Hess and Rosie (Hess) Francis
(C&MB)

Lector: Cecilia Sawaya

Eucharistic Minister: Mary Reeck

Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

SUNDAY, JULY 26TH

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

Lector: Sally Miller

Eucharistic Minister: Teresa Brown

Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

TUESDAY, JULY 28TH

~5:00 pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

~5:30 pm - † Leland Gregorich (R&BM)

THURSDAY, JULY 30TH

~8:00 am - Our Parish

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1ST

~8:00 am - First Saturday Mass - Our Parish Family

~4:00 pm - † Schermerhorn Family (J&PS)

Lector: Bill Weber

Eucharistic Minister: Michelle Hundt

Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2ND

~8:00 am - † Reiny & Darlene Kammel (J&SD)

Lector: Sally Miller

Eucharistic Minister: Jolene DeMaiffe

Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- ◇ **July 26** - 125th Anniversary Picnic Planning Mtg. 3:00 pm
Finance & Pastoral Councils will meet at 2:30pm
- ◇ **August 1 & 2** - Anniversary Blessing following Mass
- ◇ **August 6** - Communion for the Homebound
- ◇ **August 8 & 9** - Birthday Blessing following Mass
- ◇ **August 15**—the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

~ 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.

~ Contributions for the past week ~

Adult Envelopes (40):	\$ 3,540.00
Plate collection:	\$ 299.00
Votive Lights:	\$ 104.00
Total Contributions:	\$ 3,943.00
Parish weekly target needed:	\$ 2800.00
Above/below weekly target:	+ \$1,143.00
Mission Co-op:	\$ 270.00

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH**125TH ANNIVERSARY**

On Saturday, August 22nd

4:00 pm Mass

Parish Picnic to follow

FOOD ♦ BEVERAGES ♦ MUSIC
GAMES ♦ HISTORY DISPLAY

To RSVP for the Picnic:

- ♦ Scan the QR Code on the right *or*
- ♦ Sign up in the back of church *or*
- ♦ Click 'Going' on St. Joseph Parish Facebook Page *or*



~ STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION ~



July 26, 2026 - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary
Time 1 KGS 3:5, 7-12; PS 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130;
ROM 8:28-30; MT 13:44-52 OR 13:44-46

The stewardship way of life can be described as a daily pursuit of the Kingdom of Heaven. In today's Gospel from Matthew, Jesus uses a series of parables to help us grasp the incomparable value of that Kingdom. First, He reminds us that living for Him and His Kingdom requires sacrifice. Yet the joy of following Christ makes any sacrifice worthwhile. Jesus says, "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." He then compares the Kingdom to "a merchant searching for fine pearls." When the merchant finds a pearl of great price, he gladly sells everything he has to obtain it. In both parables, the Kingdom is something precious that must be sought and recognized. We must intentionally look for it amid the world's distractions and noise. Yet Jesus also reminds us that the Kingdom is meant for everyone. He compares it to a net cast into the sea that gathers fish of every kind. At the same time, He reminds us that each of us will one day be judged. The angels "will separate the wicked from the righteous." It is a powerful reminder that our choices matter. Let us pray for the wisdom to recognize the Kingdom of Heaven in our midst and to pursue it above all else. There is no greater treasure, and no greater source of joy, than a life lived as a faithful disciple of Jesus.

~ Our Church Trivia ~

Answer to Last Weeks Question:

The Parish School closed in 1969. The students of the last graduating class were

M. Silha, S Mashak, D. Malzacher, J. Miller, J. Servais,
S. Schams, C. Roesler, and D. Servais.
Fr. Joseph Marx (pastor) and Sister Genelda (teacher).

Where is the previous baptismal font placed in our church?

- A. Sacristy B. Choir loft
C. Back of the church D. the Altar

The answer will
be posted in
next week's
bulletin

~ PARISH NEWS ~

+ **July 26—Next Planning Meeting for 125th Anniversary Celebration of St. Joseph Parish:** The meeting will begin at 3pm, Please come & help make this a joyful Parish Family Event.

+ **Prizes for Anniversary Picnic:** Please continue to request prizes for Bingo—value \$20.00 and prizes for the children's games and Fishpond. Donations can be brought to the Parish Office or given to Lorie Liss. Parish Office hours vary during the summer— goal is to have the office staffed Tues., Thurs and Friday between 10am and 1pm. Call the office 608/788-1646 or reach out to Lorie Liss with any questions via email lorieraeliss@gmail.com or the parish email sjrp2601@gmail.com.

+ **Food Pantry Donations:** During the first 6 months of 2026, our parish has donated 194 pounds of food. Let's see if we can reach a donation of 500 lbs. by the end of 2026. Thank you for your generosity and continuing to help those less fortunate.

+ **Casa Hogar Trip—March 2027** There's Still Time to Join the Youth Casa Hogar Mission Trip! God is opening the door for another incredible opportunity to serve at Casa Hogar! From March 19–29, 2027, you'll have the chance to share Christ's love, encourage children at the orphanage, and experience God at work in a powerful way. The approximate cost is \$1,400, which includes round-trip airfare and your stay at the orphanage. The final deadline to sign up is August 15, so prayerfully consider joining us on this life-changing mission! Contact Mike Klinkner 608-632-0805, Lorie Liss 715-630-4809 or Carol Gronemus 608-487-6170 if you are interested in the opportunity to serve others.

WANTED FOR HISTORY DISPLAY

Collecting photographs, documents, and memorabilia that help tell the story of St. Joseph Parish.

We would like to collect **First Communion** and **8th Gr Graduation** pictures along with **Confirmation pictures that were at our church.** We have received a few, but are looking for more.

We can scan photographs and return the originals to you.

Digital photos and scanned images may also be emailed to the parish office at sjrp2601@gmail.com

Sincere Sympathy

to the family of Donald Hammes

who passed away on Thursday, July 9th.

Our Thoughts and Prayers are with Karen and family.
Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon him. May the soul of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~Newman Center 6pm Sunday Mass: Sunday evening at Roncalli Newman, a 6pm Sunday evening Mass is offered through August 30th.

~Find a Church and Mass when Traveling: The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops offers a website to help you find a church with a convenient Mass time when you are traveling. Visit this website <https://www.usccb.org/mass-times>.

~Healing Service in Cashton: Come and experience God's supernatural love! Sunday, August 2, 2026. Mass at 10:00 AM, followed by Adoration. 12:15 PM Corporate Prayer for Healing, followed by Individual Prayer with Healing Teams at 12:30 PM. All are welcome. Sacred Heart Church, 1205 Front Street, Cashton, WI.

~Welcome One Home: Just like Jesus, the Good Shepherd, who went in search of the one person, we need to invite each individual who has been away to return home to our parish family. This is a powerful way to ensure every member feels known and welcomed. "Welcoming One Home" is a great act of love. Take a look at the [new webpage](#) with resources for this parish initiative.

~Help Catholic Charities Love our Neighbors in Need: Catholic Charities reaches out to our neighbors in need in so many ways, from providing shelter to the homeless in our midst to giving hope and support to moms before and after birth to working with married couples looking to adopt, to assisting the poor and people with disabilities. Find out how you can help by visiting cclse.org, or by scanning this QR code —>.



~ Ukraine Is Suffering – Please Help Chalice of Mercy Bring Relief: Ukraine continues to be pummeled by Russia. Valentyna Pavsyukova and her brave colleagues at Chalice of Mercy risk their lives daily to provide life-saving medical and humanitarian supplies to the most dangerous areas of their homeland. Please support them and visit www.chaliceofmercy.org to make a donation.

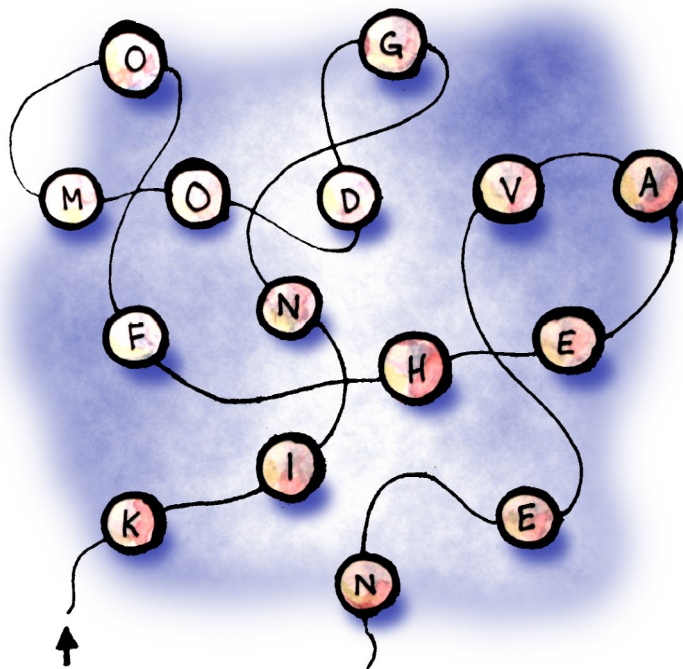
Prayer For Peace

O God, source of all holy desires, right counsels and just works, grant us that peace which the world cannot give, so that we may be obedient to your commands and under your protection enjoy peace in our days and freedom from fear of our enemies. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

May our prayers connect us with God and increase our faith.

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 26th, 2026**



*What did Jesus say was like a buried treasure
or a pearl of great price?
Use the letters on the string of pearls
to fill in the blanks and find out!*

The _____
_____.

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

- + For relaxing and safe travel for all who are traveling this summer, we pray to the Lord
- + For favorable weather for farmers and a safe and successful growing season, we pray to the Lord.
- + For protection and health for Pope Leo, leader of our Catholic Church, we pray to the Lord
- + For the Church, taught by the Lord to be kind and patient, that we may be faithful stewards of time by praying with perseverance and by allowing the Spirit to intercede in our weakness, we pray to the Lord.

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

Your requests are welcome! Call 608-788-1646 or email