

Our Church's

125th
Anniversary

is being celebrated
on August 22nd.

Please come
celebrate with us!



St. Joseph Parish

St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33
La Crosse WI 54601

August 1, 2026



“

“If we but paused for a moment to consider attentively what takes place in this Sacrament of the Eucharist, I am sure that the thought of Christ's love for us would transform the coldness of our hearts into a fire of love and gratitude.”

St. Teresa of Avila

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, 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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4TH

~5:00 pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

~5:30 pm - † Ralph and Evelyn Mikshowsky
(Mikshowsky Family)**THURSDAY, AUGUST 6TH**

~8:00 am - Our Parish Family

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8TH

~4:00 pm - † Gerald Kneifl (DK)

Lector: Paula Silha

Eucharistic Minister: Barb Mikshowsky

Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9TH

~8:00 am - † Arnold and Jean Meyers (L&DC)

Lector: Jim Weber

Eucharistic Minister: Donna Clements

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

♦ August 1 & 2 - Anniversary Blessing following Mass

♦ August 6 - Communion for the Homebound

♦ August 8 & 9 - Birthday Blessing following Mass

♦ August 15—**Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**

This Holy Day is not a Holy Day of Obligation for Mass attendance (since it falls on Saturday). You still have opportunity to celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary by attending mass at 8:00 am on Saturday, August 15th.

~ 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 (35):	\$ 1,923.00
Plate collection:	\$ 289.00
Mission Co-ops:	\$ 5.00
Total Contributions:	\$ 2,217.50
Parish weekly target needed:	\$ 2800.00
Above/below weekly target:	- \$582.50

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 ~



August 2, 2026 - Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

IS 55:1-3; PS 145:8-9, 15-18; ROM 8:35, 37- 39; MT 14:1

Today's readings should inspire the Christian steward to deepen gratitude for our God, whose fierce and tender love makes us feel valued and reassures us that we are always cared for. We must make an intentional response each day returning love for Love. In our Second Reading from Romans, St. Paul reminds us that nothing and no one can separate us from the love of Christ. No anguish, distress, persecution, or famine — and we might add illness, financial hardship, family struggles, or uncertainty about the future — nothing can keep our God from loving us. God holds us securely in the palm of His hand. Yet this reassurance is only the beginning of God's gifts to us. Our Gospel from Matthew recounts the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish. This miracle foreshadows the gift of the Eucharist, in which Christ feeds us through His own Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity, filling us with gratitude and spiritual nourishment. Notice how the Gospel begins. "His heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick." What generous, compassionate love our Lord shows. But even that is not enough for Him. He remains with the people, teaching and ministering to them until evening. When the disciples suggest sending the crowds away to find food, Jesus instead invites them to become part of His plan. He tells them to feed the people, then miraculously multiplies the few loaves and fish they offer. What a privilege it is for the disciples to participate in Christ's work. That same privilege is ours as Christian stewards. Let us respond with grateful hearts to such amazing love, feeling inspired to serve with purpose and joy.

~ Our Church Trivia ~

Answer to Last Weeks Question:

Where is the previous baptismal font placed in our church?

Upon entering the church, you see the holy water font. Yes, the holy water font once was our baptismal font. This font is done in the style of the furnishings of the church seen in the oldest known pictures of our church. In those pictures it was the baptismal font. It can not be said for certain but the assumption is that it is one of the original furnishings of the church and therefore arrived in 1901.

The top of the baptismal font is located in the back altar, above the tabernacle.

Did St. Joseph Parish ever own a bus and if so, how many?

The answer will be posted in next week's bulletin

~ PARISH NEWS ~

125th Anniversary Picnic: RSVP numbers help us plan food, beverages and game prizes. Donations for youth and adult Bingo, children's games and Fishpond prizes can be brought to the Parish Office or given to Lorie Liss. 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.

+ **Casa Hogar Trip—March 2027** Deadline to sign up is August 15th. Cost estimate is \$1400 for this March 2027 life changing Mission Trip! Contact Mike Klinkner 608-632-0805, Lorie Liss 715-630-4809 or Carol Gronemus 608-487-6170 if you are interested.

+ **Picnic Help:** Help will be needed serving food, beverages and with youth games at the Picnic. The Food Workgroup is requesting help grilling brats.. Please contact Lori Clements at 608-780-5212, call or text. Sign Up sheets to help are in the back of church.

+ **Parking Lot Work:** Work on the Parking lot between Church and the Parish Hall occurred this week. Repair of surface cracks and painting was performed. We're getting celebration ready.!



Sincere Sympathy

to the family of

Elrita Meyer

who passed away on Sunday, July 26th

Funeral Service will be Monday, August 3 at 2:00 pm

Thoughts and Prayers for Elrita and her family

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her. May the soul of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

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

~ 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>.

~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.

~Rural Life Day - Sept. 23, 2026 at Creamery Creek Farms in Bangor. Nominations to acknowledge Century Farms, and those who support success for local farms and farmers are being sought. Please contact Chairperson, Anne Marie Elwing for more information. annemarie.elwing@wallstonellc.com.

~ Diocese Of La Crosse Guidelines For Reporting Instances Of Child Abuse: The Diocese of La Crosse, through its [policies and procedures](#), seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office for Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local parish and on the [diocesan website](#). If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679 or tbrown@diolc.org.

~Wisconsin Bishops Approve WCC Website on Immigration Resources The bishops of Wisconsin have approved an extremely helpful [website on Immigration](#), featuring Church teaching on the subject and many other resources. The balance and clarity of the Church's voice on this topic is vital. More information is found at www.wisconsinatholic.org/immigration-resources/

~Catholic Charities - Back to School Backpack program Catholic Charities Back to School Backpack program needs help packing backpacks. Contact Courtney Kress, Volunteer Coordinator at 608.519.8027. This program's goal is to support every youth to be prepared for the beginning of school.

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 2nd, 2026



In today's Gospel reading, Jesus turns five loaves and two fish into enough food for over 5000 people! On top of all that, they collected baskets full of leftovers.

To find out how many baskets they filled, colour in only the loaves and fish that are marked with crosses.

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

- + For school staff to return refreshed, relaxed and ready to faithfully fulfill their roles teaching children and serving families., let us pray to the Lord.
- + For favorable weather for farmers and a safe harvest season, let us pray to the Lord.
- + For protection and health of Pope Leo, leader of our Catholic Church, we pray to the Lord
- + For our Church, taught by the Lord to be kind and patient, that we may be faithful stewards by praying with perseverance and 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