



St. Joseph Parish

St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse, WI 54601

Weekend of October 3 & 4, 2026



Twenty-
Seventh
Sunday
in
Ordinary



Respect Life Month
October 2026
respectlife.org/celebrate

All Life is
precious,
from
conception
to natural
death.

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 4 PM 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

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: Wednesdays

Eucharistic Exposition, & Rosary,
..... 7:00 PM
Quiet prayer/Confession & Benediction
..... 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:

Lorie Liss—Director

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
Chris Carskadon

Sacristan and Homebound Eucharistic minister:
Sally Miller

'Thank you' for your time and talent in supporting our parish.

~ PARISH INTENTIONS ~

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD

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

~4:00 pm - † Sara Venzke (S&SM)

Lector: Bill Weber

Eucharistic Minister: Mary Reeck

Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH

~8:00 am - † Herbert Clements (L&DC)

Lector: Sally Miller

Eucharistic Minister: Donna Clements

Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6TH

~5:00 pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

~5:30 pm - † Ralph & Evelyn Mikshowsky
(Mikshowsky Family)**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8TH**

~8:00 am - † Daniel Cavadini (SS&SB)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10TH

~4:00 pm - † Gerald Kneifl (DK)

Lector: Jim Weber

Eucharistic Minister: Teresa Brown

Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11TH

~8:00 am - Our Parish Family

Lector: Dan Steiger

Eucharistic Minister: Sally Miller

Servers: Volunteers Usher: Volunteers

~ Contributions for the past week ~

Adult Envelopes (34):	\$ 1,754.00
Plate collection:	\$ 237.00
Votive Lights:	\$ 182.75
Total Contributions:	\$ 2,173.75

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.
- **Drop off** a contribution in the church donation box

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- ◇ **October 3**—8:00 am First Saturday of the Month Mass
- ◇ **October 3 & 4**—Blessing of October Anniversaries
- ◇ **October 7** - Religious Education Classes, 6:30 pm
- ◇ **October 10 & 11**—Blessing of October Birthdays
- ◇ **October 18** - Parish Finance Council meeting, 11:30 am
- ◇ **October 19** - PCCW meeting, 6:30 pm

~ 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.**Inspired by the Spirit Campaign**

Our parishioners have generously contributed to the Inspired by the Spirit Campaign since June 2023. Through these contributions, we have been able to address important maintenance and improvement needs throughout our parish buildings, including water drainage systems in the church basement, new carpeting in the church, resurfacing of the small parking lot, and improvements to the cement driveway and garage floor at the rectory.

The Inspired by the Spirit Campaign is a five-year commitment, and we are grateful for the continued generosity and support of our parish family.



- 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)
- **Mail in** your weekly/monthly offering to parish office

~ STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION ~



October 4, 2026 - Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
IS 5:1-7; PS 80:9, 12-16, 19-20; PHIL 4:6-9; MT 21:33-43

We have been given so many gifts and blessings by our Heavenly Father, not to hoard for ourselves, but to cultivate together for the good of His Kingdom. Yet in our fallen state, it is all too easy to receive them passively. Our readings today call us to intentional, active stewardship: to use our gifts generously and together to glorify God.

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus uses the image of a vineyard to teach that our blessings are entrusted to us for shared, fruitful service rather than for private gain. He tells the story of a landowner who plants a vineyard, leases it to tenants, and then goes on a journey. Instead of tending the vineyard together and returning its fruit, the tenants mistreat the servants and even kill the landowner's son. When the landowner learns what the tenants have done, he puts them to death and entrusts his vineyard to tenants who will faithfully "give him the produce at the proper times."

By Baptism, we have received the gift of salvation and are called to active membership in the Kingdom of God, not as spectators but as co-workers in God's mission. We are "tenants" entrusted with our parish's vineyard, called to labor together and produce fruit for its owner, our Heavenly Father. Jesus makes it clear that if we squander this gift rather than share it in service, we will lose it. It is a sobering truth.

So let us move beyond quiet reflection to active participation, seeking concrete ways to share our time, talent, and treasure in service to our parish, and resolve to use all our gifts together for God's glory.

Come and See Weekends

The Vocations Office has several Come and See weekend opportunities throughout this academic year. This experience includes a weekend with Fr. Weller and other discerners at a seminary to learn about the life of seminary.

Please have a discernor reach out to Fr. Weller at sweller@diolc.org to obtain dates and more information.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

- + **Religious Education:** Class time for Religious Ed classes will be 6:30—7:40 pm
- + **Homebound Visits:** Thursday, October 1st, Fr. Sen and Donna and La Verne Clements visited 10 homes and provided communion to 9 homebound parishioners. If you know of someone who would like Fr. Sen to visit. Please call the 608-788-1646 ext 2.
- + **Food Pantry Donations:** September donations totaled 33 pounds of nonperishable food. Each month donations are delivered to The Hunger Taskforce, which supplies area food pantries with food for distribution. The Taskforce can also use egg cartons, and plastic and paper bags.
- + **PCCW News:** The next meeting of the PCCW is scheduled for October 19th at 6:30 pm. Please join in preparation for the Soup Meal to be held October 24th at 5pm. .
- + **Cemetery Flower Watering:** It's time to pick up pots for storage. Please make a plan to pick up your cemetery pots this week. Thank you LaVerne/Donna Clements and Stan Clements for watering potted flowers.
- + **History Display:** The History display is available for you to view. Please contact the office to set up a date/time. You may call the office (608)788-1646 ext. 1 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com . The History video was posted on the Parish Facebook page.
- + **125th Anniversary Picnic:** Notes from the Wrap up meeting and financial update are included in the insert in the bulletin. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this a success. Watch for the December Catholic Life magazine

Soup Meal

Will be served on

Saturday,

October 24th

5:00 pm (After the 4:00 pm Mass)



*Come and enjoy
 our Parish community!*

*Sponsored by the
 St. Joseph Parish PCCW
 Free Will Offering*

**Mark your
 calendars**

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~ Local October Community Events:

- ⇒ **St. Joseph Ridge Community Blood Drive**, Mon. Oct. 5, 1:30-6:00pm, Greenfield Town Hall
- ⇒ **Pancake Breakfast**, Sun. October 11, 7:30am to Noon, St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley
- ⇒ **Sauerkraut Supper** - Wed. October 14, 4:00 to 7:30pm, St. Peter's Church, Middle Ridge
- ⇒ **Roast Beef Dinner**—October 25, 11:00—4:00 Caledonia, MN

~ **October is Respect Life Month:** Each year we celebrate Respect Life Month in October, with Oct. 4 being Respect Life Sunday. The U.S. Bishops' website has many pro-life resources to view and to download. This year the theme is "Mary, Mother of Life," featuring a beautiful poster, prayers, and reflections. More information can be found at www.respectlife.org

~ **Marion Reflection Day at the Shrine:** A one day Marion Reflection day will be held on Saturday, October 10th with registration at 9am opening remarks in the Church Crypt at 9:45. This a one-day event offers Marian reflection, Mass with His Eminence Cardinal Burke, and opportunities to connect with others.

~ **White Mass - Oct. 16:** Friday, Oct. 16, at 6:00 PM, Bishop Battersby will celebrate the "White Mass" at which the faithful honor and pray for Catholic health care professionals. This event will be held at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman. A Banquet will follow. Additional information and registration is found at this link: <https://diolc.org/social-concerns/gospel-of-life/>

~ **Youth Leadership Camp: Lead Well, Listen Deeply Mentor Intentionally:** The Diocese is offering a retreat for high school students and chaperones to pray, learn leadership and focus on small group mentoring. The event is Oct. 23-25 at CrossWoods Adventure Camp, Mason WI. Connect with Fr. Sen or Lorie Liss for more information.

Our Lady of the Rosary:

The Church's First Steward

October is traditionally associated with the Rosary, especially through the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7. If Jesus is the perfect model for every Christian steward, Mary is the preeminent human model of receptive discipleship, generous surrender, and faithful participation in God's mission. As our bishops remind us, "After Jesus, the Blessed Virgin Mary teaches the meaning of discipleship and stewardship".

Mary's response to God reveals stewardship in its clearest form: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done unto me according to your word" (Lk 1:38). She receives God's gift, consents to his will, and allows grace to bear fruit for others.

The Rosary is a Christ-centered prayer that forms us into disciples.



~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

The Evil Tenants Word-Find



Find the words that are in CAPITALS in the puzzle and use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks:

— — —
— — — — —
— — — — —
— — — — —

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

Jesus told this PARABLE: There was a landowner who planted a VINEYARD and built a tower and a WINE PRESS. When he went away, he LEASED it to tenants. In time, he sent SERVANTS to get his PRODUCE, but the tenants BEAT one, killed one, and STONED another. The man sent more servants, but the TENANTS did the same thing AGAIN. Finally, he sent his SON, thinking that they would RESPECT him at least. But the tenants saw the son coming and said, "Here comes the HEIR. If we kill him we can get his INHERITANCE!" So they SEIZED him, THREW him out and KILLED him too!

Jesus asked, "What will the land OWNER do when he COMES?"

The people said, "Put the tenants to DEATH and lease the vineyard to tenants who WILL pay."

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

- + For an increase in vocations to the priesthood, religious life, and diaconate, may God bless those discerning with generous and open hearts, let us pray to the Lord.
- + For a safe harvest and favorable weather for our farmers.
- + For our Parish family, especially those who may not feel the love of Jesus, may they listen for God's call, let us pray to the Lord.
- + For our beloved dead, may God's mercy and grace lead them to everlasting peace in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- + For disciples of Christ, that we may use our talents with the mind and heart of Jesus, serving with humility, compassion, and concern for the needs of others, 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 sjrp2601@gmail.com