



St. Joseph Parish of St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse WI 54601

August 25, 2024—21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

PASTOR

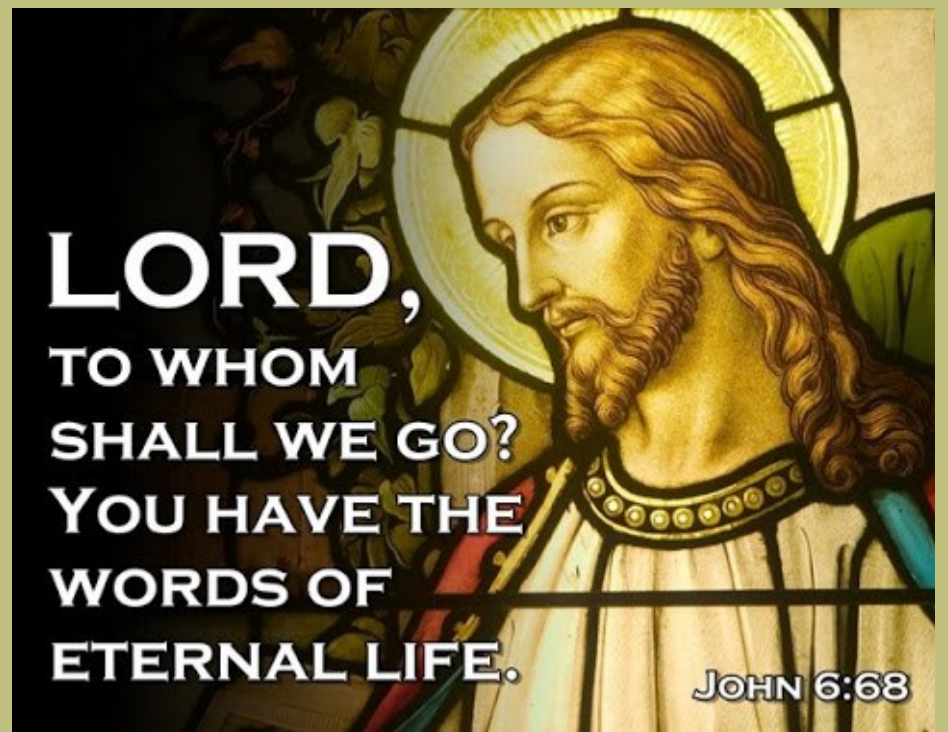
Fr. Biju C Kunjukutty, MSFS

715-495-2338

bchennala@diolclergy.org

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR:

- ◆ Joining the Parish
- ◆ Weddings or Baptisms
- ◆ Anointing of the sick (also call Fr. Biju cell phone)
- ◆ If you are home-bound and would like to be visited



WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday..... 4:00 pm
 Sunday 8:30 am

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

First Saturday Mass... 8:30 am
 Monday 5:30 pm
 Tuesday
 Adoration..... 5:00 pm
 Mass 5:30 pm
 Thursday 8:30 am

CONFESSIONS

- First Saturday after 8:30 am Mass
- 3:30—3:45 pm (before Saturday Mass) or by appointment

PARISH OFFICE

Barb Mikshowsky 608-788-1646
 Bulletin deadline: Wednesday
 sjrp2601@gmail.com

Office hours vary, call or email with questions

Fr Biju also serves

St. Peter's Parish, Middle Ridge
 (608) 452-4680

Adoration:

Wednesday 7:30-9:00 pm

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday 8:00 pm
 Sunday 10:00 am

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Wednesday 8:00 am
 Friday 8:00 am

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Dave Brown-Cemetery Rep
 Teresa Brown,
 Lori Clements -PCCW Rep
 Stan Clements
 Ann Degenhardt
 Terry Dickman-Finance
 Council Rep
 Bob Kotek
 Bill Weber-Secretary
 Stacy Burns-CRE

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Mary Jo Hess-Secretary
 Terry Dickman
 Dave Brown-(Bldg & Grnds)
 and Cemetery Rep
 Barb Braun
 Dan Steiger

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Coordinator:
 Stacy Burns

'Thank you' for your time and talent to support our parish.

PCCW - Parish Council of Catholic Women

Lori Clements-President
 Mary Jo Hess-Treasurer
 Jill Murphy-Secretary
 Polly Hilby-Funeral Prep

Cemetery Sexton Building & Grounds

Dave Brown 608-792-1006
 dbrown039@centurytel.net
 Rick Meyer

MUSIC

Stacy Burns, Coordinator
 608-769-8828
 jsburns0093@gmail.com

Accompanist

Leland Gregorich
 LuAnne Gregorich
 Mary Beth Smith

Sacristan:

Sally Miller

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

~ PARISH INTENTIONS ~

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24TH

~4:00 pm - † Rudy Sr & Helen, and Robert Bahr (RM)

Lector: Kathy Leis

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25TH

~8:30 am - Our Parish Family

Lector: Donna Clements

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

MONDAY, AUGUST 26TH

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27TH

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29TH

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31ST

~4:00 pm - † Rick Schermerhorn (J&PS)

Lector: Donnie Weber

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST

~8:30 am - † Gerald Kneifl (Kneifl family)

Lector: Dan Steiger

Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

No mass or Adoration this week. Father is at a Retreat

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- August 26—30 Fr Biju will be out of town at a Retreat
- September 2 Labor Day
- September 18 Religious Education Classes begin
- November 8 Family Fun Night!

~ FAITH Enrichments ~

• Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday: No Adoration ~ No 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!!!

* Anointing of the Sick - Father Biju will be available for anointing of the sick after the first Saturday mass of each month or contact Fr. Biju directly if you or a family member would like to receive the sacrament.

* Confession

First Saturday of each month

after 8:30 am Mass

or 3:30—3:45 pm

before 4:00 pm Mass or by appointment .

Please contact Fr. Biju to set up a time.



* Mass Intentions

Please contact the Parish office phone #788-1646 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com if you would like to schedule mass intentions.

Or there are envelopes in the back of church.

Mass Intentions Fee change

In accordance with a decision of the Bishops of Wisconsin, starting on July 1st, Mass stipend fees will increase to \$20

~ Contributions for the past week ~

Adult Envelopes(33) :	\$ 1,966.00
Plate collection:	\$ 201.00
Assumption:	\$ 278.00
Total:	\$2,445.00

A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer.

Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year.

Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning. Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy.

Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Donations: Here are some ways to contribute:

- Use the online giving portal set up by the Diocese: <https://diolc.org/st-joseph-parish-st-joseph-ridge/> (processing fees will be 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)
- 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.



~ FROM THE PASTOR ~



Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time



Desperate and at the same time hopeful words were uttered by St. Peter in today's Gospel: Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Peter could not imagine his life without Christ. Only in abiding with Christ did he see meaning for his life. In our lives we tend to believe in many theories regarding what is the sense of life, what gives our life meaning. The reality is if Jesus had not become a man our lives would be meaningless, despite all our attempt to give life a meaning. Often in our life we encounter our struggle to believe and trust the person of Christ.

John's Gospel this weekend highlights the theme of the difficulty of listening to the Word of God: This saying is hard; who can accept it? The temptation not to believe begins when we find the teaching of Christ unpleasant, inconsistent with our own criteria and expectations. Jesus, however, did not soften his speech, even after the scandal He caused when he defined his Body and Blood as food to eat. God does not change a single letter in the word of truth, even though it may cause his disciples to leave him.

There is no hesitation in the Son of God, not even a temptation or a slightest doubt, when He speaks the truth. He is ready to lose everything and everyone just to preserve the truth. This inspires Peter to make his own uncompromising, yet fundamentally truthful, statement, expressed in the question: to whom shall we go? Jesus's boldness encourages Peter to the ultimate sacrifice, paying the highest price for the truth of confessing Jesus before others, to martyrdom.



Have a blessed week!

~ Live Jesus ~

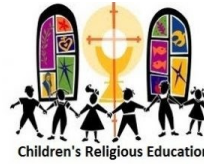
Fr Biju MSFS

❖ Stewardship Reflection ❖

"If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve...As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." JOSHUA 24:15

When we commit to serving the Lord, we become a disciple in the work of the Lord. A disciple is a person who spends time in prayer every day, joyfully participates in charitable works, and generously supports their local parish and Church mission. If we say we serve God, our words and actions should reflect the Gospel message to others.

~ PARISH NEWS ~



Religious Education classes will begin on **September 18th.**

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We still need a teacher for 7th grade, if you are interested and have questions about it, please call Stacy Burns at 608-769-8828. The time for 7th grade is 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm on Wednesdays.

Family Fun Night!

Friday, November 8th

6:00 - 9:00 PM



We are looking for Raffle-type items.. Who do you know someone that would be willing to donate? OR are you willing to donate an ice fishing package, bow package for hunting, meat package or something else that people would love to have? Also needed will be smaller donations for the silent auction, maybe baskets with a theme, like wine, chocolate, Christmas items, gift cards, etc. Even if it's something little, we can put it together with other items. We are open to all suggestions. Whatever ideas, items, etc. you are willing to share, please call or text Stacy Burns at 608-769-8828.



~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

A Minute with Jesus:

At Mass, the Scripture Readings

prepare us to receive Jesus

There are two major parts to the Mass: the liturgy of the word and the liturgy of the eucharist. In the liturgy of the word, we listen to three readings and a psalm from the Bible. These readings help us recall all that God has done for us: His love and His plan for us. We stand up for the third reading – the Gospel, the most important reading – because Matthew, Mark, Luke and John deliver the message that Jesus brings, and include quotations of His very own spoken words. After the Gospel, the priest or deacon helps us to understand these readings from sacred scripture and how to apply the message to our daily life in order to be a more faithful follower of the Lord. Hearing the words of scripture and the homily prepare our hearts to receive Jesus in the Eucharist.



Let's pray this right now and every day this week:

*Jesus, help me to come to Mass with an open heart,
ready to hear the readings from scripture
and the homily in order to know You better.*

This week, read from the letter of Paul to Timothy about the importance of God's Word: "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, correction and training in righteousness, so that the man (or woman) of God may be fully competent and equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

O Taste and See that the Lord is Good

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~Fall Social at St. Teresa of Kolkata September 8th
Fun activities for the children include bounce houses, games, corn pile, train rides, Bingo, corn hole and ladder ball. There will also be Lunch and a dessert table.

~Sauerkraut Supper at St. Peters Catholic Church in Middle Ridge will be October 9th.

~Mary Mother of the Church Chicken Que
The Fall Chicken Q will be held on Thursday, September 12. Tickets are \$12 for a dinner which includes half a chicken, baked potato with toppings, homemade baked beans, coleslaw and a roll. Sign up sheets for volunteers and tickets are available at Masses in the gathering space in church. For reservations, please call 608-518-6145 or email chickenque@mmoclacrosse.org

~Walking with Women, Praying with Scripture!
All women are welcome to attend. This is NOT a physical exercise of the body. We practice the ancient exercise of lectio divina, engaging our five senses while reading the Gospels. This practice has been passed down through the church for ages, aiding the faithful to experience a deeper encounter with Jesus in His Living Word. As a group, we desire to offer Christian community for women of all ages. We will be gathering in the Undercroft at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral beginning on Thursday, September 19, at 6 p.m. Please contact Mari Erickson or Amy Mulhern at walking9praying8@gmail.com for more information.

~Healing Service and Mass, Monday, Sept 9th 4:30—9:00 pm
Join us for a special Healing Service and Mass at Sacred Heart in Cashton. This is an opportunity for physical, emotional, and spiritual healing through prayer and the sacraments.

~Come to Rural Life Day | Sept. 18, from 10 AM-2 PM
Join hundreds of the faithful for the 43rd Annual Rural Life Day at the Schmidt Family Farm in Lone Rock

Celebrated Days of our Faithful this week:
+August 24th—Celebration of the Feast of St. Bartholomew, one of the 12 Apostles. Many scholars today identify Bartholomew as Nathanael, which is depicted in today's Gospel from John. "Nathanael said to Jesus 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel.'"
+August 27th—Celebration of the Memorial of St. Monica
St. Monica's son was not a baptized Christian until well into adulthood — something she prayed and fasted for. Because of that, she is the patron of conversion and mothers.
+August 28th—Celebration of the Memorial of St. Augustine
St. Augustine became a Christian at 33, a priest at 36 and a bishop at 41. His extraordinary writings made him one of the four initial doctors of the Church. His most known is likely his autobiography, "The Confessions." His story shows all of us that it is never too late to accomplish great things in faith!
+August 29th—Memorial of the Passion of St. John the Baptist
a gruesome story of Herodias' daughter asking for John the Baptist's head on a platter. John pointed the way to Christ. On this memorial, let us call on his intercession to be courageous in bringing others toward Christ.

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

The Apostles Stay with Jesus
Word Puzzle John 6:60-69



Unscramble the letters to fill in the blanks. Use the letters in circles to fill in the blanks at the end.

Jesus said to the
_____3_____ [EVLWTE],
"Do _____5_____ [UOY] also wish to go away?"
_____11_____ [NMIOS] Peter
_____12_____ [WSNAREED]
_____1_____ [MIH], "Lord, to whom shall we
_____10_____ [OG]? _____4_____ [OUY] have the
_____8_____ [DRWOS] of
_____6_____ [TEENRLA]
_____9_____ [FLIE]; and we have
_____7_____ [VEEBILDE] and
have _____2_____ [MCOE] to know that you are the

1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12



ALWAYS pray and NEVER give up!
With trust in God's goodness, let us offer our prayers
* For all who are sick, may Christ who knew pain and suffering in his own life, fill them with healing and hope.
* For Luke Sawaya as he begins his journey to priesthood and Brother Matthew Kotek as he continues his religious path
* For all struggling with depression or anxiety, may the Lord pour his grace upon them and grant them healing & comfort.
* For all the military men and women who are supporting our freedom.
* That we generously use our God-given gifts to do the work God has placed us here on earth to do.
* For the elderly who are homebound or unvisited, may the Lord fill them with his presence and comfort them with friendship.
* For the intentions listed in our parish book of prayer.
To add a request call 608-788-1646 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com



Stewardship Prayer: That we experience the Peace and Joy God wants for us in serving Him and others.