

St. Joseph Parish of St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse WI 54601

January 26, 2025 ~ *Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

PASTOR

Fr. Biju C Kunjukutty, MSFS
715-495-2338
bchennala@diolclergy.org

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



**Because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor,
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery
of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free,
and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.**

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

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

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
davidteresabrown457@gmail.com
Rick Meyer

MUSIC

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

Accompanist

Leland Gregorich
LuAnne Gregorich
Mary Beth Smith

Sacristan:

Sally Miller

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

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

~ PARISH INTENTIONS ~

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25TH

~4:00 pm - † George & Evelyn Miller (T&MP)
 Lector: Kathy Leis
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26TH

~8:30 am - Our Parish Family
 Lector: Jim Weber
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

MONDAY, JANUARY 27TH

~5:30 pm - † Deceased members of the Guanella and Strittmater families (CS)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28TH

~5:00 pm—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 ~5:30 pm - † Joseph & Clara Bina (MB)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30TH

~8:30 am - † Brent Clements (S&CC)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST

~8:30 am - † Evelyn Rutz-Thornton
 ~4:00 pm - † Francis Schmidt & Roxanne Blakeley (IS)
 Lector: Cecilia Sawaya
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
 ~8:30 am - † Joyce Clements (L&DC)
 Lector: Paula Silha
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- Finance Council meeting moved to Tues, Feb. 4th
- January 29 ~ Religious Education Classes
- February 5 ~ Religious Education Classes
- February 10 ~ 6:30 pm PCCW meeting
- February 12 ~ Religious Education Classes
- February 16—BINGO hosted by PCCW
- February 19 ~ Religious Education Classes
- February 26 ~ Religious Education Classes
- March 5 ~ Ash Wednesday

~ 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!!!

* 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

If you would like to schedule mass intentions, please contact the Parish office phone #788-1646 or there are envelopes in the back of church or email sjrp2601@gmail.com.

Mass Intentions Fee change

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

~ Contributions for the past week ~

Adult Envelopes (20) :	\$ 705.00
Plate collection:	\$ 225.00
Total:	\$ 930.00

Rejoicing in the Lord must be your strength.

	2024-25 Goal:	\$23,335.00
	Pledged:	\$ 15,943.00
	Received (41):	\$ 14,568.00
	Remaining Amount Due By June 30th:	\$ 8,767.00

First Reading: Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Gospel Reading: Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

In the first reading, Ezra the priest-scribe reads from the book of the law, interpreting so that all could understand. He enjoins them, Today is holy to the Lord your God. Do not be sad, and do not weep. In the second reading, Paul writes that, in Christ, all are one body. Each part of the body has a purpose to fulfill. In the Gospel, Jesus returns to Nazareth. There he reads in the synagogue and announces that the passage is fulfilled in their hearing.

~ Stewardship Reflection ~



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Second Reading, from St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, picks up where we left off last week and continues with a similar theme. The message is that we are each unique in the gifts and talents God has given to us, and therefore, we all have different tasks to fulfill as members of the Body of Christ.

What is further developed this week is the truth that, though different in our roles, every single individual is equally important and needed in the Church, from the freshly baptized newborn to the teenager sitting reluctantly by his parents, to the elderly shut-in who can no longer attend Sunday Mass. "God placed the parts, each one of them, in the body as he intended. If they were all one part, where would the body be? But as it is there are many parts, yet one body." does this teach us as Christian stewards? It shows us that we all have equal dignity and worth in God's sight, and that if God sees us as equally precious, we should view each other in this same light. It teaches us to humbly recognize our own gifts as well as the giftedness of every member of our parish family. And, while God designed us to be ultimately dependent on Him, it seems He has also designed us to need each other! This is part of the beauty and richness of a stewardship way of life. No one person can "do it all" in life — whether in family life or parish life. But God does not ask us to do it all. He simply asks us to share the gifts and talents we do have in the season of life we find ourselves right now.

And just what are we, as Christian stewards, aiming to achieve by sharing our gifts and talents? We are aiming to follow in the footsteps of our Lord, furthering with His grace the mission He began 2,000 years ago. He declares in the Gospel reading from St. Luke today what this mission is: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free...."

What a noble purpose! What great dignity has been bestowed upon us, modern-day disciples, that we are called to this same task.

In the week ahead, let's take this mission to heart, examining the way we can use our gifts and talents for this mission and asking ourselves what it looks like in our unique circumstances to "bring glad tidings to the poor," "liberty to captives," "sight to the blind" and "freedom to the oppressed."

It might feel uncomfortable at first. But the good news is you don't have to do it all. Do your part, let your brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ do theirs, and know that the Spirit of the Lord is upon us all as we live out this stewardship way of life.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

PCCW NEWS:

PCCW Meeting will be February 10th 6:30 pm
All women of the parish are welcome to attend!

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Next Bingo gathering will be Sunday, February 16th!

The following dates are available in February and March for Mass Intentions:



February: 13, 17, 18, 27

**March: 1st (both 8:30 am & 4:00 pm),
March (cont.) 3, 6, 10, 15, 20, 25, 27, 31**

If you would like a mass celebrated, please write the date and the person(s) name you would like the mass for on an envelope and put it in the offertory or send to St. Joseph Parish, W2601 State Rd 33, La Crosse, WI 54601
Reminder: Mass intentions are now \$20.00

Contribution letters have been mailed. If you see a discrepancy, please call the church office (608)788-1646 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com

~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

A Minute with Jesus:

Jesus is truly present in the Holy Eucharist

When we look at the consecrated Host at Mass, we see only bread, but the reality is we are looking at Jesus truly present. We may ask Jesus to grant us the grace to believe this truth, that though "hidden", He is truly present in holy Communion. It is important to remember that what we are not able to see with our eyes, we grasp by choosing to believe, with faith's consent.



Let's pray this right now and every day this week: **Lord, I want to believe. Please help me believe what You say is true, especially helping the part of me that sometimes questions.**

This week, read about the father of a sick boy who asked Jesus to help him believe what seemed impossible in Mark 9:20-27.

Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope

This special Jubilee Year 2025 has been proclaimed by Pope Francis. A Jubilee Year has its roots in the Old Testament, with a focus on the opportunity to re-establish a more solid relationship with God and with one another. The theme for the year is "Hope does not disappoint." These inspired words in the Bible were written by St. Paul, who endured many sufferings and trials. However, Paul knew that Jesus was always faithful and trustworthy, and never left his side. For us too, we will never be disappointed if we place our hope in Christ. He is always at our side, offering us His grace to strengthen us as pilgrims on our journey to heaven.

The jubilee officially began in Rome with the opening of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica and will conclude locally on Holy Family Sunday, Dec. 28, 2025. There will be further information forthcoming regarding exciting plans around the Diocese for Jubilee 2025.



~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~ **World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life:**

Celebrated in Parishes February 1-2
 In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on Feb. 2nd.

~ **Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) Collection**

Jan. 25-26: The Catholic Campaign for Human Development is the domestic anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops, working to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ "... to bring good news to the poor ... release to captives ... sight to the blind, and let the oppressed go free." (Luke 4:18)

CCHD works to break the cycle of poverty by helping low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, families and communities. CCHD offers a hand up, not a hand out.

CCHD has a complementary mission of educating on poverty and its causes. This strategy of education for justice and helping people who are poor speak and act for themselves reflects the mandate of the Scriptures and the principles of Catholic social teaching.

CCHD provides the Catholic faithful with concrete opportunities to live out the love of God and neighbor in ways that express our baptismal call and continuing Eucharistic transformation. CCHD is made possible by the generous support of Catholics in the United States, especially through an annual parish collection.

Bishop Battersby is continuing the designation of the last weekend of Jan. (25-26) for the CCHD collection.

~ **Heritage Bake Sale, Saturday, February 8**

The Blessed Sacrament PCCW will be sponsoring a Heritage Bake Sale , from 9am-noon, in the Blessed Sacrament Parish Center. Among the featured items will be Polish pierogies , Norwegian lefse , Bohemian kolotchys, Upper Peninsula pasties , baklava , as well as a variety of other homemade baked goods. Mark your calendar. Saturday Feb. 8th.

~ **Attention all Aquinas Catholic Schools Families, Friends, and Alumni!**

Next Tuesday, January 28, is the Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas AND the 3rd annual ACS Day of Giving!

What is the ACS Day of Giving? The ACS Day of Giving is a day dedicated to raising awareness and funds for all facets of Aquinas Catholic Schools. The entire ACS community will have the opportunity to support our mission—devotion to nurturing students of all faiths through educational excellence in its vibrant Catholic tradition—through our 3rd annual Day of Giving! <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=jCL2hU>

Diocesan Small Group Series - Eucharistic Congress

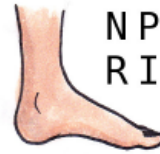
Since the National Eucharistic Congress (NEC) was so outstanding, there is a feeling of responsibility and a deep desire to bring this home to fellow parishioners. Therefore, a small group series has been developed using professional NEC recordings. The seven-session series allows people of the diocese to share in this incredible event and grow together with other like-minded Catholics.

There will be a ZOOM meeting for anyone interested in facilitating a group at the parish on Thursday, January 30 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Contact Ann Lankford at alankford@diolc.org to register. An overview of the series and all materials are available here: diolc.org/eucharist/parishioners

Stewardship Prayer: That we balance our lives by enjoying the gifts we have been given and generously sharing with those in need, without expecting anything in return.

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

'ONE BODY' WORD-FIND



TWCHRISTAEB
 OARACPAULEAH
 GONNABIELBPU
 EOMDRONEGHTR
 TFEYEDTAIEIC
 HOMANYDRFAZH
 EOBYAPOSTLES
 RTEACHERSIDI
 NPROPHETSNCH
 RISMELLSTGOD




Find the words that are written in CAPITALS. Use the left over letters to fill in the blanks at the end.



SAINT PAUL tells us that we have been BAPTIZED into the ONE body of CHRIST which is the CHURCH. There are MANY MEMBERS, but they all work TOGETHER and CARE for each other. But the parts of a BODY are not ALL the same as each other! An EYE is different from an ear, and a HAND is not the same as a FOOT. If all your body was an EAR, then how could you SMELL?

In the Church there are many different GIFTS. Some people are APOSTLES, some are PROPHETS, some are TEACHERS. Some people have the gift of HEALING. GOD has made all these different sorts of people to work together in the Church.



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 and Will Sawaya as they 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.
- * That those who feel a call to and desire single blessedness, marriage, priesthood and religious life may find the courage to say yes to what God asks of them.
- * For all the military men and women who are supporting our freedom.
- * 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

ALWAYS
pray
and
NEVER
give up!