

St. Joseph Parish of St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse WI 54601

February 9, 2025 ~ Fifth 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



“Come after me and I will make you fishers of men.”

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE (608-788-1646 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com) 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

*‘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
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

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

~ PARISH INTENTIONS ~

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

~8:30 am - Our Parish Family
 Lector: Sally Miller
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

~5:30 pm - † Eugene Breidel (TV)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH

~5:00 pm—*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*
 ~5:30 pm - † Mary & Ray Sedevie (D&KL)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH

~8:30 am - † Bob Strittmater and Members of the
 Guanella and Strittmater families (CS)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH

~4:00 pm - † Rick Schermerhorn (J&PS)
 Lector: Bill Weber
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH

~8:30 am - † Deceased members of John & Mary
 Burbach (S&CC)
 Lector: Donna Clements
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- February 10 ~ 6:30 pm PCCW meeting
- February 12 ~ Religious Education Classes
- February 16 ~ Bingo
- 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 (25) :	\$ 1,418.00
Plate collection:	\$ 227.00
Initial:	\$ 5.00
CCHD:	\$ 70.00
Total:	\$ 1,720.00

☞ Thank you Money Counters! ☜

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God



“For we are co-workers;
 you are God’s field,
 God’s building.”

1 Corinthians 3:9

1 CORINTHIANS 3:9

DIOLC.ORG/COWORKER

GOAL

\$23,335.00

PLEGDED AND RECEIVED

\$15,943.00

OF DONORS

41



Remaining Amount due by June 30, 2025: \$7,392.00

~ PASTOR LETTER ~



*Fifth Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

In the Gospel passage this weekend, we witness a profound moment where the disciples, especially Simon Peter, encounter the divine presence of Jesus at the sea of Galilee. In the narrative we find that Jesus instructs Peter to cast his net into

deeper waters after a fruitless night of fishing. The result is a miraculous catch, overwhelming in both quantity and significance. Witnessing this, Peter falls to his knees, exclaiming, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." Peter's reaction is one of fear, rooted in the awareness of his sinfulness and the overwhelming holiness of Jesus.

However, it is precisely in these moments of fear and self-awareness that God's transformative grace is revealed. Jesus' response to Peter is not one of rejection but of invitation and reassurance. "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men."

Jesus acknowledges Peter's fear but redirects it towards a new purpose, emphasizing that it is through divine holiness that our lives are transformed. Jesus' interaction with Peter teaches us that God's holiness is not a barrier but a bridge. It is an invitation to let go of fear and embrace the transformative power of God's grace. By acknowledging our shortcomings and surrendering to God's holiness, we can experience true freedom and purpose.

Peter's encounter with Jesus on the shores of Galilee is a powerful reminder that our sinfulness, when met with divine holiness, becomes an opportunity for grace and transformation. May we, like Peter, hear Jesus' words, "**Do not be afraid,**" and trust in the healing and life-changing power of God's holiness. Let us not shy away from His presence but embrace it, knowing that it is through His grace that we are made whole.

Have a blessed week
Live Jesus, Fr Biju MSFS

Jubilee 2025—Pilgrims of Hope How did the Jubilee Year originate?

In the Old Testament, Moses set up a year-long jubilee every fifty years that was meant to be a time of restoration. Debts were canceled in order to return God's people to freedom, forgiveness and joy. In the New Testament, Jesus fulfilled the celebration of the jubilee by declaring "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" (Luke 4:18-19). It is through Christ that we are to find freedom, forgiveness and joy.

One way to participate in Jubilee 2025 is to receive the sacraments on a more frequent basis. The sacrament of reconciliation brings liberty to captives. Allow Jesus, the Divine Physician, to help you find greater freedom through forgiveness and healing of sinful habits. The sacrament of the holy Eucharist - Jesus Himself - opens our eyes to see His power and love in action.

~ PARISH NEWS ~

PCCW NEWS:

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

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Next Bingo gathering will be
Sunday, February 16th!



Has your Telephone Number changed?



If so, please notify the Parish office
either by email sjrp2601@gmail.com
or write your new phone number on
your contribution envelope.

Thank you!

~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

A Minute with Jesus:

Jesus wants us to know He is continually with us.

Oftentimes, our mind begins to wander at Mass because we only see bread and wine. What contributes to our distractions is the bombardment of noise and images to our minds that come through our physical senses (hearing, seeing). Therefore, we are much less attuned to the world of the spirit and the much deeper spiritual realities that are right here, all around us. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: **Jesus, help me to learn to be quiet and reveal to my heart the truth that the Eucharist is really You present under the appearance of bread and wine.**



This week, read about Jacob in the desert, who was very much afraid, and came to realize that God was present right there with him. As with Jacob, we can say as we pray before the Blessed Sacrament, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it" (Gn. 28:10-17).

~Evenings of Hope | Feb. 22, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. | Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman, La Crosse

You are invited to participate in one of the Evenings of Hope with Bishop Battersby in La Crosse, Eau Claire and Wausau. The first Evening of Hope will be held in La Crosse on Feb. 22. Bishop Battersby will celebrate the 4:30 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman and impart the Papal Blessing with the attached plenary indulgence. A Holy Hour will follow Mass, during which Bishop Battersby will offer a jubilee reflection on hope. Confessions will also be heard. The event will end with a closing benediction at 7:00 p.m.

~Cabin Feverfest: St. Peter's Catholic Church in Middle Ridge

(Rockland) is holding their annual Euchre tournament and Soup Luncheon on Sunday March 2nd. Doors open at 12:00 noon and card games will begin at 1:00 PM. Cost is \$15 and includes lunch and entry into the tournament. Call the parish office at 608-452-4680 with any questions.



~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast—February 23

The Father McCaffrey Council 9438 of the **Knights of Columbus** will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast Sunday, February 23, from 8:30 am until noon in the basement dining hall at **St. Teresa of Kolkata Parish in West Salem**. People with mobility issues will be served in the Annex. The menu includes pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, coffee, and juice. The cost is a free will offering with the proceeds going to support seminarians.

~A New Monastery: Fr. Joseph O'Hara, a priest of the Diocese, is starting Holy Family Monastery in Northern California on a farm very near the Pacific coast. It has a traditional Benedictine observance, a life centered around the altar with the Latin liturgy, and is dedicated to a lifelong education according to the mind and method of St. Thomas Aquinas. Please come and visit Fr. O'Hara at St. James Parish, La Crosse after each of the scheduled weekend Masses on February 22 and 23, or contact him at holyfamily4u@protonmail.com.

~Men of the Cross "Freedom in Forgiveness" | March 8, 2025 Blessed Sacrament Church, La Crosse

Christ wants you to be set free. There is Freedom in Forgiveness! Maybe you really don't understand forgiveness, how to forgive others, or how to forgive yourself. Join men from all over the Diocese of La Crosse and beyond, to experience Freedom in Forgiveness through Mass, inspiring talks, honest discussion and fellowship. The Church needs men to live free, so they may also live the joy-filled life that Christ wants for us. Please consider attending

Men of the Cross: "Freedom in Forgiveness"

Who: All men (High School students who attend with a parent or guardian are free.)

When: March 8, 2025

Where: Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, La Crosse, WI

Cost: \$30 per person (includes lunch!) Registration: menofthecross.org

Speakers: Bob Kroll and Dominic Carstens. Mass with Bishop Battersby

~Healing Service - Monday, March 3, 2025

You are invited to a Healing Service on Monday, March 3, 2025, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Cashton, WI. This special evening offers an opportunity to experience God's grace through prayer, worship, and individual prayer ministry. All are welcome to attend.

4:30 PM: Adoration and Confession 5:30 PM: Mass

6:00 PM: Corporate Prayer for Healing

7:00 PM: Individual Healing Ministry (for those seeking additional prayers)

9:00 PM: Closing

Feel free to join us as your schedule allows, as times are approximate.

For more information, call Sara Clements at 608.385.5283

~CALIX to meet virtually Feb. 11 | A Catholic Substance Abuse Recovery Support Group

Calix is an association of Catholics wanting to live free of addiction to alcohol or drugs, and it is also for affected family members. It is not a substitute for AA or Al-Anon, which are strongly recommended, but it provides a Catholic perspective for these 12-step programs. "Calix" is Latin for "chalice," and it was founded in Minneapolis, MN in 1947 by a group of five men, all recovering alcoholics, who saw their Catholic faith as a sure path to serenity without alcohol. If you are interested in learning about the Calix group forming in the Diocese of La Crosse, email Christine at healthandharmonywi@gmail.com. The first meeting, by Zoom, is planned for Tuesday, Feb. 11.

Stewardship Prayer: That we may eagerly respond, "Here I am, Lord," whenever we hear God call upon us to be His hands, feet, and voice here on earth.

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

Fishers of Men



In today's gospel reading Peter had been out fishing all night and hadn't been able to catch any fish. When Jesus told him to let down the nets again he did it anyway. He was very surprised when the nets filled up with fish right away. And there were so many that the boat started to sink!




Jesus told Peter and his friends James and John that he was going to make them "fishers of men." But He didn't mean that they would catch people in nets! He was showing them that they had to bring people into the Church.



Who are the "fishers of men" today? Priests! They help people to come to the Faith by giving them the sacraments and teaching them the truth about God.





With trust in God's goodness, let us offer our prayers

ALWAYS pray and NEVER give up!

- * 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