



# St. Joseph Parish of St. Joseph Ridge

W2601 State Road 33, La Crosse WI 54601

March 16, 2025 ~ *Second Sunday of Lent*

## 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

## TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS



**CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE (608-788-1646 or email sjrp2601@gmail.com) TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR:**

- ◆ Joining the Parish
- ◆ Weddings
- ◆ 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, MARCH 15TH**

~4:00 pm - Lynnette Woyak (LG)  
 Lector: Cecilia Sawaya  
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

**SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH**

~8:30 am - † Gerald Kneifl (Kneifl family)  
 Lector: Sally Miller  
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

**MONDAY, MARCH 17TH**

~5:30 pm - † Madonna Bahr (D&KL)

**TUESDAY, MARCH 18TH**

~8:30 am - † Evelyn Rutz-Thornton

Note different time this week

**THURSDAY, MARCH 20TH**

~8:30 am - † Bob Strittmater, Guanella and Strittmater families (CS)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 22ND**

~4:00 pm - Our Parish Family  
 Lector: Bill Weber  
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

**SUNDAY, MARCH 23RD**

~8:30 am - † Darrel and Terry Miller (T&MP)  
 Lector: Sally Miller  
 Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers

~ PARISH CALENDAR ~

- **March 18 ~ 6:00 pm** Bible Study
- **March 19 ~ 7:00 pm** Stations of the Cross
- **March 19 ~** Religious Education classes
- **March 25 ~** Bible Study (after 5:30 pm mass)
- **March 26 ~ 7:00 pm** Stations of the Cross
- **March 26 ~** Religious Education classes
- **April 2 ~ 6:30 pm** Confessions at St. Joseph

~ EMBRACE YOUR FAITH ~

\* **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**Tuesday: No Adoration and Mass is at 8:30 am**

~ 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 July 1, 2024, Mass stipend fees are \$20

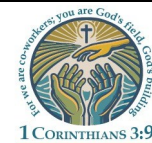
~ Contributions for the past week ~

Adult Envelopes (32) :	\$ 2,256.00
Plate collection:	\$ 256.81
Ash Wednesday:	\$ 655.38
Initial offering:	\$ 10.00
Easter flowers:	\$ 260.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 3,438.19</b>



	2024-25 Goal:	\$23,335.00
	Pledged:	\$ 19,138.00
	Received (45) :	\$ 15,408.00
	Amount Due-after pledges: <b>Due June 2025</b>	<b>\$ 4,197.00</b>

**If you pledged an amount, please honor your pledge by making the contribution by June 1, 2025. Thank you for your generosity**



~ PASTOR LETTER ~



**Second Sunday  
of Lent**

On the second Sunday of Lent, we always hear the story of Jesus' Transfiguration. The Transfiguration occurs on a mountain in the presence of just three of Jesus' disciples—Peter, James and John. While Jesus was praying “the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white.” Moses and Elijah were also there talking with Jesus.

The three of the apostles saw a glimpse, a tiny glimpse, of who Jesus was. That would transform them and sustain them through some dark moments following Jesus’ arrest and passion. The transfiguration experience of Jesus is about a message of hope and encouragement in moments of doubt and despair. This is an experience of reassurance. In those moments what we hear is “This is my chosen Son; listen to him.” As we continue our Lenten journey and Jesus continues his own journey towards Jerusalem.

Remember that on Wednesdays I encourage families to come to the **STATIONS OF THE CROSS †**  
at 7:00 pm at St. Joseph  
at 7:30 pm at St Peter.

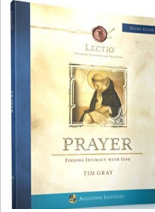
Through it we relive the Via Dolorosa (Sorrowful Street) with Christ. Guided by passages from the scriptures and prayers from the liturgy. This is one of the ways by which we can participate in lent focused on Jesus and his passion which he endured for us. Have a blessed lent!

*Live Jesus, Fr Biju MSFS*

~ PARISH NEWS ~

**BIBLE STUDY**

“Prayer: Finding Intimacy with God”



Our Bible Study started this past Tuesday and was well attended. The video and the study guide prompted wonderful conversations regarding the intimacy of prayer in people's lives.

**Thank you** Lisa Meyer for leading;

**Thank you** to Stacy Burns for organizing;

**Thank you** to Sally Miller for initializing.

If you are interested in attending—all are welcome, please come Tuesday evening to the school hall.

Any questions, please contact Stacy Burns (608-769-8828)

~ DIOCESAN NEWS ~

**A Minute with Jesus: Jesus is the “Living Bread from Heaven.”**



Jesus said, “I am the living bread that came down from Heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever” (John 6:51). Jesus gave this living bread to His apostles for the first time at the Last Supper. Jesus gives this living bread to us in holy Communion. The living bread is Jesus Himself. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: **Jesus, please strengthen my faith to believe that You are the living bread received in Holy Communion.** This week, read Jesus's explanation that He is the living bread from heaven (John 6: 48-51).

**~March 19th—Solemnity of Saint Joseph Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary** St Joseph is the Patron of the Universal Church. He is a powerful intercessor for many and a beloved member of the Holy Family. Come to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe this March 19, for the Solemnity of Saint Joseph.

8:30 am | (English Mass)

12:15 pm | Offered by Cardinal Burke – Novus Ordo (Bilingual Mass)

6:00 pm | Traditional Latin Mass

**~St. Mary's Men's Club Spaghetti and Pasta Dinner-Coon Valley**

The Men's Club will be hosting a spaghetti and pasta dinner on March 29 from 4-7 PM at St. Mary's Church, 900 Central Ave, Coon Valley. \$12 adults, \$5 kids under 12, and children under 3 free. Get a plate of spaghetti or pasta with sauce and meatballs, garlic bread, salad, coffee, milk or water and ice cream for dessert. Wine and beer will be available for purchase.

**~Mary Mother of the Church Fish Fry—March 28th**

4:30 to 7:00pm Dine-in or carry-out. Choose from baked or fried cod served with coleslaw, baked potato or fries, and a roll. A two piece dinner is \$13.00 and three piece dinner is \$16.00. Kids menu is grilled cheese, fries and fruit for \$5.00. Beer, wine and dessert will be available at dine-in for additional cost.

**~Fish Fry—St. Charles (Genoa)**

Come enjoy a delicious Fish Fry at St. Charles School (cafeteria) 707 Eagle St., Genoa on March 21st and April 4th. Eat in or take it to go Fish Dinners will be served from 5:00—7:00 pm or until gone. Dinner includes: 3 pieces of cod fish, baked potato, coleslaw, baked beans and a bun for \$15.00 Drinks and desserts sold separately.

**Important Season of Lent**



The reason for our fasting, prayer, and almsgiving during Lent is to be reawakened to all God has done for humanity and all He has done for each of us personally.

It is too easy to get lulled into complacency in our daily routines and "sleepwalk" through life. While nothing is inherently sinful in this routine, Christ calls us to do much more as Christian stewards. He calls us to be responsible, committed, and actively participate in His work.

This Lent, let us train ourselves, or more precisely, allow Him to train us to say "Yes" to His will and to offer our lives back to Him in gratitude. In so doing, we, too, will become "transfigured."

This season of Lent is a powerful opportunity for transformation, a time when we can awaken to a new, more spiritually fulfilling way of life. So we live fully awake; this is a stewardly way of life and glorious indeed.

~ DIOCESAN/Community NEWS ~

~**Holy Trinity Parish**, 13th St and Park Ave. will have Mass at 5:30 p.m. on the five Tuesdays during Lent followed by a Soup Supper in Leo Hall-Free will offering. Hosted by St. Anne's Ladies and Holy Trinity Men's Club. All are welcome.

~**Holy Trinity Parish** will be having an "**All School Reunion and Parish Picnic**" on Saturday, August 2. Anyone with any ties to the school and/or parish are welcome. Please mark your calendars and spread the word! Details are available on the Alumni Facebook page (Holy Trinity School Alumni), or email us HTLaCrosseWI@gmail.com.


~**You Can Help CRS Rice Bowl this Lent in Working to End World Hunger**. Millions of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers are facing life-threatening levels of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, especially with the current precarious state of U.S. international aid. At such a critical time, let us answer Jesus' invitation to love our neighbor in need. Please share bread for life with our sisters and brothers during Lent by giving to Catholic Relief Services' Rice Bowl initiative. Donate now through your parish rice bowl campaign or through the donation link at [diolc.org/social-concerns](http://diolc.org/social-concerns)

~**CALIX: 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 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 wish to learn about the Calix group that has formed in the Diocese of La Crosse, email Christine at [healthandharmonywi@gmail.com](mailto:healthandharmonywi@gmail.com). The next meetings, via Zoom, are planned for March 25 and April 1.

~**Mission Trip - July 11-19, 2025—Augusta, GA**  
Holy Family Parish in Prairie du Chien has three spots open for high school-age youth to attend a mission trip to Augusta, GA, to help with hurricane relief. The cost is \$400. If you are interested, please contact Mary Stoeffler immediately at 563.329.0149 to sign up.

~**Spring Equinox Labyrinth Walk—Franciscan Spirituality Center**  
Thursday, March 20th 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
Registration is appreciated but not required.  
Labyrinth is a single path that has been used as a walking meditation for prayer and reflection since ancient times. For many, it is symbolic of a pilgrimage and can help bring about clarity, peace and healing. As we enter into the season of spring, people are invited on to this self guided walk on our indoor canvas labyrinth. A brief instruction is available for those new to the labyrinth.

March 19th Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin



**PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH**  
**Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer**  
**Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
**To you God entrusted his only Son;**  
**in you Mary placed her trust;**  
**with you Christ became man**  
**Blessed Joseph, to us too,**  
**show yourself a father**  
**and guide us in the path of life.**  
**Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,**  
**and defend us from every evil. Amen**

~ ACTIVITY CORNER ~

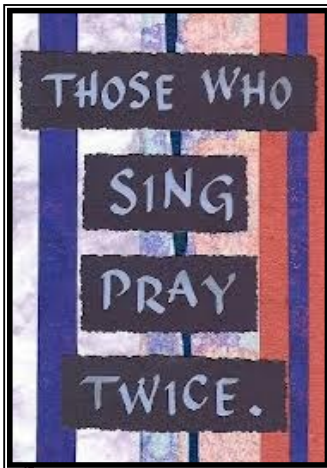
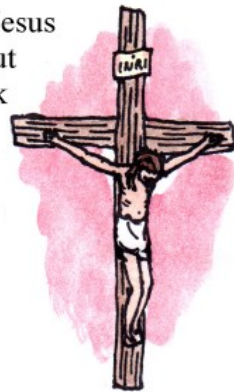
# Looking at Jesus



In today's Gospel reading Jesus took three of His apostles up a mountain where they saw Him shining like the sun and talking with Moses and Elijah. They were talking about how Jesus was going to go to Jerusalem and be killed. The apostles were amazed and confused.

Jesus let the apostles see Him in glory to help them to understand why He had to suffer and die. We won't see Jesus in His glory until we see Him in Heaven, but it is good for us to think about the things that He and Moses and Elijah were talking about.

Look at a crucifix or picture of Jesus on the cross every day. Think about how much He loves you, and think about how you act toward Him. What can you do to love Him better? Lent is a good time to try to find ways to love Jesus more.



*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 our world, may Christ's peace touch the hearts of leaders and influencers and lead them to harmony
- \* For all who struggle to care for loved ones, may the Lord in his mercy offer provision for their needs, .
- \* 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](mailto:sjrp2601@gmail.com)

