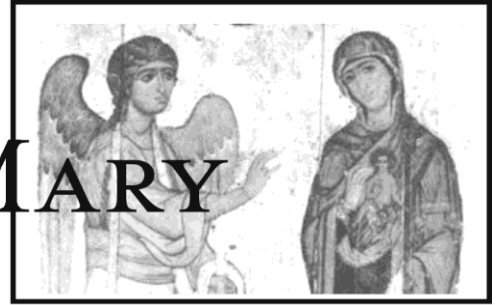


ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH



This Week in Our Parish

SYMBOLON “The Catholic Faith Explained” series, church library, Sundays, 9:15 – 10:15 AM.

This week we welcome Sterling Hazel Vesbach, daughter of Phillip and Destinee (Welsh) Vesbach, into the Christian community through the Sacrament of Baptism following the 10:30 AM Mass, on December 16. Welcome to this community of Faith!

The Social Justice Committee has a basket in the Atrium to collect donations for the La Crosse Warming House and Catholic Charities from now until Christmas. A list of needed items is posted in the Atrium or choose an ornament (or two) of a needed item off the tree as a donation reminder.

Religious give thanks – “This money is pure gift,” writes a religious sister of the support made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious. “It enables us to continue providing care for our elderly sisters.” Your gift to last week’s collection helps hundreds of religious communities meet pressing retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. The Annunciation of the BVM Parish’s second collection the weekend of December 8-9, provided \$1,566.73. Thank you for your generosity!

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish Book Club will meet **Tuesday, December 18, at 1:00 PM** in the church library.

In preparation for Christmas, there is a parish-wide **Sacrament of Reconciliation Thursday, December 20, at 6:30 PM**. There will be four priests to hear confessions – Father Michael Klos, Father Nathan Kuhn, and Father Zacharie Beya-Tshingimba will assist our pastor, Father Janusz.

No Religious Education classes Sunday, December 23, and Wednesday, December 26. Merry Christmas!

HELP WANTED! Parishioners, please stay after the **December 23, 10:30 AM Mass** to help decorate the church in preparation for the birth of Christ. Men especially needed for various carrying and lifting tasks, setting up the tree, etc.

December 16, 2018

3rd Sunday of Advent

today’s readings are in the hymnal, page 999

Sunday Mass

Saturday

5:15 PM

Sunday

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Daily Mass

Tuesday

5:15 PM

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday
8:00 AM

Youth Mass – 3rd Sunday 10:30 AM
Mass, November to May

Liturgy of the Hours

This ancient communal prayer of the Church is prayed after all weekday Masses

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions are heard 30 minutes before all Weekend and 20 minutes before all Weekday Masses

Rosary

The Holy Rosary is prayed 30 minutes before all Masses

Bethel Home

Mass and Rosary held on 3rd Friday of each month at
10:15 AM

Norseland

Mass and rosary held on 2nd & 4th Wednesday each month at 9:30 AM & 10:00 AM

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of each month after 8:00 AM Mass until Noon

Parish Website www.stmaryviroqua.org; Parish Fax (608) 299-3721

In case of emergency, Fr. Janusz Kowalski, Pastor (715) 456-1450

Frances Campbell, Secretary/Bookkeeper (M-Tu & Th-F – 8 am-4 pm) stmaryparish@mwt.net (608) 637-7711

Tony Shay, DRE ABVM.youthfaithformation@gmail.com (608) 638-7879

400 Congress Avenue, Viroqua, WI 54665

December 16, 2018

Dates and times of special Masses:

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24, 5:00 PM Children's Mass

**Christmas Day Masses, Tuesday, December 25 – Holy Day of Obligation: Midnight
8:00 AM
10:30 AM**

**Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, Tuesday, January 1, 8:00 AM
and 5:15 PM – Holy Day of Obligation**

Join us at 4:30 PM, just before the 5:00 PM Mass on Christmas Eve for caroling and a sweet rendition of the Nativity of our Lord presented by the children of our parish. Come celebrate with us!

The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary choir is singing for midnight Mass and will start caroling at 11:30 PM.

The Pilgrimage for Life to Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry, runs **Jan. 16-20, 2019**. Visit www.diolc.org/yya and click on "Pilgrimage for Life" to sign up. Anyone 13 and older may participate and will travel as a group. The "Early Bird Price" (forms and full payment in diocese office by **January 2nd**) is \$330.00 per person/\$300.00 per chaperone. After January 2nd, "Regular Price" is \$350.00 per person/\$320.00 per chaperone. **Sponsors: Anyone who would like to be a part of supporting life from conception to natural death but would not be up to the bus trip to Washington DC may be interested in sponsoring youth going on the Pilgrimage For Life please contact the parish office.**

Polish Priest Prepares Pierogis for Pro- Life: Come to learn how to make pierogis (Polish dumplings). Everyone is invited to join Father Janusz and our youth with this fundraiser on **Saturday, January 12th at 9:00 AM** in Marian Hall. The pierogis will be sold after all the Masses on January 12/13th - 5 for \$3.00, 10 for \$5.00

DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its [policies and procedures](#), seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (employee, volunteers, vendors, religious or clergy). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to the Most Reverend William Patrick Callahan, Bishop of La Crosse, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Karen Becker, Victim Assistance Ministry, 608-519-8002 or kbecker@cclse.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of the Vicar for Clergy or on the diocesan website at: www.diolc.org.

Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local parish and on the [diocesan website](#). If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at (608) 791-2679; or tbrown@diolc.org

Note: The parish office will be open only on Monday, December 24; Friday, December 28; Monday, December 31; and Thursday, January 3, during the weeks of Christmas and New Year's.

December 16 , 2018

FINANCIAL REPORT

Weekend December 9, 2018

Adults: \$4,416.10

Offertory: \$590.14

Solemnity of Mary: \$25.00

March for Life: \$254.37

Immaculate Conception: \$522.00

Retired Religious: \$1,566.73

Christmas: \$55.00

Christmas Flowers: \$343.00

Total: \$7,772.34

Needed Weekly: \$3,400.00

2018-2019

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Target: \$32,405.00

Pledged: \$20,141.00

Cash to date: \$14,718.50

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Saturday, 15 December, 5:15 PM +**Paul Penchi, Jr.**

(Paul Penchi Family)

Sunday, 16 December, 8:00 AM +**Tony Spaeth**

(Pat Spaeth Family)

Sunday, 16 December, 10:30 AM +**People of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish**

Monday, 17 December, +**No Mass**

Tuesday, 18 December, 5:15 PM +**Paul Penchi, Sr.**

(Robert Peterson)

Wednesday, 19 December, 8:00 AM +**Paul Penchi, Jr.**

(Paul Penchi Family)

Thursday, 20 December, 8:00 AM +**Virginia Leis**

(Jim & Shirley Wuensch)

Friday, 21 December, 8:00 AM +**Agnes Thielker**

(Veronica Tresner)

Friday, 21 December, 10:15 AM +**Mass at Bethel Home**

Saturday, 22 December, 5:15 PM +**Gladys Kiedinger**

(Dan & Rhonda Kiedinger)

Sunday, 23 December, 8:00 AM +**Scott Lasky**

(David & Carol Hall)

Sunday, 23 December, 10:30 AM + **People of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish**

Saints of the Week

**St. Peter Canisius*

Make your reservation soon for this upcoming event at St. Anthony Spirituality Center in Marathon, Wisconsin! Please call St. Anthony's at 715-443-2236 or visit us online at our Facebook page or at www.sarcenter.com to register. If you would like to stay at St. Anthony's on the night before or after this event, please call to inquire about the cost and availability of overnight accommodations. **December 31st - January 1st = New Year's Eve Retreat: Pray Always** - We are excited to welcome back Fr. Tom Zelinski, OFM Cap, who will help us consider the importance and scope of prayer in our lives, especially as we look to the new year and the resolutions we would like to keep. This one-night retreat begins with the evening meal and includes a Holy Hour of Adoration, a late night social to count down to the New Year, and Mass on New Year's Day. The cost of this retreat is \$95.

Begin the New Year with Emotionally Mature Children - Do your children test your resolve with their emotional immaturity? Do you need some suggestions on how to moderate the drama in your family? Then plan to attend the Raise Them Well Webinar on emotional maturity, **January 7th at 7 PM**. You can be part of this webinar from the comfort of your own home. Just register and watch the entire presentation on your computer or smartphone. Cost \$5. Register at diolc.org/marriage/webinars/

Diocesan Lay Formation Institute classes begins in fall of 2019 - Draw closer to Christ and deepen your knowledge of the Faith in a joyful community of learners! Registration is now underway for the next two-year cycle. Brochures and application forms can be downloaded at www.diolc.org/lay-formation. You can also watch a 3-minute slideshow shot at St. Anthony's Retreat Center. If you are interested, discuss this with your pastor. For more information, contact the Office for Ministries and Social Concerns at ministries@diolc.org or call (608) 791-2667.

This week we highlight **Westby Locker & Meats** as the bulletin sponsor of the week.
Please Support the Businesses that Support Our Parish Bulletin

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish's Mission Statement

As a community of faith, St. Mary Parish celebrates the love of Jesus through sacred worship and religious education; we cherish the dignity of each person, and we aspire to minister to all. We revere our history, embrace God's presence among us each day, and walk hopefully into the future.

Please note:

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish Book Club will meet regularly the third Tuesday of every month at 1:00 PM in the church library. Everyone is welcome to attend and share and discuss your current reading selection – biographies, historical, religious, human interest.


Youth Masses will be celebrated the 3rd Sunday 10:30 Mass, November to May.

A children's Mass is scheduled for Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24, 2018 at 5:00 PM.

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"How can there be too many children? That is like saying there are too many flowers." ~ Mother Teresa