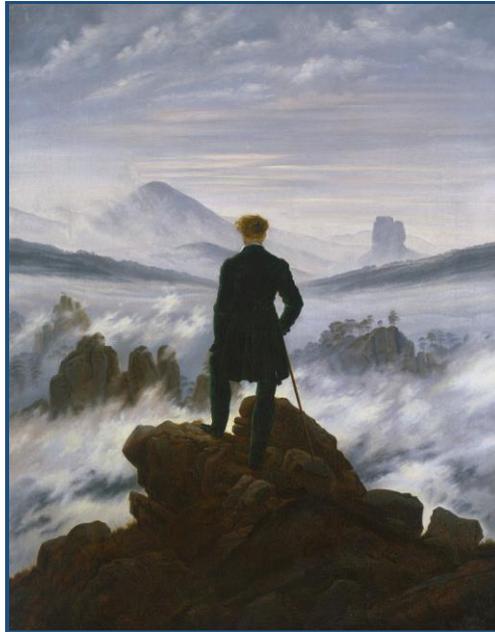


Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



"Der Wanderer über dem Nebelmeer"
by Caspar David Friedrich

"A Litany for Survival" by Audre Lorde

For those of us who live at the shoreline
standing upon the constant edges of
decision
crucial and alone
for those of us who cannot indulge
the passing dreams of choice
who love in doorways coming and going
in the hours between dawns
looking inward and outward
at once before and after
seeking a now that can breed
futures
like bread in our children's mouths
so their dreams will not reflect
the death of ours;

For those of us
who were imprinted with fear
like a faint line in the center of our
foreheads
learning to be afraid with our mother's
milk
for by this weapon
this illusion of some safety to be found
the heavy-footed hoped to silence us

For all of us
this instant and this triumph
We were never meant to survive.

And when the sun rises we are afraid
it might not remain
when the sun sets we are afraid
it might not rise in the morning
when our stomachs are full we are afraid
of indigestion
when our stomachs are empty we are
afraid
we may never eat again
when we are loved we are afraid
love will vanish
when we are alone we are afraid
love will never return
and when we speak we are afraid
our words will not be heard
nor welcomed
but when we are silent
we are still afraid

So it is better to speak
remembering
we were never meant to survive

November 28, 2021

1st Sunday of Advent

Readings are in the hymnal, #993

Eucharist

Saturdays - 6:30 PM

Sundays - 10:30 AM

Wednesdays - 6:30 PM

Fridays - 8:00 AM

Livestreaming Mass

www.facebook.com/StMarysViroqua

St. Mary's prerecorded Masses on Channel 15:

Sunday Mass airs:

Tues. 11:30 am; Wed. 9:30 am;

Thur. 7:30 am; Fri. 5:30 am;

Sat. 3:30 am; Sun. 4:30 pm;

Mon. 2:30 pm.

Pastoral Visits:

Please contact the parish office if
you or a loved one is in need of a
pastoral visit. Let us know if you
would like to be remembered in
our parish's public prayers.

Baptism

Call the church office,
(608) 637-7711, for information
and scheduling.

Confession

by appointment or in the church
library (*see Church Calendar on
page 3*)

Eucharistic Adoration

First Fridays after Mass
Benediction at 10 AM

Giving:

Phone app –

https://tithe.ly/give_new

On-line –

<https://diolc.org/annunciation-of-the-blessed-virgin-mary-parish-viroqua/>

Parish Office & Church:

OPEN: MTuWF – 8 AM-4 PM

Sat. – 9 AM-8 PM

Sun. – 9 AM-Noon

Parish Website www.stmaryviroqua.org; <https://www.facebook.com/StMarysViroqua>; Parish Fax (608) 299-3721

Fr. Matthew N. Marshall, Pastor (608) 637-7711; mmarshall@diolclergy.org; for emergencies (608) 738-6806

Frances Campbell, Secretary/Bookkeeper stmaryparish@mwt.net (608) 637-7711

Religious Education stmaryparish@mwt.net, (608) 637-7711; Parish Kitchen (608) 637-7878

400 Congress Avenue, Viroqua, WI 54665

November 28, 2021

Weekday Readings

by Kieran O'Mahony, OSA

Monday 29 November ~ *Isaiah 2:1-5*

As a new church year opens, our first reading is a clarion call to start again and set out on the pilgrimage of faith with fresh vision and energy. The marvellous image of transforming weapons of war into instruments of agriculture speaks in every age.

Matthew 8:5-11

The faith of the centurion is indeed remarkable: “just give the word.” What “word” from the Lord do I need at this moment in my life?

Tuesday 30 November ~ *Romans 10:9-18 (St Andrew)*

Paul is convinced that the Word of God is very near to us, “in our hearts and on our lips.” We need, nevertheless, bearers of that Word, more than ever...perhaps I could be a carrier myself?

Matthew 4:18-22

As usual in the call stories, human things that would interest us—how did their wives and children feel?—are left out and we stand before the sovereign call of Jesus. Have I heard that call in my own life?

Wednesday 1 December ~ *Isaiah 25:6-10*

This reading is familiar from funerals; it offers a great vision of God and God's gift of ultimate, comprehensive consolation. The idea that God will destroy death forever was a hope at the time of writing; in our Christian faith we know that God has achieved this in Jesus.

Matthew 15:29-37

The compassion of Jesus is outstanding in this reading: it is *he* who names the need and supplies the food. What hunger does he identify in us today? How are we nourished by him?

Thursday 2 December ~ *Isaiah 26:1-6*

As you listen, you may notice all the words to do with protection: strong city, gates, rock, citadel, forming a great call to faith and trust in God.

Matthew 7:21,24-27

It is always tempting to think that once you've said your prayers, you're done. The prophets regularly pillory such complacency and so does Jesus. In addition, awareness of local geography adds over to his words. In the Judean desert, there are dry riverbeds called *wadis*, subject to flash floods. To build on such an exposed foundation is the very height of foolishness.

Friday 3 December ~ *Isaiah 29:17-24 (St Francis Xavier)*

As often in the Bible, there are promises to the deaf, the blind and the poor. Each of us is precisely deaf, blind and poor and so the message is for us all today, if only we would pay attention. We hold fast to conviction that the Lord is our light and our help.

Matthew 9:27-31

Miracle stories, like today's, are always meant to be taken at two levels. Rather than wonder about the past, we could ask in the present, how am I blind? What is my need for the gift of sight which comes from faith?

Saturday 4 December ~ *Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26 (St John Damascene)*

The prophet raises the hopes of his hearers with a grand vision of peace and prosperity, a gift of God himself. Such harmony and well-being come from following the way offered by God. *Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.* (Psalms 1:2-3)

Matthew 9:35-10:1,5,6-8

Again, it is the compassion of Jesus which is outstanding. He feels and he acts and he sends out. Our need for the word of compassion and the healing touch of God is great. Perhaps I too am being called to some ministry in the community of faith or in society at large?

November 28, 2021

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of November 15-21, 2021

Adults: \$3,368.00

Offertory: \$387.00

Solemnity of Mary: \$20.00

Immaculate Conception: \$10.00

Retired Religious: \$20.00

Christmas: \$50.00

Christmas Flowers: \$60.00

Total: \$3,915.00

October E-gifts: \$1,504.46

Needed Weekly: \$3,400.00

2021-2022

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Target: \$36,530.00

Pledged: \$12,640.00

Cash to date: \$10,057.50

THANK YOU!

Ministry Schedule

Sat. Dec. 4, 6:30 PM

Gladys Jacobson Eucharistic Minister - Host

Reid Fisher Altar Server

Lane Fisher Altar Server

Dale Pertzborn Lector

Sun. Dec. 5, 10:30 AM

Pat Obernberger Eucharistic Minister – Host

Royce Scoville Altar Server

Alexis Scoville Altar Server

Sara Hewitt Lector

Wed. Dec. 8, 6:30 PM

Amy Matthes Eucharistic Minister – Host

Kyle Prorok Alter Server

Matthew Tubbin Lector

If not able to serve as scheduled, please request a sub through MSP. Thank you!

MASS INTENTIONS & CHURCH CALENDAR

Saturday, 27 November, 6:30 PM, +Katie Pham
(Libby Frank)

Sunday, 28 November, 10:30 AM, +Johnnie Johnson
(Parker & Julie Moore)

Wednesday, 1 December, 6:30 PM +Angie Dickman
(Pat Effinger)

Friday, 3 December, 8:00 AM +Sarah DeWitt
(DeWitt Family)

Saturday, 4 December, No Confessions

Saturday, 4 December, 6:30 PM +Michael Koenig
(Jeanette Amundson)

Sunday, 5 December, 10:30 AM +Gary Teadt
(Carol Teadt)

ST. MARY'S ANNUAL CRAFT SHOW ~ SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2021 ~ Come join the fun and find that one of a kind gift for the Holiday Season from several local vendors and crafters. Open from 8:00 AM-1:30 PM at the Coon Valley Village Hall, 108 Roosevelt St. Concessions available throughout the show. Visit our website: stmarycv.org and click on the Craft Show tab for information, or contact Nancy Peters at 608-790-6034 Peters@mwt.net

The Diocese of La Crosse is again sponsoring 50th Jubilee Wedding Anniversary Celebrations for those couples celebrating fifty years of marriage. **Parishioners who will celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during the calendar year of 2022, please contact the parish office before December 29, 2021, and provide your name, address, phone number, and anniversary date.** Bishop William Patrick Callahan will send each couple a certificate around their anniversary and an invitation to either an in-person Mass and dinner or a virtual Mass depending on the state of COVID.

Thank you! to all who roasted turkeys, baked pies, and helped with the Community Thanksgiving Dinner.

Pastoral Council Members

Kris Brueggen	brueggen@mwt.net
Phyllis Krause	phylliskrause63@gmail.com
Parker Moore	parkerm53@gmail.com
Pat Peterson	peterson.pata@gmail.com
Craig Poshepny	cposhepny@frontiernet.net
Tony Shay	tafts4268@gmail.com
Dennis Vinger	dvinger@kickapoo.k12.wi.us

Our Pastoral Council is here to serve. Working with our Pastor they help us discern the needs of our community and the call of the Spirit in our time. **Please feel free to contact them** or Father Matt with your concerns.

A **Christmas Concert to benefit A Place of Grace** will be held **Sunday, December 5, 2 pm** in the San Damiano Chapel, 900 Franciscan Way, La Crosse on the Viterbo Campus. Music will be provided by Prairie Smoke with special guests Fr. Conrad Targonski, OFM and Polly Pappadopoulos with comments from Tom Thibodeau. Cash and non-perishable food donations will be joyfully received. Due to Covid, masks are required for the concert.

Children's Envelopes are now available in the Atrium. Last week at the Children's Mass we focused on the importance of sharing with others. These envelopes are leftovers from some past time in our parish. Try using them at home. Children can bring their envelope with to Mass, and far from only giving money, encourage them to write down on the envelope something they want to give to God from this week. *Did they do something helpful or kind? Do they have a special prayer request?*

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“...pray that you have the strength...to stand before the Son of Man.” ~ Lk 21:36