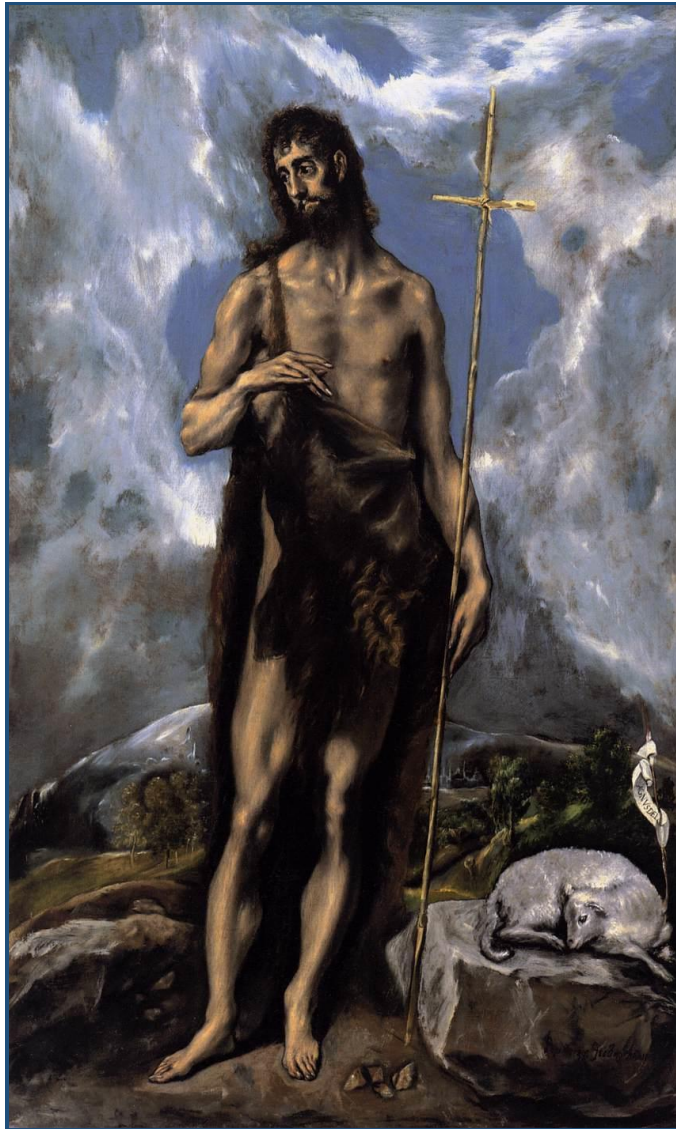


Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



"St. John the Baptist" by El Greco

We are still in need of many volunteers for our RE program. We currently only have the teachers needed for 1st Communion prep. Please contact our parish office if you are able to help. We are more than happy to pay for your investment of time and energy. Thank you!

Included in our Bulletin this week is our **Finance Report for 2020**. Many factors made preparing it harder than typical this year. Thank you for your patience! If you have questions or care to see our full Report to the Bishop, please contact our parish office. **Thank you for all you have shared!**

The PCCW will have a Christmas tea on December 15, at noon. All women of the parish are welcome. Bring a treat to share in our fellowship.

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

December 5, 2021

2nd Sunday of Advent

Readings are in the hymnal, #996

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

December 5, 2021

I have received a number of complaints over the year about disruptions during church. Please do remember that many of our parishioners are still young, still growing up. Please remember that we have parishioners with many different needs. While I hope we all strive to put no stumbling block before our neighbors, I nonetheless remember some words from St. Benedict's Rule: *Ideo autem omnes ad consilium vocari diximus, quia saepe iuniori Dominus revelat quod melius est.* **"So I tell you: call everyone to be in council together, since often the Lord reveals what is better to the younger of us."**

Several weeks ago you should have received a mailing from the Diocese about **this year's Annual Appeal**. The easiest way to think of the DAA is as a church tax. Parishes take up collections on Sundays; dioceses take up appeals. And they aren't optional! That's why I say "tax". Information about the 2021 - 2022 Appeal is found on page 3 of our Bulletin every week. A brief case study is available online:

<https://diolc.org/stewardship/>. If you have questions or concerns about where Appeal monies go or how our Diocesan Budget is formed, please contact Jeff Reiter in the DAA Office: (608) 791-2653. E-mails can be sent via the webpage. Thank you for your help!

Peace to all!

Fr. Matt

"What way shall we prepare for the Lord? A way by land? Could the Word of God travel such a road? Is it not rather a way within ourselves that we have to prepare for the Lord? Is it not a straight and level highway in our hearts that we are to make ready... The human heart is vast, broad, and capacious, if only it is pure. Would you like to know its length and breadth... You ought to judge it not by its physical size but by its power to embrace such a vast amount of knowledge of the truth.

But so that I may convince you that the human heart is large by a simple example from daily life, let us consider this. Whatever city we may have passed through, we have in our minds. We remember its streets, walls, and buildings, what they were like and where they were situated. We have a mental picture of the roads we have traveled. In moments of quiet reflection our minds embrace the sea that we have crossed. So, as I said, the heart that can contain all this is not small!"

- Origen of Alexandria, *On Luke's Gospel*, 21

DID YOU KNOW?

If you are 70 ½ or older, you can do a **qualified charitable distribution (QCD)** of up to \$100,000 a year from your **IRA directly to a charity**. The distribution won't show up in your adjusted gross income and CAN count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD). The QCD allows you to be more strategic with your RMD. Consult your tax advisor before making any decisions. If a QCD is for you, please consider St. Mary's Parish as your charity of choice.

December 5, 2021

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of November 22-28, 2021

Adults: \$1,372.00

Offertory: \$259.00

Christmas Flowers: \$50.00

Total: \$1,681.00

October E-gifts: \$1,504.46

Needed Weekly: \$3,400.00

2021-2022

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Target: \$36,530.00

Pledged: \$15,175.00

Cash to date: \$12,472.50

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS & CHURCH CALENDAR

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

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

Wednesday, 8 December, 6:30 PM +Angie Dickman
(Gary & Joyce Unseth)

**Wednesday, 8 December, 7:30 PM Special Parish Council
Meeting in Marian Hall**

Friday, 10 December, 8:00 AM +Mary Lou Davis
(Lucille Krause)

Saturday, 11 December, 10:00 AM Confessions

Saturday, 11 December, 6:30 PM +Carl & Margaret Downing
(Pat Klos)

Sunday, 12 December, 10:30 AM +Guy Nicks
(Guy Nicks Family)

Wednesday, 15 December, Noon PCCW Christmas Tea

**Thursday, 16 December, 6:30 PM Finance Council Meeting in
Marian Hall**

Give in gratitude. A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, "I still remember the lessons the sisters gave us and how they instilled in us the love of our faith." Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift to next week's second collection helps provide care, medicine, and more. Please be generous.

Ministry Schedule

Sat. Dec. 11, 6:30 PM

Julie Moore Eucharistic Minister - Host
Reid Fisher Altar Server
Lane Fisher Altar Server
Dan Kiedinger Lector

Sun. Dec. 12, 10:30 AM

Phyllis Krause Eucharistic Minister - Host
Nettle Stevenson Altar Server
Reuben Stevenson Altar Server
Al Mislivecek Lector

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

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.

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.


Good Shepherd Cookie Walk - Saturday December 11, 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Shoppers may purchase a variety of prepackaged Christmas cookies and specialties. Proceeds from the Cookie Walk will go to missions, both local and global.

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*“I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you
 will continue to complete it...” ~ Phil 1:6*