

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

Deacon Tony and I are currently feuding about the proper consistency of ashes. He maintains (reasonably) that Ash Wednesday ashes ought to be recognizably dusty (dare I say, ashy). I see his rationale, but my time as a camp counselor taught me that the most effective war paint comes from a highly viscous mixture of ground-up charcoal and stagnant rainwater. That is why you may still be struggling to wash off the ashes from your forehead three days later, because I won that argument.

That whole ashen cross image is one of my favorite day-specific Church symbols. As my buddy St. Paul says, “do not conform yourselves to the present age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you can discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.” There’s something different about being a disciple of Jesus Christ – a willingness to take a pause and ask deep questions, the confidence to let myself be led, the vulnerability to let myself be seen as a marked man (or as the case may be for yourself, a marked woman) – someone changed by Christ’s cross and resurrection. In case there’s anyone who didn’t already know you’re Catholic, if you walked into the Food Coop with that cross on your forehead they certainly know now, and bringing Christ’s cross and resurrection into the world is a powerful testimony to people that really need hope.

May God bless you throughout this whole Lent. It’s a hard season, it’s a long season, and the super-important tension between the cross, death, and resurrection makes it a deep-waters season. Pray it well, live the cross, and welcome the resurrection when it comes!

Fr. Joe

February 18, 2024
1st Sunday of Lent

*Readings are in the hymnal,
#1017*

Eucharist

Saturdays - 6:30 PM

Sundays - 10:30 AM

Wednesday - 5:45 PM

Fridays - 8:00 AM

Livestreaming Mass

www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley

Diocese of La Crosse

Televised Mass on

Channel 19, Sunday, 9:30 AM

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 parish office for information and scheduling.

Confession

Sat. 5:45 PM, Sun. 9:45 AM,
Wed. 6:15 PM during Adoration

Rosary:

The Holy Rosary is prayed 30 minutes before all Masses

Eucharistic Adoration

1st Friday each month after Mass

Benediction at 10 AM;

Every Wednesday 6:15 PM

Giving:

Phone app - https://tithe.ly/give_new

On-line -

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

Parish Offices & Church:

OPEN: MTWF- 8 AM-4 PM

Sat. - 9 AM-7:30 PM

Sun. - 9 AM-Noon

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

Father Joseph M. Richards, Pastor, (608) 606-9787; Deacon Tony Shay; Diana Hernandez-Torres, Sacristan

Beth Lakmann, Music & Liturgy Director, bethlakmann@icloud.com; (608) 637-7711

Fran Campbell, Secretary/Bookkeeper, stmaryparish@mwt.net, (608) 637-7711; Parish Kitchen (608) 637-7878

400 Congress Avenue, Viroqua, WI 54665

February 18, 2024

We extend sympathy to the family of **Barbara Ann Martinez** who passed away Monday, February 12, 2024. A Mass of Christian burial will be held Thursday, February 22, 2024, at 11:00 AM, visitation at 10:00 AM until time of services, at the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, Viroqua. May she rest in peace.

St. Joseph Circle Meet/Greet Meetings in the atrium following masses on **Saturday, March 2nd and Sunday, March 10th**. St. Joseph Circle Chairs, Sarah Olson (608-606-5661) and Pat Peterson (608-606-1761) will be available to meet and gather information from the St. Joseph Circle Members. Members requested to attend one of these short meetings not to exceed 30 minutes and provide input on Circle activities.

Healing Mass and Service-Cashton, WI

Are you suffering from physical, spiritual, or psychological distress? God's will is for you to be whole! A Healing Service will be held on **March 4th** at Sacred Heart Church-Cashton. The evening begins at 4:30 pm with Adoration, devotions, confessions and Holy Mass (5:30), followed by prayers for healing using exorcised and blessed salt, oil, and water, with intercessory prayers by our clergy and lay prayer teams.

The PCCW and Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish are both offering a \$500 scholarship to two graduating seniors of our parish. Scholarship applications can be picked up in the atrium or downloaded from the parish website, www.stmaryparish.org. Scholarship applications are due in the parish office by **Monday, April 15**.

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 (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. **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.

February 18, 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Feb. 5-11, 2024

Offertory: \$2,864.00

Ash Wednesday \$10.00

CCHD: \$40.00

Total: \$2,914.00

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

January E-gifts: \$1,978.87

2023-2024

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Target: \$36,130.00

Pledged: \$33,552.50

Cash to date: \$30,714.16

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 17 February, 6:30 PM +Elrita Leis

(St. Mary's Choir)

Sunday, 18 February, 10:30 AM +Lucille Krause

(Ann Graham)

Wednesday, 21 February, 5:45 PM +Judy Phinney

(Jeanette Amundson)

Friday, 23 February, 8:00 AM +Carol Cade

(Garith & Julie Steiner)

Saturday, 24 February, 6:30 PM +Richard & Helen Fanta

(Dave & Sue Fanta)

Sunday, 25 February, 10:30 AM People of the Annunciation & St. Mary's Parishes

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Feb. 17, 6:30 PM

Sheryl Robinson Eucharistic Minister

Will Fisher Altar Server

Seth Kiedinger Altar Server

Pat Biebl Lector

Sun., Feb. 18, 10:30 AM

Matthew Tubbin Eucharistic Minister

Amelia Kimmert Altar Server

Mariah Sullivan Altar Server

Mary Ellen Hatton Lector

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

All PCCW Circles have been updated

PCCW CIRCLE FOR FEBRUARY: ST. ANTHONY

Saturday, 17 February, 4:30-7:00 PM Chili Cook-off at Viroqua United Methodist Church

Saturday, 17 February, 5:45 PM Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, 18 February, 9:00 AM Confirmation Instruction

Sunday, 18 February, 10:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, 20 February, 1:00 PM Library Club in parish library

Tuesday, 20 February, 5:00-7:30 PM Marriage Group meeting in Marian Hall

Wednesday, 21 February, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in Marian Hall

Wednesday, 21 February, 5:15 PM Stations of the Cross

Thursday, 22 February, 11:00 AM Barbara Martinez funeral with visitation 10:00 AM until time of service

Thursday, 22 February, 6:00-8:00 PM Eucharistic Revival in Marian Hall

Sunday, 25 February, 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal

Monday, 26 February, 5:00-6:30 PM Community Meal at Good Shepherd Church

Tuesday, 27 February, 11:00 AM Judith Phinney funeral

RICE BOWLS for LENT

Available in the Atrium.

MITE BOXES for LENT

Available in the Atrium.

Pastoral Council Members

Kris Brueggen kbrueggen01@gmail.com
Phyllis Krause phylliskrause63@gmail.com
Parker Moore parkerm53@gmail.com
Pat Peterson peterson.pata@gmail.com
Cathy Poshepny cposhepny@gmail.com
Dcn. Tony Shay ashay@diolclergy.org
Dennis Vinger dennis.vinger@gmail.com

Our Pastoral Council is here to serve. They help us discern the needs of our community and the call of the Spirit in our time.

Please feel free to contact them with your concerns.

Cabin Feverfest: St. Peter's Parish in Middle Ridge will be hosting their annual Euchre tournament & Luncheon on **Sunday, March 3rd**. The doors open for lunch at noon, and the card games start at 1 PM. The cost is \$15 per person which includes entry in the tournament, a variety of soups, snacks & beverages. Prizes will be awarded. Please call 608-452-4680 with any questions.

LAW OFFICES OF HOPKINS & HOPKINS, LLP

George A. Hopkins
Stephanie M. Hopkins

608-637-6710

Members of St. Mary Parish


Thorson Popp
Funeral and Cremation Services



856 S. Rusk Ave. Viroqua, WI
608-637-7041 poppfc.com

Personalized Dental Care
For The Entire Family!

NEW PATIENTS ALWAYS WELCOME



Leanne Klum, D.D.S.

Viroqua
Dental Center, LLC

637-2655
1225 Favor Drive
Viroqua



Vosseteig
Funeral Home and Crematory
FUNERALS • CREMATIONS • RECEPTIONS

WESTBY LOCKER & MEATS
The Sausage & Meat Shop
Rosanne & Rod Aspenson
402 N. Main St., Westby, WI 54665
meatsusa@mw.net
608-634-4515

Roger and Joyce Humfeld

R&J's
HONEY FARM

52676 Haugen Ln.
Westby, WI 54667
608-634-4059 (home)
608-606-0832 (cell)
rjhoneyfarm@hotmail.com



Kickapoo Counseling
110 N. Main Street
Westby, WI 54667
608-634-2365

info@kickapoo-counseling.com



Oakwood Realty LLC

608-606-5344
dan@oakwoodrealty.com

Dan Kiedinger



Let me help you sell your home, farm, or vacant land.

"Celebrating Lives Journey Together"



Jeff and Chris Roth

Roth Family
Cremation Center
and Funeral Services

S3611 Duncan Lane, Viroqua
608-634-3611 - rothfamilycremation.com

KINDNESS COUNTS LLC

David Hall
Auctioneer - Lic. # 4007-52
koch@mw.net

53109 Prairie Edge Rd.
Westby, WI
608 632-4194

kindnesscounts.com

If you would like to advertise on this page, please contact 608-637-7711

Effinger Equipment
SALES AND SERVICE

800 N. Main Street Viroqua, Wisconsin
608-637-7594

Complete Line of Outdoor Power Products

Jonsered SNAPPER
STIHL BCS
KOHLER

VIROQUA MONUMENTS

Division of Archie Monuments
1222 North Main St. • Viroqua, WI 54665

www.archiemonumentsandstone.com
mary.viroquamonuments@gmail.com

Mary Sime
608-778-9369

OFFICE: 608-637-0524

Torrey Kramer
608-306-2115

Mary & Torrey look forward to serving you.
We offer In-Home Services if needed.

CEMETERY MONUMENTS, VETERANS MEMORIALS, SIGNAGE

