

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

Last Tuesday was a spiritual triple threat, all tied to the Solemnity (codeword for a big feast day) of St. Joseph, Husband of Mary. Let's unpack it.

First, I share his name, which really just applies to myself (and all you other Joes out there).

Second, St. Joseph is the Patron Saint of our Diocese (technically under the title "St. Joseph the Workman," which we also celebrate on May 1). As far as saints are concerned, St. Joseph is pretty high on the list of significant players – his selflessness (or rather self-gifting), docility, and confidence in God's providence led him to lead the Holy Family, to protect and provide for Mary and Jesus. When I first got here 1 3/5 years ago, my messaging leaned hard into (*continued on page 2*)

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

March 24, 2024 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

*Readings are in the hymnal,
#1031*

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

March 24, 2024

(continued from page 1) the stewardship of pastorship – I’ve inherited these two parishes from my predecessor, who inherited them from his predecessors, who inherited them from...you get the gist. In the same way, some day I will hand over pastorship to another priest to tend to your needs. I am honored to be your steward for this season, and I see in St. Joseph’s stewardship the real model of pastoral care.

Third, at 6:00 AM on Tuesday an announcement went out that Pope Francis has accepted Bishop Callahan’s resignation and named Bishop Gerard Battersby (presently an auxiliary bishop in Detroit) the eleventh bishop of the Diocese of La Crosse, to be installed on May 20. This is a significant moment, folks. Over the last 150-something years we have had ten bishops, which is to say that the guard doesn’t change every day. Bishop Callahan has faithfully led us through a hard fourteen years with a prayerful heart, courageous suffering, and a Franciscan love for his people. Now as we prepare for a new shepherd, allow me to quote Bishop Battersby’s beautiful charge from Tuesday’s conference: “I don’t come to you as the best bishop you could receive. If you want the best bishop you can receive, then you’re gonna have to fast and pray for me, that the Holy Spirit might make me the one that you need. The one that he has in store and planned for you. And so I ask you to pray for me, and to love me and receive me, and to allow me to bring Jesus to you in the way that the Holy Spirit has gifted me these many years of priesthood.” I will be doing just that, and with a pastor’s love I ask you to do the same.

God bless you this Holy Week!

Fr. Joe

All are invited to watch the youth of the Tri-Parishes perform **The Lord's Passion on Palm Sunday (March 24th) at 7:00 PM.**

PASSION PLAY: A production of Our Lord’s Passion will be performed in the church on **March 29th (Good Friday) at 7:00 PM.**

This will be a realistic depiction of the suffering Christ endured. Parental discretion is advised for children under the age of thirteen.

Please turn in your Rice Bowls and Mite Boxes in the baskets in the atrium.

Coffee and Kids - Parents, grandparents, and caregivers, please join us on the first Tuesday of each month for coffee and conversation as our children play! We will meet in the downstairs classroom from 9:00-10:30 am. Coffee and a snack will be provided. If you have any questions, please call/text Alex Kararo at 612-578-6706. We look forward to seeing you!

March 24, 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of March 11-17, 2024

Offertory: \$3,236.38

Easter Flowers: \$100.00

Total: \$3,336.38

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

February E-gifts: \$2,172.05

2023-2024

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Target: \$36,130.00

Pledged: \$33,502.50

Cash to date: \$31,276.24

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 23 March, 6:30 PM +Ruth Priscilla Lee

(Libby Frank)

Sunday, 24 March, 10:30 AM People of the Annunciation & St.

Mary's Parishes

Wednesday, 27 March, 5:45 PM +Carol Cade

(Pat Peterson)

Thursday, 28 March, 5:15 PM +Jim Graham

(Angie Leis)

Saturday, 30 March, 8:15 PM +Mary Joan Meyer & Storey Meyer

(Leon Meyer)

Sunday, 31 March, 10:30 AM +Rita Menne

(Family of Rita Menne)

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Mar. 23, 6:30 PM

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister

Will Fisher Altar Server

Seth Kiedinger Altar Server

Dan Kiedinger Lector

Sun., Mar. 24, 10:30 AM

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister

Sasha Scoville Altar Server

Alexis Scoville Altar Server

Royce Scoville Altar Server

Dale Pertzborn Lector

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR MARCH: ST. BRIDGET

Monday, 25 March, 9:00 AM-6:00 PM Confessions at the Cathedral

Tuesday, 26 March, 10:30 AM Chrism Mass at the Cathedral

Tuesday, 26 March, 6:00-8:00 PM Passion Play rehearsal in church

Wednesday, 27 March, 5:15 PM Stations of the Cross

Thursday, 28 March, 5:15 PM Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's

Supper

**Thursday, 28 March, following Mass until midnight Adoration in the
Chapel**

Friday, 29 March, 12:10 PM Good Friday Service in Coon Valley

Friday, 29 March, 3:00 PM Good Friday Service in Viroqua

Friday, 29 March, 7:00 PM Passion Play

Saturday, 30 March, 8:15 PM Easter Vigil

Sunday, 31 March, 10:30 AM Easter Mass

Sunday, 31 March, following Mass Easter Brunch in Marian Hall

Join **Pro-Life Wisconsin** for a night
out with fellow pro-lifers at our
Spring Social on **April 18, 2024**
from 6pm-8pm at the Lodge at
Mauston (104 Lodge Lane Mauston,
WI 53948). Enjoy dinner, drinks,
fantastic company, and hear
powerful real-life testimony from
one of our faithful sidewalk
counselors, Mr. Don Hudzinski.
**Tickets are \$40 each available
through Monday, March 25. For
more information and to register go
to ProLifeWI.org/spring-social.**

**The PCCW and Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish
\$500 scholarships available.** Application forms are in the atrium or
may be downloaded from the parish website, www.stmaryparish.org .
Applications due in the parish office by **Monday, April 15.**

March 24, 2024

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.

Abby Johnson Speaking at April 13, DCCW Convention in La Crosse—You are invited to come hear pro-life leader Abby Johnson at the Radisson Hotel in La Crosse on Saturday, April 13, at the La Crosse Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (DCCW) Biennial Convention. Abby was a Planned Parenthood director before undergoing a profound conversion in 2009, when she witnessed an ultrasound-guided abortion. Her story was portrayed in the major 2019 film *Unplanned*. To learn more, visit dccw.org; registration forms available in the Atrium.

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Dan Kiedinger



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"Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!...Hosanna in the highest!" ~ Mark 11:10