

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

Last Monday we celebrated a transferred holy day in Viroqua – the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (by happy coincidence, the namesake behind Viroqua’s particular “St. Mary’s”). Usually the Annunciation lands on March 25 (by no coincidence nine months before Christmas – the Annunciation is the moment the angel Gabriel appears to Mary and Jesus is conceived), but Holy Week pulls the trump card on everything, so it got bumped back to April 8.

Anyway, the point is that this is a particularly appropriate holy day to celebrate right around the Easter proceedings – one of the biggest themes in this feast is Mary’s openness and docility – her willingness to say “yes” and trust God to provide for her, even if she doesn’t know what exactly that’s going to look like. When March 25 lands in Lent, it’s a good reminder that this particular moment and season is part of a larger narrative; that even while we prepare for Christ’s suffering and death, we’re also remembering His bright light shining into the world at Christmas and the Resurrection. On the rare occasions when we celebrate the Annunciation in Easter, it adds an extra layer of nuance – even while we work to enter the Resurrection (what comes after the end of Jesus’ *[continued on page 2]*

April 14, 2024
3rd Sunday of
Easter

*Readings are in the hymnal,
#1068*

Eucharist

Saturdays - 6:30 PM
Sundays - 10:30 AM
Wednesday - 5:15 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. 5:45 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 5:45 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

April 14, 2024

[continued from page 1] life), we also pause to look ahead to Christmas (Jesus' coming into the world at the start of his life).

In either case, Mary's "yes" is a powerful example for us to let Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection (taken together, the Paschal Mystery) make an impact in our own lives. God wanted Mary to say "yes," and He had even prepared her all her life to be the Temple of His Son, but He still waited for Mary to accept the gift and responsibility of grace. Mary was perfectly free to say "no," but she didn't. God wants to love us, to lay down his life for us and draw us into relationship and community with Him, but He won't force us to say "yes." Here's another angle to work as we try to wrap our heads around the Resurrection – inviting God to move in and change our hearts, even if we don't know the details of what that'll look like.

God bless you, and happy Easter!

Fr. Joe

We are gearing up for our next **Little Rock Scripture Study** in a few weeks! The two-part series on the Gospel of Mark took some 30 of our parishioners through the entire Gospel last Fall and Winter. Before we present another such longform study on the Gospel of Luke in the Fall, we want to provide a shorter 4-part series overviewing the Story before Jesus Christ: *Panorama of the Old Testament*. The group will meet **April 18 & 25, May 9 & 16 at 6:30 PM down in Marian Hall**. If you are interested in hearing more or want to sign up to receive a book and join in, sign up in the back of the church this or next weekend or email Melanie at melhalvor@gmail.com.

Spring Carnival - Sunday, April 21 - 10:30 AM-1:30 PM, St. Charles School, Genoa, WI. Raffle tickets available - call 608-689-2642; hundreds of prizes, food & beverages, games, dessert walk - fund for the whole family!

Trivia Night at St. Charles School, Genoa – Friday April 26th - BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!!!

Another St. Charles School Trivia Night will be held on FRIDAY, April 26! There will be no buzzers or putting you on the spot. Teams will come up with their answers together and turn in one answer sheet. Teams can be as small as 2 players or as big as 10. The cost to play is \$10/player. Cash or check only. A simple supper, snacks and drinks can be purchased throughout the evening starting at 5:30. Trivia begins at 6:30. New this time: lifelines can be purchased for \$5 or \$10. Come prepared! Call Mariette Donovan at 608-381-0220 with your team's name, number of players on your team, and contact person's name and phone number. See you there!

St. Mary's Spring Luncheon - Bring your family and friends together for lunch at St. Mary Parish, 900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, for lunch on **April 27th** from 11 AM to 1 PM. Cost is only \$10. We will have guest speakers Joyce and Roger Humfeld discussing their beekeeping an honey business starting at 11:30 a.m. (honey will also be available for purchase) Offering door prizes throughout the event. All are welcome to attend!

April 14, 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of April 1-7, 2024

Offertory: \$4,039.34

Easter: \$60.00

Easter Flowers: \$20.00

Good Friday: \$20.00

Total: \$4,139.34

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

Rice Bowl: \$569.05

Mite Box: \$109.19

February E-gifts: \$2,172.05

2023-2024

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Target: \$36,130.00

Pledged: \$33,652.50

Cash to date: \$31,938.32

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 13 April, 6:30 PM +Lucille Krause

(Roger & Phyllis Krause)

Sunday, 14 April, 10:30 AM Women of the Parish

(PCCW)

Wednesday, 17 April, 5:15 PM +Carol Cade

(Pat Peterson)

Friday, 19 April, 8:00 AM +Ambrose Timmerman

(Roger & Phyllis Krause)

Saturday, 20 April, 6:30 PM +Agnes Thielker

(Angie Leis)

Sunday, 21 April, 10:30 AM Women of the Parish

(PCCW)

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Apr. 13, 6:30 PM

Sheryl Robinson Eucharistic Minister

Lane Fisher Altar Server

Reid Fisher Altar Server

Will Fisher Altar Server

Mark Brueggen Lector

Sun., Apr. 14, 10:30 AM

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister

Francis Corr Altar Server

Reuben Stevenson Altar Server

Matthew Tubbin Lector

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR APRIL: ST. THERESA

Sunday, 14 April, 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, 14 April, First Communion Instruction following 10:30

AM Mass in the parish library for 1 1/2 hours

Monday, 15 April, 4:00 PM Scholarship Application Deadline

Tuesday, 16 April, 1:00 PM Parish Book Club in the parish library

Tuesday, 16 April, 5:00-7:30 PM Marriage Group in Marian Hall

Wednesday, 17 April, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in

Marian Hall

Thursday, 18 April, 6:30-8:00 PM Little Rock Scripture Study

Saturday, 20 April, 5:45 PM Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, 21 April, 9:00 AM Confirmation Instruction

Sunday, 21 April, 10:00 AM Children's Choir practice

Sunday, 21 April, First Communion Instruction following 10:30

AM Mass in the parish library for 1 1/2 hours

Monday, 22 April, 5:00-6:30 PM Community Meal at Good

Shepherd Church

Monday-Friday, April 22-26, Fr. Joe on retreat

**Richland Center Deanery
Council of Catholic Women
Spring Assembly**

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Presentation by Patrick & Stephanie Schwingle

Saturday, May 18, 2024

Noon

Sacred Heart Parish

417 S Oak Street

Lone Rock, WI 53556

Join your sisters in Christ for a Potluck

Luncheon. candace.ldccw@gmail.com or

call/text 608-647-0400 with questions

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.

Pilgrimage to Poland- Please join us on a pilgrimage to Poland! Highlights include Jasna Gora Monastery, home of Our Lady of Czestochowa, the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy and the Divine Mercy Image, the Museum and Chapel of St. Maximilian Kolbe, the cell where he was martyred in Auschwitz, the birthplace and baptismal Church of St. John Paul, Wawel Cathedral where he was ordained a Bishop and so much more! Daily Mass. October 3-12, 2024. \$3695/per person based on double occupancy. \$150 discount if you enter coupon code Bulletin150 on the registration form. For more information, please visit www.QoHTours.com or call us at 1-800-213-4295



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