

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

I have a few notes of gratitude to share this weekend.

First, as you hopefully noticed this weekend, I am alive. That is good news. Last weekend Fr. Reither made a surprise appearance when food poisoning or the flu or something equally nefarious took me down. The team at St. Pat's came through in a pinch, with Monsignor Kachel taking over their weekend Masses and Fr. Tim coming down A) to celebrate Masses for us and B) to give up his homily-less weekend. There's something extra to be grateful for there – I rather enjoy the process of developing and delivering an effective homily, but there's a relief to Deacon stepping up to preach to give me the chance to take a breath and hear the fruit of another preacher's work. Big thanks to Fr. Tim on both counts!

Second, this next week I'll be on retreat in Oconomowoc. Priests are required to make at least a five-day retreat every year – it's a wise and effective reminder of the need to pause. This week my spiritual director will be leading us through some healing and deliverance work, and forty or fifty priests will be praying together and making the space to listen for the voice of the Holy Spirit. A pertinent note: in battle a retreat is a strategic withdrawal to recuperate and reinforce before re-engaging. A spiritual retreat is similar – rest is important, but just as important is realizing that pastoral work is wearing and costs something. My favorite tool down in the woodshop is my set of chisels. They're precise, they're capable of remarkable clean work (and also of ruining an entire project with one misplaced strike along the grain), but every blow curls that cutting edge back just a little bit more. An effective chisel needs just as much time in methodical pause as it does in practical application. Thank you for understanding the need for me to *(continued on page 2)*

April 21, 2024
4th Sunday of
Easter

*Readings are in the hymnal,
#1071*

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 21, 2024

(continued from page 1) step back from daily Masses and administrative and pastoral work to keep myself grounded in the Lord!

Finally, a big thank you to all of you who are engaging either of our Bible Studies (the Thursday morning crew and the folks diving into the *Panorama of the Old Testament* study). Many of you put in the serious work of engaging the scriptures for the coming weekend and opening up the Lord's Word in personal and group study – it makes the homilist's job much more fruitful when there's already some familiarity among the congregation with the Message the Holy Spirit has prepared for us. A good homily is a team effort – it certainly demands serious engagement and prayer on the preacher's part, but just as much it demands the full and active participation of the congregation receiving the homilist's words. Thank you for the work you are doing.

God bless you all,

Fr. Joe

We extend sympathy to the family of **Joseph Bernard Kearney** who passed away Wednesday, April 3, 2024. A Funeral Service was held Saturday, April 13, 2024, at Vosseteig-Larson Funeral Home in Viroqua. Burial at St. James Catholic Cemetery in Rising Sun. May he rest in peace.

Please extend sympathy to the family of **Verna Mae Buhr** who passed away Monday, April 15, 2024. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Saturday, April 27, 2024, at 11:00 AM at the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, Viroqua; visitation at the church from 9:00-11:00 AM. Lunch to follow in Marian Hall. Burial at Viroqua Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

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 and 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 21, 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of April 8-14, 2024
Offertory: \$3,164.50
Easter: \$25.00
Rice Bowl: \$36.00
Mite Box: \$23.48
Good Friday: \$25.00
Total: \$3,273.98
Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00
March E-gifts: \$2,177.15

2023-2024

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Target: \$36,130.00
Pledged: \$34,002.50
Cash to date: \$32,788.32

THANK YOU!

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Apr. 20, 6:30 PM

Dennis Vinger Eucharistic Minister
Will Fisher Altar Server
Seth Kiedinger Altar Server
Amy Matthes Lector

Sun., Apr. 21 10:30 AM

Kyle Prorok Eucharistic Minister
Logan Curti Altar Server
Alayna Curti Altar Server
Melanie Halvorson Lector

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

**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

MASS INTENTIONS

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

(Angie Leis)

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

(PCCW)

Fr. Joe will say Mass intentions while on retreat.

Wednesday, 24 April, +Gabriel Cina

(Angie Cina)

Friday, 26 April +Lucille Krause

(Pat Effinger)

Saturday, 27 April, 6:30 PM +Jesse Moore

(Biebl Family)

Sunday, 28 April, 10:30 AM People of the Annunciation & St.

Mary's Parishes

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR APRIL: ST. THERESA

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

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

Shepherd Church

Wednesday, 24 April, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in

Marian Hall

Wednesday, 24 April, 5:15 PM Communion Service

Thursday, 25 April, 6:30-8:00 PM Little Rock Scripture Study

Sunday, 28 April, 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, 28 April, First Communion Instruction following 10:30

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

Thursday, 2 May, 5:30 PM Confirmation rehearsal

Thursday, 2 May, 6:30 PM Confirmation

A big heartfelt *thank you* goes to Natalia Scoville, who donated several beautiful, brand-new first communion dresses to our parish. If you have a daughter completing first communion this year or in the coming years, please feel free to take a look and see if any of the dresses would work for your family. They are located in the west classroom on the main floor between Fran and Beth's offices. Anything that works for you and your daughter is yours to keep!

Thank you again Natalia!

~Megan Prorok

Decorator

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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 rjhoneyfarm@hotmail.com



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