

# Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

I'm writing this halfway through the retreat with thirty-something priests at a beautiful old Redemptorist center on Crooked Lake. An average day starts off with some personal prayer, an overlarge breakfast, a morning conference, Mass, an overlarge lunch, a few free hours (usually in my canoe) before a late afternoon conference, an overlarge dinner, and silent prayer throughout the evening. Of course, any gathering of priests (for myself: this retreat, our biannual clergy conferences, quarterly "junior clergy" meetings, and my fraternity's monthly meetings) also means the solving of all the Church's problems. There's a perpetual danger of hardness or coldness there; but when we let ourselves look at the Diocese's parishes and personnel with love, the Holy Spirit tends to open some interesting doors.

One of the things that really sets Catholics apart is our ecclesiology – the fancy word for the understanding and study of the Church. We are distinguished at once by belonging individually to a geographical parish, and at the same time by belonging to a broader Church under the leadership of a successor to the Apostles (a bishop). The local focus keeps us growing, while the broad perspective keeps us grounded. A gathering like this also gives me the chance to see how my labors in our two parishes fit into the bigger picture of Christ's Body on Earth. There's sobering there, there's hopefulness there, and there's commonality there with my brothers.

April and May are also a curious season for priests – it's when clergy movement decisions are made and published. I'll set your minds at ease – *(continued on page 2)*

Parish Website [www.stmaryviroqua.org](http://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](mailto:bethlakmann@icloud.com); (608) 637-7711

Fran Campbell, Secretary/Bookkeeper, [stmaryparish@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryparish@mwt.net), (608) 637-7711; Parish Kitchen (608) 637-7878  
400 Congress Avenue, Viroqua, WI 54665

**April 28, 2024**  
**5th Sunday of**  
**Easter**

*Readings are in the hymnal,  
#1074*

### **Eucharist**

**Saturdays - 6:30 PM**

**Sundays - 10:30 AM**

**Wednesday - 5:15 PM**

**Fridays - 8:00 AM**

### **Livestreaming Mass**

[www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley](http://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](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

**April 28, 2024**

*(continued from page 1)* my position is pretty secure. But we're also facing the reality that the Church is large and made up of many small churches with their own unique histories and cultures and needs. Our most limited resource (priests) means we have to address current needs creatively. Of course our own churches have seen this clearly with small moments like calling in a pinch hitter a few weeks ago (a lucky break) and with big moments like my own young assignment to two congregations, the historical closure of parishes like Rising Sun, etc. Big decisions have big local effects, and it's up to us to remain open to the leadership of the Holy Spirit throughout it all. If we ever get a sense of competitiveness or defensiveness between our two parishes or in relation to our larger Church ("my parish's needs matter most," "this event is the most important thing we do," etc.), we should be remarkably cautious – the Holy Spirit doesn't really work through fear. As we approach my third year here, let's keep up the healing and restoring work we have been doing with the docility and willingness to let the Lord be the one that saves us.

Remember, I love you very much. Thank you for joining me in this work, and let's continue healing and growing together.

Fr. Joe



Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary students receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation May 2: Brian Potter, Ryan Kowalczyk, Lauryn Kowalczyk, Emily Hubatch, Alexander Klum, Evan Berklund, Maddi Fletcher, Samantha Schneider, Jace Nagel, and Jadence Nagel.

We are having a **Mother's Day fundraiser for Pro-Life Wisconsin** again this year! We will be selling Roses by the stem for \$3.00 each, or 2 for \$5.00 after Mass on both **Saturday, May 9th and Sunday, May 10th**. Please bring cash with you, as we will not be able to accept cards.

We are also looking for a few volunteers to help on each of those days. If you are interested in volunteering, please call or text Carly Zadow at 608-792-4872, or email her at [zadow2021@gmail.com](mailto:zadow2021@gmail.com). Thank you so much!

**April 28, 2024**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Week of April 15-21, 2024

Offertory: \$2,678.00

Easter: \$10.00

Total: \$2,688.00

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

March E-gifts: \$2,177.15

**2023-2024**

**DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL**

Target: \$36,130.00

Pledged: \$34,137.50

Cash to date: \$33,382.90

THANK YOU!

**MASS INTENTIONS**

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

(Biebl Family)

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

**Mary's Parishes**

**Wednesday, 1 May, 5:15 PM +Joyce Dolan**

(The Graham Family)

**Friday, 3 May, 8:00 AM +Lucille Krause**

(Angie Leis)

**Saturday, 4 May, 6:30 PM +Lawrence George King**

(Nathan & Clare King)

**Sunday, 5 May, 10:30 AM The People of the Ukraine**

(Brad & Nadia Kandl)

**Ministry Schedule**

**Sat., Apr. 27, 6:30 PM**

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister

Lane Fisher Altar Server

Reid Fisher Altar Server

Will Fisher Altar Server

Pat Biebl Lector

**Sun., Apr. 28 10:30 AM**

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister

Alexis Scoville Altar Server

Sasha Scoville Altar Server

Al Mislivecek Lector

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

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

***PCCW CIRCLE FOR APRIL: ST. THERESA***

***PCCW CIRCLE FOR MAY: ST. JOSEPH***

**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**

**Tuesday, 30 April, 6:30 PM Finance Council meeting in parish library**

**Wednesday, 1 May, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in Marian Hall**

**Wednesday, 1 May, 6:00-7:00 PM First Confession**

**Thursday, 2 May, 5:30 PM Confirmation rehearsal**

**Thursday, 2 May, 6:30 PM Confirmation with reception in Atrium following**

**Friday, 3 May, First Friday Adoration following 8:00 AM Mass**

**Sunday, 5 May, 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal**

**Sunday, 5 May, First Communion during 10:30 AM Mass**

**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

**Casa Hogar Optical Mission Fundraiser** - This sale will run until Mother's Day; we are trying to raise funds for some new equipment for the mission. (*See poster in atrium.*) You can order the fudge by calling Valley Fudge & Candy shop at 608-452-2042 or access the following link <https://hogar.valleyfudgeandcandy.com/>. The containers of fudge are 7 oz, and we make 50% profit on each sale. A great gift for Mother's Day, or any other occasion, or just because you love fudge!

## Pastoral Council Members

Kris Brueggen kbrueggen01@gmail.com  
 Phyllis Krause phylliskrause63@gmail.com  
 Parker Moore parkerm53@gmail.com  
 Pat Peterson peterson.pata@gmail.com  
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 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](http://www.QoHTours.com) or call us at 1-800-213-4295

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