

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends, and happy Easter!

When I wrote last weekend's article, we were all taking our collective deep breath before the plunge into the Triduum. Now we are taking the deep breath after the whole course of liturgical prayer. That is my absolute favorite few days of the year – if you've ever joined in the entire Holy Thursday – Good Friday – Easter Vigil cycle you know it's a marathon and a powerful way to enter the full narrative of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection. Allow me to offer my deep gratitude to everyone who participated in the considerably choreographed liturgies, from our congregations to our servers to our lectors to our musicians and decorators to the folks who made our extracurriculars like the Easter Brunch and Passion Play happen – you all took Holy Week from “textbook” to “beautiful.” Thank you.

Holy Week is also a significant hinge moment between Lent and Easter. I'll say again that, while Lent is 40-something days long, it is telling that Easter lasts a full fifty days until Pentecost. That's on purpose – it's the Church's way of saying “this moment is too big to squeeze into 25 hours, so make sure to lean into it.” Our fasting/feasting rotation helps with this – the fast helps us to feel our own need and smallness and limitation, the feasting helps us to feel the power of the Good Thing that's happened. It's also worth mentioning again that feasting takes work. Just like the relational payout makes the real work and forethought of putting together a dinner party worth it, it's worth exploring how your Easter celebration can keep your relationship with God expanding too!

Finally, one last big thank you to Dan and Alex, Jared and Rebecca, Mike and Kristen, for all their work in RCIA over the last year. Jared came into the Church and Mike was baptized at the Easter Vigil with their spouse and fiancé (respectively) by their sides after full participation in a few hours of classwork and discussion every Saturday morning for the last six or seven months, and Dan and Alex were there coaching, instructing, and guiding them the whole way. We'll get this program started again in a few months, but in the meantime pray for our new Catholics and give them a pat on the back when you see them.

God bless you!

Fr. Joe

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 7, 2024
Sunday of Divine Mercy

*Readings are in the hymnal,
#1066*

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

April 7, 2024

With March 25 (the **Solemnity of the Annunciation**/our name day) landing squarely in Holy Week this year, we are celebrating our parish's patronal feast day with a Mass this **Monday evening, April 8 at 5:15 PM**. Please join us!

A big thank you to **Carly Zadow and Sonja Finn** for the hours of time and talent they recently devoted to the church. Both ladies worked hard to prepare the small chapel for use during holy week. A fresh, clean coat of paint, decorations and seating really made this room come together to improve our congregation's prayer space. Thank you both so much for your help and for sharing your talent.

Megan Prorok
Decorator

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.

St. Mary's Men's Club Spaghetti and Pasta Dinner—The Men's Club will be hosting a spaghetti and pasta dinner on **April 13, 2024 from 4-7 PM** at St. Mary's Church, 900 Central Ave, Coon Valley. \$12 adults, \$5 kids under 12, and children under 3 free. Get a plate of spaghetti or pasta with sauce and meatballs, garlic bread, salad, coffee, milk or water and ice cream for dessert. Wine and beer will be available for purchase.

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!

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

April 7, 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of March 25-31, 2024

Offertory: \$4,874.56

Easter: \$2,710.00

Easter Flowers: \$10.00

Good Friday: \$1,257.75

Total: \$8,852.31

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

Holy Thursday: \$610.00

(Works of Charity)

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!

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Apr. 6, 6:30 PM

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister

Will Fisher Altar Server

Seth Kiedinger Altar Server

Dennis Vinger Lector

Sun., Apr. 7, 10:30 AM

Kyle Prorok Eucharistic Minister

Sebastian Kimmert Altar Server

Jacob Kimmert Altar Server

Amelia Kimmert Altar Server

Matthew Tubbin Lector

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 6 April, 6:30 PM Kim Larson & Family

(Diana Hernandez)

Sunday, 7 April, 10:30 PM +Guy Nicks

(Guy Nicks Family)

Monday, 8 April, 5:15 PM +Barbara Martinez

(PCCW)

Wednesday, 10 April, 5:15 PM +Ann Wolski

(Rubasch Family)

Friday, 12 April, 8:00 AM +Jim Graham

(Sally Lund)

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

(Roger & Phyllis Krause)

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

(PCCW)

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR APRIL: ST. THERESA

Sunday, 7 April, 9:00 AM Confirmation Instruction

Sunday, 7 April, Family of Faith Religious Ed & Early Childhood

Religious Ed/Activities following 10:30 AM Mass

Sunday, 7 April, First Communion Instruction following 10:30 AM

Mass in the parish library for 1 1/2 hours

Sunday, 7 April, Children's Choir Rehearsal during Religious Ed

following 10:30 AM Mass

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

Marian Hall Potluck for Birthdays

Saturday, 13 April, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM Confirmation Retreat at

Corr Ranch

Sunday, 14 April, 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal

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

**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.lccw@gmail.com or call/text 608-647-0400 with questions

Happy 99th Birthday to Anna Mae Krause

and to

Fr. Joe on his birthday, April 11th!

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.**

April 7, 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.

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"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad." ~ Psalm 118:24