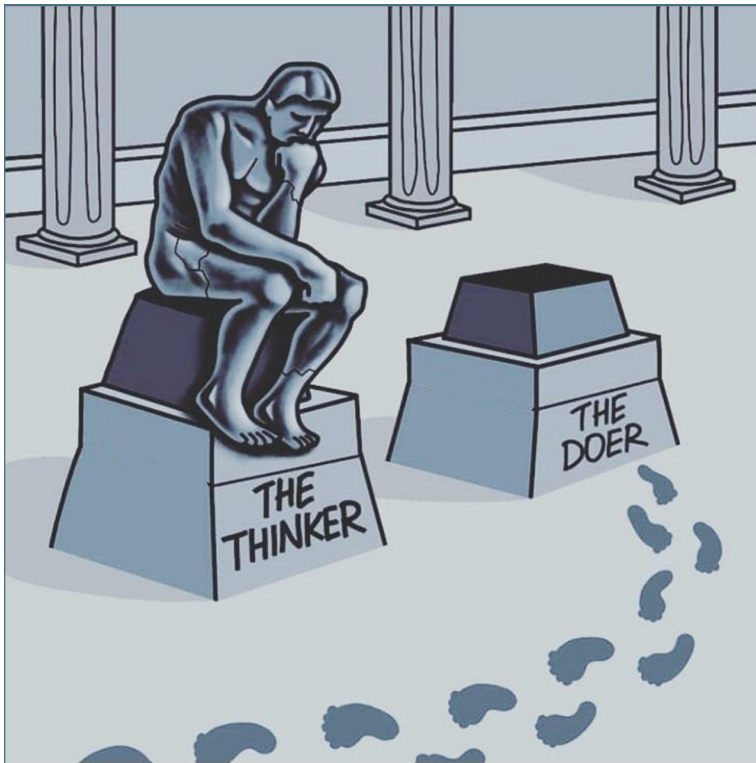


Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

Over the last few weeks, I've mentioned a few imminent developments to our programming, as well as some details about upcoming interior work on the church. If the summer's taken you to parts unknown, you can find old bulletins on our website to get in on those updates. For right now I'd like to share a bit with you about two important bits of collaboration and development between Coon Valley and Viroqua, following St. Mary's in Coon Valley's recent switch from the La Crosse Deanery to the Richland Center Deanery (not much changes practically besides some streamlining).

First, this coming Thursday we are going to have a joint meeting between the Viroqua and Coon Valley Pastoral Councils. Each parish's Pastoral Council provides consultation to the Pastor on cultural elements within the parish, programming, and the needs of the people. We aren't merging our Pastoral Councils on Thursday, but we are allowing the opportunity to earnestly ask the question "how can we effectively pool our resources to tackle the (often shared) needs of our parishes most effectively?" We're framing our discussions around three points to start: sources of unity between Coon Valley and Viroqua, sources of distinction and unique identity, and challenges to collaboration. This is going to be an important moment for leadership in both our parishes to get their heads together.

(continued on page 2)

September 1, 2024
22nd Sunday in
Ordinary Time

*Readings are in the hymnal,
#1156*

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:

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

Pat Obernberger, Coordinator of Ongoing Formation, stmaryformation@mwt.net; (262) 822-1850

Beth Lakmann, Music 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

September 1, 2024

(continued from page 1) Second, a note on the two new positions we've hired for this coming year (a Coordinator of Religious Formation – Pat – and a Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Director – Carly) and how they affect Coon Valley. Pat's position serves some of the same responsibilities you may expect out of a Director or Coordinator of Religious Education (DRE/CRE), with the added emphasis that religious formation is not limited to childhood. Discipleship is a lifelong process, so Pat's work will help facilitate programming that serves our parishioners from early childhood through adulthood. Carly's position will provide targeted formation specifically for 3-6-year-olds on a weekly basis to start, with an interactive method of engaging young minds and souls and opening up the symbolism of our faith. While both these positions are on Viroqua's payroll, our Religious Formation offerings very much work hand in hand, so folks down in Coon Valley will certainly see the fruits of their labors, too. At the same time, up in Viroqua we are benefitting hugely from Coon Valley's Bridget's return for another year teaching our monthly Family of Faith Formation with me – if you want to find out more about our RE offerings for the next year, please join us after the 10:30 Mass in Viroqua next weekend!

God bless you,

Fr. Joe

Religious Education - Our informational parent meeting to set Family of Faith expectations and provide materials will be held on **September 8, in Viroqua in Marian Hall**, after the 10:30 AM Mass. We are planning our Family of Faith activities for the upcoming season to start in October (1st and 3rd Sundays each month) with this year's theme: The Sacraments. **Safe Environment training** for parents, families, volunteers, and paid parish staff will be offered starting at noon as part of the informational meeting.

Please join us for the **Little Rock Scripture Study series on the Gospel of Luke**. We will be offering each session on Thursday evenings and again on Friday mornings, to accommodate different schedules. Luke is presented in two parts. Part 1 has six sessions which are scheduled for Thursdays at 6:30 pm and Fridays at 9 am on October 10 & 11, 17 & 18, 24 & 25, November 7 & 8, 14 & 15 and 21 & 22. Part 2 will pick up in the New Year with five sessions running from January 9 through February 8.

We ask for a free will offering --suggested donation \$15-- to cover the cost of the LRSS books used in the study, containing scripture readings, commentary by Catholic biblical scholars, and study questions.

If you'd like to join us or have questions, please contact Melanie Halvorson by email (melhalvor@gmail.com) or text (312-315-9048). Please indicate your preference for Thursday evening or Friday morning. We will also have sign-up sheets in the vestibule, but email or phone is preferred. Once you're signed up, you'll receive more information about book distribution and there will be introductory sessions scheduled prior to the start of Part 1 for those new to these studies. **We'd like to distribute books starting September 12**, so act now so we'll have books for all who'd like to participate!

September 1, 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Aug. 19-25, 2024

Offertory: \$4070.00

Total: \$4,070.00

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

July E-gifts: \$2,274.20

THANK YOU!

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Sep. 7, 6:30 PM

Amy Matthes Eucharistic Minister
Lane Fisher Altar Server
Reid Fisher Altar Server
Dennis Vinger Lector

Sun., Sep. 8, 10:30 AM

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister
Logan Curti Altar Server
Alayna Curti Altar Server
Mary Ellen Hatton Lector

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

Some parishioners are getting together to discuss C.S. Lewis' *The Great Divorce*. Group size will be limited, so if you are interested in hearing more or signing up, please contact Jackie at jsredmer@yahoo.com or Melanie at melhalvor@gmail.com.

Check Out the New Content in the Library!

- We have added books for adults including authors Scott Hahn and Edward Sri. We have also added a book set of simple stories about the lives of saints (ages 10+). Check-out is as simple as taking a book home and returning it to the bin when you are done. Thank you for your donations and keep checking the library as we continue to add more content.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 31 August, 6:30 PM +Teresa Venner & Getter Family
(Charlotte Getter)

Sunday, 1 September, 10:30 AM +Guy Nicks
(Guy Nicks Family)

Wednesday, 4 September, 5:15 PM +Jim Kuehn
(Joel & Kathryn Anderson)

Friday, 6 September, 8:00 AM +Art & Agnes Leis
(Angie Leis)

Saturday, 7 September, 6:30 PM +Fr. Lawrence Mayer
(Veronica Tresner)

Sunday, 8 September, 10:30 AM +Judy Phinney
(Dan & Renae Harter)

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR AUGUST: ST. THERESA

PCCW CIRCLE FOR SEPTEMBER: ST. JOSEPH

Monday, 2 September, Parish Office closed in observance of Labor Day

Wednesday, 4 September, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in Marian Hall

Thursday, 5 September, 5:00 PM Annunciation of the BVM & St. Mary's Shared Parish Council Meeting in St. Mary's (Coon Valley) Hall

Friday, 6 September, First Friday Adoration following Mass

Sunday, 8 September, after Mass Religious Education Information Session & Safe Environment Training

Sunday, 8 September, after Mass Children's Choir

Monday, 9 September, 4:30-9:00 PM Healing Service & Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Cashton

Attend Rural Life Day | Sept. 18, from 10 AM-2 PM | Schmidt Family Farm in Lone Rock: All are invited to Join hundreds of the faithful for the 43rd Annual Rural Life Day at the Schmidt Family Farm on Wednesday, **September 18, from 10 AM-2 PM** at 29281 Fairview Road in Lone Rock. Bishop Battersby will celebrate Mass at 10 AM, after which he will present awards recognizing parishioners and farm families, and bless animals, crops and machinery. Lunch will be served. Join us as we joyfully thank God for the food that sustains our lives, the land on which it is grown, and the dedicated families who farm it. Learn more at diolc.org/rural-life.

September 1, 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.

Victory of the Light Leadership Conference

Date: Saturday, September 21, 2024
 Time: 10 AM-4 PM.
 Location: St. Mary of the Assumption Parish
 460 W. Fourth Street
 Richland Center, WI 53581
 Cost: \$10; includes catered lunch
 Registration: **RSVP by September 14, 2024**
 (registration form available/atrium bulletin board)


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608-634-4515

Roger and Joyce Humfeld

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 608-606-0832 (cell)
 rjhoneyfarm@hotmail.com



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"Be doers of the word and not hearers only..." ~ James 1:22