

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

Before my main word for this week, let's clarify something. Over the past few weeks, I've had several folks double check that I had in fact sent an email asking them for Amazon gift cards for our hard working employees. In fact I had not – they had just fallen prey to one of the older tricks in the scammer's playbook: create a new email address, pop the pastor's name on it, then send out an email to anybody they can find who's related to the parish and send them a 92% believable request with a 37% believable URL (or at least more believable than a deposed Nigerian prince asking you to help him restore his right to rule). I hereby promise that if I ever need an Amazon gift card, I will look you in the eye and shake your hand before shaking you down.

Moving on. This weekend we've got an important passage from the Letter of James, sometimes tied to the question "am I saved by faith or am I saved by works?" Incidentally, this is sometimes set up as one of the primary contentions between Catholics and Protestants (especially Lutherans), but that's for a different lecture, so to speak. The important thing for James is that our works (what we do, how we fill our schedule and manifest that we are Christians) are a necessary extension of our faith. Put another way, the relationship with Christ comes first, how we live it flows naturally out of it.

This brings me to one of my favorite St. Paul lines (Ephesians 4: 11-13): "He gave some as Apostles, others as prophets, others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers, to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for *(continued on page 2)*"

September 15, 2024
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings are in the hymnal, #1162

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 15, 2024

(continued from page 1) building up the Body of Christ.” Paul’s getting at something important. There’s a lot of work to be done in the Church, and there’s not a single Christian who’s ever lived who can do it all alone. We’ve got guys like me that (by the nature of the job) take on aspects of each vocation Paul is naming here, but when it comes down to it the Body of Christ (a.k.a. the Church, a.k.a. us) really comes to life when each Christian realizes 1) there’s a particular gift God has given me that He hasn’t given to Fr. Joe or Sue or James, 2) I see a particular need that needs to be addressed, and 3) that need might need me to be the one to do something about it. Over the last two and a half years (and before, but this is just my experience talking) many of you have seen real needs around here and stepped up to exercise your gifts in very tangible ways. Summer picnics, special liturgical celebrations, faith formation and Bible studies, homebound ministry, all these things happen for the exact reason that someone saw a need and rose to the occasion. Thank you, keep up the good work, and keep your eyes open to the needs the Lord shows you.

God bless you,

Fr. Joe

This Sunday we welcome **Timothy Todd Albrecht** into the Christian community through the Sacrament of Baptism. Timothy is the son of Zachary and Jennifer (Wilder) Albrecht. Welcome to this community of faith!

Our Parish Fall Dinner is only one month away – mark your calendars for **October 16th**! We’re looking forward to another busy, fun filled event! Preparations are well underway and volunteer sign-up sheets will be in the atrium the last weekend of September. Please prayerfully consider how or where you can contribute. This is always such a beautiful time for us to all work together as a parish family. **For those helping with the planning, we will meet this Tuesday, September 17th at 5:00 pm in Marian Hall.**

September 15, 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Sep. 2-8, 2024

Offertory: \$3,533.37

Total: \$3,533.37

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

July E-gifts: \$2,274.20

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 14 September, 6:30 PM +Joe & Roger Biebl
(Biebl Family)

Sunday, 15 September, 10:30 AM +Joyce Dolan
(Rosanne Aspenson)

Wednesday, 18 September, 5:15 PM +Verna Mae Buhr
(Dave & Sue Fanta)

Friday, 20 September, 8:00 AM +Casper& Eleanora Leis
(Angie Leis)

Saturday, 21 September, 6:30 PM +Lawrence George King
(Nathan & Clare King)

Sunday, 22 September, 10:30 AM People of the Annunciation & St. Mary's Parishes

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Sep. 14, 6:30 PM

Gladys Jacobson Eucharistic Minister
Sebastian Kimmet Altar Server
Pat Biebl Lector

Sun., Sep. 15, 10:30 AM

Pat Obernberger Eucharistic Minister
Royce Scoville Altar Server
Alexis Scoville Altar Server
Dale Pertzborn Lector

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR SEPTEMBER: ST. JOSEPH

Sunday, 15 September, 9:30-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd parents' meeting in parish library

Sunday, 15 September, Timothy Todd Albrecht baptism during Mass with reception following Mass in Marian Hall

Sunday, 15 September, 12:00-1:30 PM 'The Great Divorce' book discussion in the parish library

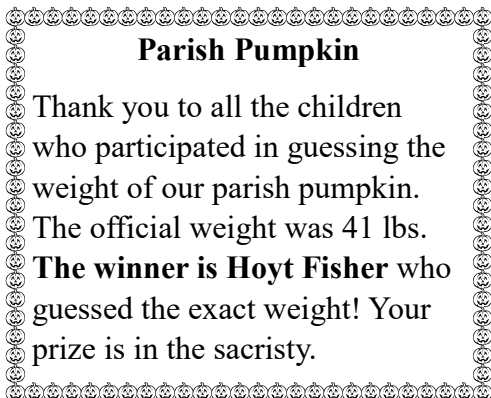
Monday, 16 September, 5:00-7:30 PM Marriage Group in Marian Hall

Tuesday, 17 September, 1:00 PM Parish Book Club in the library

Tuesday, 17 September, 5:00 PM Fall Dinner Planning meeting in Marian Hall

Wednesday, 18 September, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in Marian Hall

Sunday, 22 September, Baptism of Eleanor Jane Fritz during Mass


Parish Pumpkin
 Thank you to all the children who participated in guessing the weight of our parish pumpkin. The official weight was 41 lbs. **The winner is Hoyt Fisher** who guessed the exact weight! Your prize is in the sacristy.

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.

Pastoral Council Members

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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.



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

"Blessed are you, Father Lord of heaven and earth; You have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the Kingdom." (ant.)

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