

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



December 1, 2024
1st Sunday of
Advent

*Readings are in the hymnal,
#993*

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

OPEN: MTWF- 8 AM-4 PM

Hello friends, and happy Advent!

Two and a half years ago when I got the phone call asking me to come down to Viroqua and Coon Valley here after already having been reassigned to Wausau for a third year, my pastor Fr. Mark had a remark that stuck with me. "In all my years," he said, "I've never really gotten any traction until my third year. It takes the whole first two years just to get to know people, for them to get to know you, before you can really start getting anything done." I loved the work I was doing and the students I was working with in the High School – the chance to introduce these young men and women to Jesus Christ. Several families and I had put in the real time and work of establishing meaningful relationships with each other, and those relationships were just starting to bear fruit. I could now see both the top and bottom half of people's faces, which made remembering names much easier. Sure enough, the time and energy I had put into my people and that those people had put into me was ready to bear serious fruit, and there was a real sadness to letting that go. Fr. Mark's comment hit the nail on the head – none of that was wasted investment for myself or my parishioners, but there was some missed opportunity now that our future had an end date on it.

Don't get me wrong – I am not bemoaning that I'm down here in the Driftless instead of Wausau. I love it here, I love you, and I am deeply grateful to be your Pastor. The Holy Spirit has moved in every challenge this role has brought over the last few years, and I am just really curious about the work He's doing in our community right now. I suppose my whole Wausau account is simply to draw attention to the reality that we've already passed that precise (*continued on page 2*)

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 Oberberger, Coordinator of Ongoing Formation, stmaryformation@mwt.net; (608) 637-7711

Beth Lakmann, Music Director, stmaryparish@mwt.net; (608) 637-7711

Fran Campbell, Secretary/Bookkeeper, stmaryparish@mwt.net, (608) 637-7711; Parish Kitchen (608) 637-7878

400 Congress Avenue, Viroqua, WI 54665

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(continued from page 1) feet-wetting mark here. I have an idea of where the Holy Spirit is leading us (into encounter, relationship, and missionary discipleship), but how He's going to do it is constantly unfolding before our eyes. We've got that two years under our belts, and it's been fascinating seeing how He's building on it.

Of course, every year in the Church is also quite similar to the year before – Advent to Christmas, Christmas to Ordinary Time, Ordinary Time to Lent, Lent to Easter, Easter to Ordinary Time. If you pay close enough attention you even notice that the readings aren't new – every three years we repeat the cycle of what we hear at Mass. And that rhythm and routine is no bad thing – prolonged exposure is an opportunity to jump from familiarity into greater and greater depth. It's not novelty that brings meaning to a relationship, but investment. I am very grateful to be your Pastor here, and I am very grateful that we're now two and a half years in together to give us a shared footing. Let's pray through this Advent together and see where the Holy Spirit wants to take us next.

God bless you,

Fr. Joe

Healing Service & Mass at Sacred Heart, Cashton:

Date: Monday December 2, 2024

Schedule:

- **4:30 PM:** Adoration and Confession
- **5:30 PM:** Mass
- **6:00 PM:** Corporate Prayer for Healing
- **7:00 PM:** Individual Healing Ministry (for those seeking additional prayers)
- **9:00 PM:** Closing

Calling all Crafters! - our parish will support St. Mary's in Coon Valley by having a table (or two) at their craft show on December 7, from 8 AM-2 PM. We are looking for crafts and people to help with set up, take down, and to man the tables. **Please deliver crafts to Annunciation of BVM by Monday, December 2.** Call Joyce Humfeld at 608-606-0873 if you have questions

ST. MARY'S ANNUAL CRAFT SHOW ~ SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024 ~ Come join the fun and find that one of a kind gift for the Holiday Season from several local vendors and crafters. Open from 8:00 AM-2:00 PM at the Coon Valley Village Hall, 108 Roosevelt St. Concessions available throughout the show. Free admission! Visit our website: www.stmarycv.org/craft-show or contact Nancy Peters at 608-790-6034 Peters@mwt.net

Aging religious need your help. "Your support acknowledges that we continue the mission of Christ even in our retirement," says Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart Sister Celeste Burgos, 80. Donations provide for the care, medicine, and daily needs of over 24,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to service. **Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious, December 8.** *If paying by check, please make it payable to the Annunciation of the BVM.*

December 1, 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Nov. 18-24, 2024

Offertory: \$4,157.02

Christmas Flowers: \$25.00

Total: \$4,182.02

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

October E-gifts: \$2,304.50

2024-2025

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal: \$35,560.00

Received to date: \$18,055.00

Donors: 63

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 30 November, 6:30 PM +Debra Skildum

(Angie Leis)

Sunday, 1 December, 10:30 AM +Joyce Dolan

(Owen & Ed Crowley)

Wednesday, 4 December, 5:15 PM +Deceased Relatives of Skowron

Family

(The Biebl Family)

Friday, 6 December, 8:00 AM +Ambrose Timmerman

(Timmerman Family Friends)

Saturday, 7 December, 6:30 PM +Gary Teadt

(Carol Teadt)

Sunday, 8 December, 10:30 AM People of the Annunciation & St.

Mary's Parishes

Monday, 9 December, 12:10 PM +Brent Waddell

(Family of Brent Waddell)

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR NOVEMBER: ST. BRIDGET

PCCW CIRCLE FOR DECEMBER: ST. THERESA

**Sunday, 1 December, 8:00-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
in CGS classroom**

**Sunday, 1 December, 9:00-10:15 AM Confirmation Class in Marian
Hall & classroom**

Sunday, 1 December, following Mass Children's Choir rehearsal

**Sunday, 1 December, following Mass Children's Christmas Pageant
Rehearsal**

**Sunday, 1 December, 12:00-1:00 PM Family of Faith monthly
overview**

**Monday, 2 December, 3:00-5:00 PM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
in CGS classroom**

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

**Wednesday, 4 December, 6:30 PM Finance Council meeting in parish
library**

Friday, 6 December, First Friday Adoration following Mass

**Sunday, 8 December, 8:00-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
in CGS classroom**

**Sunday, 8 December, 9:00-10:15 AM Theology of the Body in
basement classroom**

**Sunday, 8 December, following Mass Children's Christmas Pageant
Rehearsal**

**Sunday, 8 December, 11:45 AM-1:30 PM RCIA in Marian Hall pie
room**

**Monday, 9 December, 12:10 PM Immaculate Conception Mass, Holy
day of Obligation**

**Monday, 9 December, 3:00-5:00 PM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
in CGS classroom**

ALL DAY CONFESSIONS AT

THE CATHEDRAL - There will be all day confessions at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman (530 Main Street, La Crosse) on Monday, December 16, from 9 am - 6 pm. There will be four to five priests available to hear confessions at any given time.

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Dec. 7, 6:30 PM

Julie Moore Eucharistic Minister

Will Fisher Altar Server

Dan Kiedinger Lector

Sun., Dec. 8, 10:30 AM

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister

Francis Corr Altar Server

Reuben Stevenson Altar Server

Matthew Tubbin Lector

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

ADORATION (starting Dec. 1-Viroqua):

Monday: 7:00-7:30 AM in Viroqua

Tuesday: 12:05-12:35 in Viroqua, 4:30-5:00 PM in Coon Valley

Wednesday: 6:00-6:30 AM in Viroqua, 5:45-6:30 PM in Viroqua

Thursday: 8:30-9:00 AM in Coon Valley

Friday: 8:30-9:30 AM in Viroqua

Saturday: 5:00-5:30 PM in Coon Valley (a half hour starting right after Mass)

Sunday: 11:30-3:00 PM in Viroqua (except December 22, when we'll start at 12:30 after a baptism)

December 1, 2024

Pastoral Council Members

Kris Brueggen
Phyllis Krause
Parker Moore

Cathy Poshepny
Pat Peterson
Dcn. Tony Shay

Dennis Vinger

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. If you wish to speak with a Council member about your concerns, please contact the parish office - 608-637-7711 or stmaryparish@mwt.net.

Mother Mary's Baby Item Drive

We are collecting items for the Door of Hope Pregnancy & Family Care Center in Viroqua from now through **Sunday, December 22nd**. The following items are requested: *canned baby formula (sensitive Enfamil or Similac), new boy & girl baby clothes (newborn – 3T), wraps & carriers, new baby toys and books, waterproof bibs, teething, baby soap items, and hygiene products for moms.*

****diapers/wipes/quilts not needed – already well-stocked****
Please leave the items in the basket in the atrium. Thank you for your generosity!

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Roger and Joyce Humfeld
**R&J's HONEY FARM**
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608-606-0832 (cell)
rjhoneyfarm@hotmail.com



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Mary Sime
608-778-9369

OFFICE: 608-637-0524

Torrey Kramer
608-306-2115

Mary & Torrey look forward to serving you.
We offer In-Home Services if needed.

CEMETERY MONUMENTS, VETERANS MEMORIALS, SIGNAGE



"And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." ~ Luke 21:27