

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

At the risk of redundancy, the apocalyptic flavor of the readings over the last few weeks has a point. Our liturgical year starts over next weekend with the last month of Mary's pregnancy before Jesus' birth on Christmas, so these last few weeks are meant to feel climactic, like the end of a journey. Right now we're supposed to be taking a deep breath and recalling everything that's happened since December 3, last year – making the time to remember what Advent looked like and how it led into Christmas, what it felt like to take a deep breath with that blip of Ordinary Time before Ash Wednesday, how Lent led into the Triduum and how Easter played out after, how grace opened up in the slow and steady work of Ordinary Time again.

Memory is important. Taking the time and putting in the work to reflect, recall, and receive is what lets a memory become meaningful – what invites grace to grow and expand past the point of first reception. You've heard me talk about C.S. Lewis enough to know I'm a big fan, but chances are you haven't read my favorite work by him, the (in my opinion) unfortunately named "Space Trilogy" – it's a less read work of his, something like the adult Chronicles of Narnia. There's a line in the first book when the protagonist Ransom is reflecting on the memory of a pleasure with his Martian guide (it's not as weird as it sounds), and his guide shares with him:

"A pleasure is full grown only when it is remembered. You are speaking, Hman, as if the pleasure were one thing and the memory another. It is all one thing. The Seroni could say it better than I say it now. Not better than I could say it in a poem. What you call remembering is the last part of pleasure, as the crah is the last part of a poem. When you and I met, the meeting was over very shortly, it was nothing. Now it is growing something as we remember it. But still we know very little about it. What it will be when I remember it as I lie down to die, what it makes in me all my days till then—that is the real meeting. The other is only the beginning of it."

So much for memory. From time to time, I encourage you to make of this or that place in your life and heart an invitation to the Lord – to let (*continued on page 2*)

November 24, 2024
Our Lord Jesus
Christ, King of the
Universe

*Readings are in the hymnal,
#1192*

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

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; (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

November 24, 2024

(continued from page 1) Him guide and lead and open up whatever grace He has in store for you. With this last week of Advent-prep, take some time to invite Him to open up what He's done in you, how He's tried to move despite your best efforts, and how He's trying to show you more clearly by what He's done, who He is and who you are.

God bless you,

Fr. Joe

Please extend condolences to the family of **Therese M. (Kearney) Fortney** who passed away November 19, 2024. A Memorial Service will be held at 1:00 PM on Saturday, November 30, 2024, at Vossseteig-Larson Funeral Home in Viroqua. Burial will be at St. James Catholic Cemetery in Rising Sun. May she rest in peace.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSAL: It is time again to start preparing for our Christmas Pageant. This year we will be doing a show called "On Our Way to Bethlehem." Rehearsals will be held each Sunday after the 10:30 Mass for about 30 minutes. Any school-age kids are invited to participate.

The **Community Thanksgiving Dinner** sign-up sheet is in the atrium. This **FREE** Thanksgiving meal is a collaboration of a number of the Viroqua area churches. It is held in our Marian Hall, and we are asked to find a few volunteers to roast turkeys, bake pies and also to help Thanksgiving Day (as are a number of other churches). Please take a look at the sign-up sheet and prayerfully consider if there is a place where you can help. Any questions, give Julie Moore a call or text at 307-359-2322, as she is the coordinator for our parish this year.

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

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

United Country-Oakwood Realty, LLC is once again sponsoring Something For Seniors throughout November.

Something For Seniors is like Toys For Tots, but Christmas gifts are collected and given to our seniors in local healthcare and assisted living facilities. Crafts, puzzles, body care products, and socks are just a few ideas for donation items. A complete list of ideas is found on the collection boxes located at: The Market Place (Cenex) in Gays Mills, Hansen's IGA in Westby, Valley Market in Coon Valley; and in Viroqua: Nelson Agri-Center, The Viroqua Food Coop, The Dollar Tree, St Mary's Catholic Church, Vernon County Aging & Disability Resource Center. We ask that only "New" items be donated. Gifts can also be purchased through Amazon. For more information and gift ideas, please visit SomethingForSeniors.Org or join the Something For Seniors Facebook Group. Thank you!

November 24, 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Nov. 11-17, 2024

Offertory: \$4,136.39

Total: \$4,136.39

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

October E-gifts: \$2,304.50

2024-2025

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal: \$35,560.00

Received to date: \$15,695.00

Donors: 55

THANK YOU!

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Nov. 30, 6:30 PM

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister
Lane Fisher Altar Server
Reid Fisher Altar Server
Amy Matthes Lector

Sun., Dec. 1, 10:30 AM

Pat Obernberger Eucharistic Minister
Alayna Curti Altar Server
Logan Curti Altar Server
Stephen Lambert Lector

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

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.

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)

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 23 November, 6:30 PM +Lucille Krause

(Pat Effinger)

Sunday, 24 November, 10:30 AM People of Annunciation & St.

Mary's Parishes

Wednesday, 27 November, 5:15 PM +Rita Menne

(Family of Rita Menne)

Friday, 29 November, 8:00 AM +Agnes Thielker

(Angie Leis)

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

(Angie Leis)

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

(Owen & Ed Crowley)

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR NOVEMBER: ST. BRIDGET

PCCW CIRCLE FOR DECEMBER: ST. THERESA

Sunday, 24 November, 8:00-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good

Shepherd in CGS classroom

Sunday, 24 November, 9:00-10:15 AM Theology of the Body in

basement classroom

Sunday, 24 November, 9:15 AM Choir rehearsal

Sunday, 24 November, following Mass Children's Christmas Pageant

Rehearsal

Sunday, 24 November, 11:45 AM-1:30 PM RCIA in Marian Hall pie

room

Monday, 25 November, 3:00-5:00 PM Catechesis of the Good

Shepherd in CGS classroom

Monday, 25 November, 5:00-6:30 PM Community Meal at Good

Shepherd Church

Wednesday, 27 November, Marian Hall prep/use for community meal

Thursday, 28 November, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM Free Community

Thanksgiving Meal

Friday, 29 November, Parish Office closed in observance of

Thanksgiving

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

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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608-634-4515

Roger and Joyce Humfeld
**R&J's HONEY FARM**
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Westby, WI 54667
608-634-4059 (home)
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.

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