

# Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

In case you missed last weekend's bulletin, I'd like to share some important scheduling business with you again here.

- Confessions: Our regular confession schedule runs 45 minutes before the 4:00, 6:30 and 10:30 Mass on the weekends, as well as during the adoration time after the 5:15 Mass on Wednesdays. For the next two weeks here I'll also be available for confessions during our Tuesday adoration times at 12:00 in Viroqua. If those times don't work out or you'd rather not go to me for confession, this Monday the Cathedral is holding their confess-a-thon (my word, not theirs) from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM, with three or four priests at a time hearing confessions.
- Christmas Schedule: Our Christmas Masses are locked in now, with a 4:00 in Coon Valley and a 6:30 in Viroqua on Christmas Eve, a Midnight Mass in Coon Valley, and a 10:30 Christmas morning Mass in Viroqua.
- Christmas Dinner: Some folks in Viroqua are putting together another Christmas Dinner following last year's first go-around. This went very well last year, and I am excited to see it happening again! If you would like to join with other parishioners for this meal right after the 10:30 Mass, send an email RSVP to [christmasdinnerviroqua@gmail.com](mailto:christmasdinnerviroqua@gmail.com) or put your name down on the sheet at the back of the church – that way we'll be sure to have the right amount of food.
- Daily Mass schedule: With Christmas and some upcoming conference travel in my near future, there are a few daily Mass changes around the corner. First, there will not be Mass in Coon Valley on Thursdays December 26 or January 2. Second, the 8:00 Mass on December 27, will be at 12:10, and there will not be a daily Mass on January 3. Third, there will not be a 5:15 Mass on January 7, but after my return that evening all things are back to normal. Weekends remain unaffected, and we have Fr. Parr coming in to celebrate Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, December 31, at 5:15 in Coon Valley and January 1, at 12:10 and 5:15 in Viroqua.
- Finally, we unfortunately have to cancel the Christmas pageant this year – the precisely (in)correct chemistry of factors came together to keep it from working out, but keep your eyes peeled for it next year!

*(continued on page 2)*

## December 15, 2024 3rd Sunday of Advent

Readings are in the hymnal,  
#999

### Eucharist

Saturdays - 6:30 PM

Sundays - 10:30 AM

Wednesday - 5:15 PM

Fridays - 8:00 AM

### Livestreaming Mass

[www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley](https://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](http://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](mailto:stmaryformation@mwt.net); (608) 637-7711

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

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

400 Congress Avenue, Viroqua, WI 54665

# December 15, 2024

*(continued from page 1)* Okay, deep breath, that's a lot of business all at one time. In the spirit of a lot of stuff at one time, I have one final encouragement for you over the next week and a half – take a deep breath, set some time aside for the Lord, and ask Him how He is trying to set you up for an encounter with Him in a short week and a half. God bless you!

Fr. Joe

**Women and men religious offer gratitude.** “Sincere thanks to the donors of the Retirement Fund for Religious. I hope we meet, if not in this world, then in the next,” says Sister Teresa Korycka, 81, of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate. Your gift impacts over 24,000 senior women and men religious, providing them a dignified retirement. To learn how your donations helps, visit [retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org).

All of the children of the parish are invited to make ornaments for our parish Christmas tree this year! If your child would like to make an ornament or two, please drop them off in the basket in the gathering space no later than **Sunday, December 22nd**. Thank you!

*If you are looking for a place to celebrate a Christmas meal with your parish family, please join us at noon on Christmas Day in Marian Hall. The parish will provide ham, potatoes, and vegetables; salads and desserts are potluck. If you can join us, please RSVP by December 22, to [christmasdinnerviroqua@gmail.com](mailto:christmasdinnerviroqua@gmail.com).*

**Help share the reason for the season this Christmastide** by purchasing a "Keep Christ In Christmas" yard sign or auto magnet sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Proceeds from these will help support future charitable efforts the Knights are well known for. Asking donation is \$5 each. Contact Michael Haight at 608-487-2138 (text/voice) or

[michael.a.haight@outlook.com](mailto:michael.a.haight@outlook.com). Please help spread the word and put a new yard sign out to help bring God back into our neighborhoods!



**Gift Dating for End of Year:** As a reminder, all gifts postmarked 12/31/2024 or earlier will be posted and processed for the calendar/tax year 2024. Because the calendar year ends midweek and many parish offices are closed or lightly staffed, we will extend the mailing deadline for gifts left at the parish. Diocesan Annual Appeal and Inspired By The Spirit gifts received at the parish must be sent in a parish envelope and postmarked by 1/7/2025 to be included in the 2024 calendar/tax year.

**For end of year gifts/contributions to St. Mary's - Viroqua,** please have them arrive at the church no later than December 31, to be sure of processing for 2024.

**Thank you** to everyone who has helped with the garden this season. Special shout out to Cathy and Denny Lund who regularly weeded and harvested. We are looking for someone or a family to run the garden next summer. If you are interested or want to learn more information about what that entails, please contact Matt Kararo at 708-299-0573 or [kararofamily@gmail.com](mailto:kararofamily@gmail.com)

# December 15, 2024

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Dec. 2-8, 2024  
 Offertory: \$6,341.00  
 Retired Religious: \$2,446.00  
 Total: \$8,787.00  
 Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00  
 November E-gifts: \$2,310.88  
 Works of Charity: \$916.00

## 2024-2025

## DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal: \$35,560.00  
 Received to date: \$18,855.00  
 Donors: 68  
 THANK YOU!

## Ministry Schedule

### **Sat., Dec. 21, 6:30 PM**

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister  
 Will Fisher Altar Server  
 Mark Brueggen Lector

### **Sun., Dec. 22, 10:30 AM**

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister  
 Sasha Scoville Altar Server  
 Royce Scoville Altar Server  
 Alexis Scoville Altar Server  
 Melanie Halvorson 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)

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 : **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.  
 : .....

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, 14 December, 6:30 PM +Deceased Members of the Biebl Family**  
 (the Biebl Family)

**Sunday, 15 December, 10:30 AM +Guy Nicks**  
 (Guy Nicks Family)

**Wednesday, 18 December, 5:15 PM +Joyce Dolan**  
 (Owen & Ed Crowley)

**Friday, 20 December, 8:00 AM +Ivan Cowell**  
 (Angie Leis)

**Saturday, 21 December, 6:30 PM +Mary Joan Meyer & Storey Meyer**  
 (Leon Meyer)

**Sunday, 22 December, 10:30 AM Women of the Parish**  
 (PCCW)

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### ***PCCW CIRCLE FOR DECEMBER: ST. THERESA***

**Sunday, 15 December, 8:00-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in CGS classroom**

**Sunday, 15 December, following 8 AM Mass in Coon Valley Family of Faith monthly activity painting nativity ornaments**

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

**Sunday, 15 December, 10:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal**

**Monday, 16 December, 3:00-5:00 PM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in CGS classroom**

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

**Tuesday, 17 December, 1:00 PM St. Mary's Book Club meets in the parish library**

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

**Friday, 20 December, 10:30 AM Richard Hoffer funeral**

**Sunday, 22 December, during Mass Stevenson Baptism**

**Sunday, 22 December, 11:45 AM-1:30 PM RCIA in Marian Hall pie room**

**Sunday, 22 December, 12:00 PM Oldham Baptism**

**Monday, 23 December, 5:00-6:30 PM Community Meal at Good Shepherd Church**

**Tuesday-Friday, 24-27 December, Parish Office Closed in observance of Christmas**

**Tuesday, 24 December, 6:30 PM Christmas Eve Mass**

**Wednesday, 25 December, 10:30 AM Christmas Day Mass**

**Wednesday, 25 December, Noon Parish Christmas Day Meal in Marian Hall**

## 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](mailto: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!

## LAW OFFICES OF HOPKINS & HOPKINS, LLP

George A. Hopkins  
Stephanie M. Hopkins

**608-637-6710**

Members of St. Mary Parish

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Rosanne & Rod Aspenson  
402 N. Main St., Westby, WI 54665  
[meatsusa@mwt.net](mailto:meatsusa@mwt.net)  
**608-634-4515**

## Roger and Joyce Humfeld

R&J's  
HONEY  
FARM

52676 Haugen Ln.  
Westby, WI 54667  
608-634-4059 (home)  
608-606-0832 (cell)  
[rjhoneyfarm@hotmail.com](mailto:rjhoneyfarm@hotmail.com)



## Kickapoo Counseling

110 N. Main Street  
Westby, WI 54667  
608-634-2365

[info@kickapoo-counseling.com](mailto:info@kickapoo-counseling.com)

If you would like to advertise on this page, please contact 608-637-7711



Dan Kiedinger



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## VIROQUA MONUMENTS

Division of Archie Monuments  
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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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**"Rejoice in the Lord always, I shall say it again: rejoice!...The Lord is near." ~ Philippians 4:4**