

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

Before I get to this week's business-oriented note, let me just point out that you're wonderful. The Lord really meant what He was doing when He put you on this earth, and He is very in love with you. That's important; don't forget it. With that most important point clearly in mind, let me share some scheduling business with you, because we have a few out of the ordinary things coming up.

First, regarding the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (December 8, typically today if you're reading this on Sunday). This is a big day in the life of the Church, A) celebrating the moment God prepared a new temple (Mary) for His Son (Jesus Christ, also God) to enter into the world, and B) since Mary the Immaculate Conception is the patroness of the United States. Ordinarily this is a holy day of obligation (meaning we've got to get to Mass); but since it falls on Sunday this year, the day transfers to December 9 (Monday) and the obligation is dispensed (meaning you're not required to go). I still highly encourage you to get to Mass on Monday if you are able – for our part we will have a 12:10 Mass in Viroqua.

Second, let's have a drumroll for the Christmas schedule this year. With Christmas on a Wednesday this year (which makes my life much selfishly easier than last year's Monday), we will have a 4:00 Mass in Coon Valley and a 6:30 Mass in Viroqua on Christmas Eve, then a few hours later a Midnight Mass in Coon Valley (don't ask what time, it'll be at Midnight), and finally a 10:30 Mass in Viroqua.

Third, regarding confessions and adoration. We continue what we started last week with daily adoration – you can find the schedule in the bulletin here. Thank you to everyone who came out in the chilly weather to pray, from our 6:00 early birds to our lunch crowd to our night owls – I'm excited about this one! If you'd like to join us for some time with the Lord, there's plenty of Advent left! *(continued on page 2)*

December 8, 2024
2nd Sunday of
Advent

*Readings are in the hymnal,
#996*

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

December 8, 2024

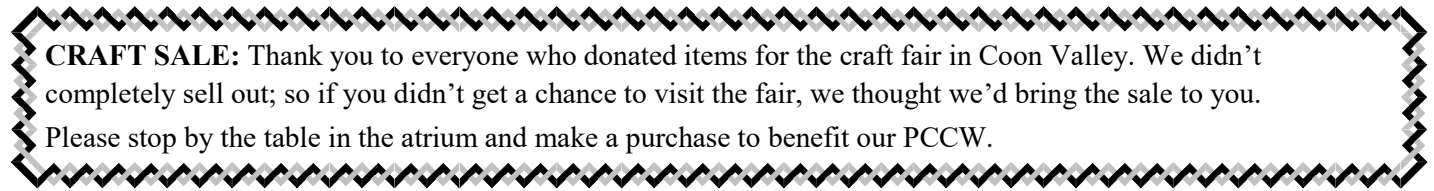
(continued from page 1) As far as confession goes, I point you to our regular confession schedule on the weekends and Wednesday evenings, as well as the Cathedral's all-day confess-a-thon on December 16, from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Bonus for that one – if you don't like the idea of going to confession with me, there's a fighting chance it'll be some priest you've never met before. For good measure let's add confession into those Tuesday lunchtime adoration slots through Advent – I'll be in the box at the back of church if anyone needs, next to the choir loft stairs.

That's it for today. God bless you, and may you have a powerfully fruitful Advent,

Fr. Joe

Support those who have given a lifetime. Women and men religious have dedicated their lives to service—praying, teaching, and caring for those in need—usually for little to no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your donation provides for the essential care, medicine, and daily needs of thousands of senior women and men religious. **Please give generously to the Retirement Fund for Religious, December 8.** *If paying by check, please make it payable to the Annunciation of the BVM.*

The PCCW will meet next Wednesday, December 11, at 1:00 PM. All are welcome to join the quilters for a potluck at noon. We will be planning our budget for 2025. Any questions, call Joyce Humfeld at 608-606-0873.

**CRAFT SALE:** Thank you to everyone who donated items for the craft fair in Coon Valley. We didn't completely sell out; so if you didn't get a chance to visit the fair, we thought we'd bring the sale to you. Please stop by the table in the atrium and make a purchase to benefit our PCCW.

Wanted: St. James Cemetery Association is looking for a **Caretaker/Groundskeeper in exchange for housing in Rising Sun, WI.** Responsibilities include mowing (weekly) and mowing and trimming (bi-weekly) of the entire grounds and cemetery. Mowing takes approximately 8 hours and trimming approximately an additional 15 hours. Must provide own mower, trimmer and gas. Winter shoveling includes the sidewalks, church front steps and one car area, as well as house needs. Caretaking involves checking the security of grounds and church, as well as furnace and water pipes in winter. Housing is provided, but heat, electric and renter's insurance is the responsibility of tenant (Est. \$2000/yr).

For more information contact Emily Mahan at emilymahan@hotmail.com or 608-397-0996.

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

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.

December 8, 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Nov. 25-Dec. 1, 2024

Offertory: \$4,597.02

Christmas Flowers: \$465.00

Total: \$5,062.02

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

October E-gifts: \$2,304.50

2024-2025

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal: \$35,560.00

Received to date: \$18,305.00

Donors: 65

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS

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)

Wednesday, 11 December, 5:15 PM +Reinie Leis

(Angie Leis)

Friday, 13 December, 8:00 AM Women of the Parish

(PCCW)

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)

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR DECEMBER: ST. THERESA

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

Wednesday, 11 December, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters

in Marian Hall

Wednesday, 11 December, 12:00 PM PCCW potluck & meeting

following in Marian Hall

Sunday, 15 December, 8:00-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good

Shepherd in CGS classroom

Sunday, 15 December, 9:00-10:15 AM Confirmation Class in

Marian Hall & classroom

Sunday, 15 December, following Mass Children's Christmas

Pageant Rehearsal

Sunday, 15 December, following 8 AM Mass in Coon Valley Family

of Faith monthly activity painting nativity ornaments

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

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. 14, 6:30 PM

Pat Biebl Eucharistic Minister

Seth Kiedinger Altar Server

Paul O'Rourke Lector

Sun., Dec. 15, 10:30 AM

Al Mislivecek Eucharistic Minister

Jacob Kimmet Altar Server

Sebastian Kimmet Altar Server

Dale Pertzborn 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 8, 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!

LAW OFFICES OF HOPKINS & HOPKINS, LLP

George A. Hopkins
Stephanie M. Hopkins

608-637-6710

Members of St. Mary Parish

Thorson Popp

Funeral and Cremation Services



856 S. Rusk Ave. Viroqua, WI
608-637-7041

popfcs.com

Personalized Dental Care For The Entire Family!



Lianne Klum, D.D.S.

NEW PATIENTS ALWAYS WELCOME



637-2655
1225 Favor Drive
Viroqua



WESTBY LOCKER & MEATS

The Sausage & Meat Shop
Rosanne & Rod Aspenson
402 N. Main St., Westby, WI 54665
meatsusa@mwt.net
608-634-4515

Roger and Joyce Humfeld



S2676 Haugen Ln.
Westby, WI 54667
608-634-4059 (home)
608-606-0832 (cell)
rjhoneyfarm@hotmail.com



Kickapoo Counseling

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

info@kickapoo-counseling.com

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



Dan Kiedinger



Oakwood Realty LLC

608-606-5344

dan@oakwoodrealty.com

Let me help you sell your home, farm, or vacant land.

**"Celebrating Lives Journey
Together"**



Jeff and Chris Roth

S3611 Duncan Lane, Viroqua



Roth Family
Cremation Center
and Funeral Services

David Hall
Auctioneer - Lic. # 4007-52
koch@mwt.net 608-632-4194



Oakwood Realty LLC
www.oakwoodrealty.com

cell 608.606.3825
dillon@oakwoodrealty.com
dillonmartino.unitedcountryagents.com

Dillon Martino

Effinger Equipment
SALES AND SERVICE

800 N. Main Street • 608-637-7594 • Viroqua, Wisconsin

Complete Line of Outdoor Power Products

Jonsered • SNAPPER • KOHLER • STIHL • BCS

VIROQUA MONUMENTS

Division of Archie Monuments
1222 North Main St. • Viroqua, WI 54665

www.archiemonumentsandstone.com
mary.viroquamonuments@gmail.com

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



"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." ~ Luke 3:4