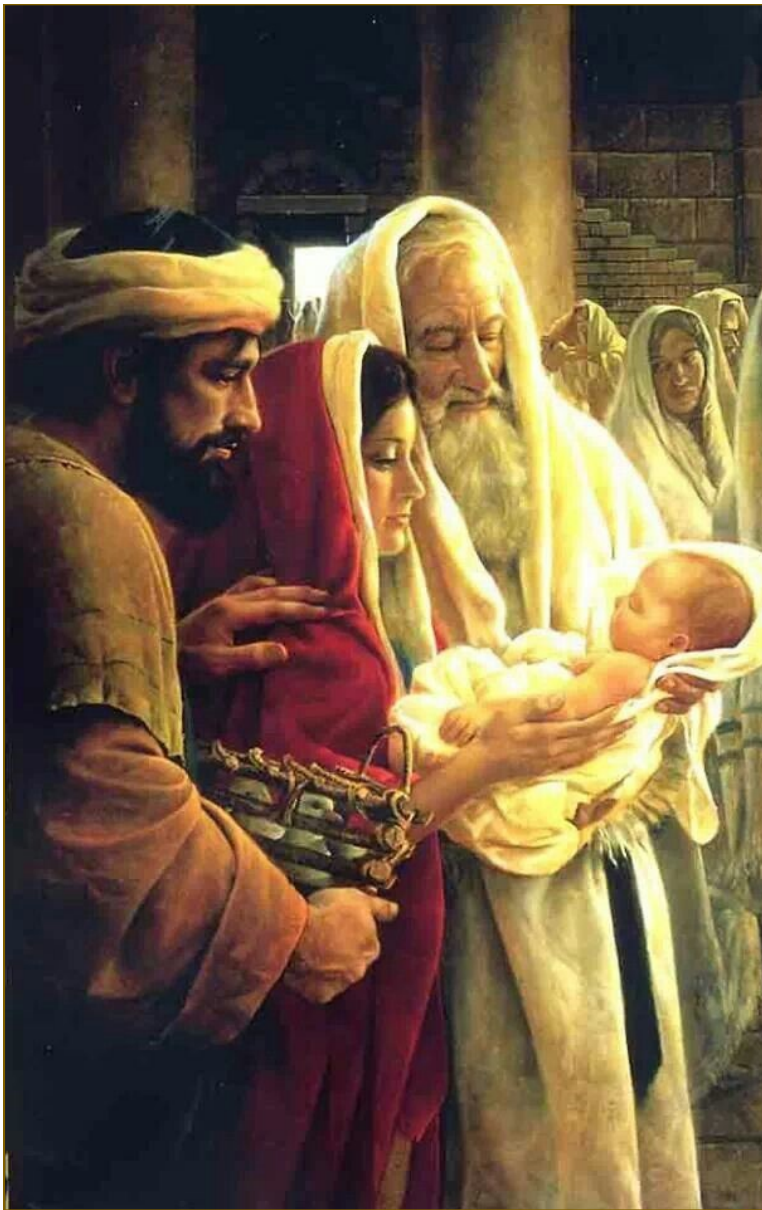


Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

This weekend we're taking a quick step back from the ordinary run of Ordinary Time Sunday Masses to celebrate the Presentation of the Lord – if you're confused why we're not using the readings from the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (which I love), that's why! The Presentation is (by loose analogy) kind of like Baptism to us, in the sense that Jesus' family is bringing Him to the temple to entrust Him to the Lord and present Him to the Lord's People. Baptism similarly starts off at the entrance to the church, with the priest or deacon meeting the family and the wee little unbaptized baby (or child or adult) and drawing them into the gathered church. There's a presentation to the Lord and the people built into *(continued on page 2)*

February 2, 2025 The Presentation of the Lord

Readings are in the hymnal,
#1195

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 Tuesday 4:30 PM in CV

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

February 2, 2025

(continued from page 1) both moments. You may also be familiar with this moment as the fourth Joyful Mystery of the rosary, another early revelation (that is, “revealing”) of Jesus, God-become-man, to the world who desperately needs Him.

Another deep-rooted tradition accompanies the Presentation – the feast of “Candlemas.” It has been the case once upon a time that Christmas celebrations kept running for a few more weeks after the Baptism, marking this as the end of the Christmas season. If you remember back to Advent, one of the big seasonal themes is this recognition of and invitation to the Lord into the places of darkness in our lives, followed by this big luminary Christmas season. We do the hard work during Advent so that when Christmas comes along we’re that much more aware of the significance and groundbreaking change of Jesus Christ’s light.

Anyway, back to Candlemas. Until I was reminded of this practice over the last week, I neglected to include this tradition into my announcements or pastoral calculations – I apologize for not giving you a greater heads up earlier than this. In the Candlemas tradition, families would bring in the candles they’d use to light up their house throughout the year to have them blessed at that last Mass of the luminous Christmas season. Some folks may be bringing candles in this weekend, and we’ll have a blessing at the end of Mass; but in the very likely event you are not bringing any candles in yourself, we’ll also bless a few boxes of our weeklong candles for you to take home with you. Just like the Easter candle that we’ll bless at the Easter Vigil and keep burning at important resurrection moments like baptisms and funerals reminds us of the power of that resurrection moment, these candles can be a good reminder of the light of Christmas that extends far past one season of the year.

God bless you!

Fr. Joe

Introducing the New Steward of the Library We are happy to announce that Tom Leis will be taking over the running of the parish library. Please come and check out the library and keep your eyes peeled for the new children’s books that will be added to the shelves in the coming weeks.

Thank you to all the parishioners who helped make the January 27th Community Meal at Good Shepherd’s a huge success!

We served about 150 people

And had a lovely time visiting with old and new friends.

It was a joyous way to connect to our larger community and share

St. Mary’s special brand of hospitality.

February 2, 2025

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Jan. 20-26, 2024

Offertory: \$3,379.00

Total: \$3,379.00

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

December E-gifts: \$3,104.73

2024-2025

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal: \$35,560.00

Received to date: \$33,875.00

Donors: 84

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 1 February, 6:30 PM Women of the Parish
(PCCW)

Sunday, 2 February, 10:30 AM +Verna Mae Buhr
(Anna Mae Krause)

Wednesday, 5 February, 5:15 PM +Pete Swanson
(Biebl Family)

Friday, 7 February, 8:00 AM Alonso Hernandez Family
(Diana Hernandez))

Saturday, 8 February, 6:30 PM +Peter Swanson
(Roger & Phyllis Krause)

Sunday, 9 February, 10:30 AM People of the Annunciation and St. Mary's Parishes

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Feb. 8, 6:30 PM

Gladys Jacobson Eucharistic Minister
Lane Fisher Altar Server
Reid Fisher Altar Server
Amy Matthes Lector

Sun., Feb. 9, 10:30 AM

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister
Sebastian Kimmet Altar Server
Jacob Kimmet Altar Server
Dale Pertzborn Lector

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

The **contemplative reading group** is gathering for more Teilhard de Chardin in February before we shift gears for lent/March (reading Julienne De Norwich, more info to follow). We are planning to read Section 2, "Living In the Divine Mileu" from *Pierre Teilhard De Chardin Writings* by Ursula King to discuss on **February 23, 2025, from 12-2 PM** after Mass. Please consider joining this discussion.

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR FEBRUARY: ST. THERESA

Sunday, 2 February, 8:00-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in CGS classroom

Sunday, 2 February, 9:00-10:15 AM Confirmation Class in Marian Hall & basement classroom

Sunday, 2 February, following Mass Children's Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, 2 February, 12:00-1:00 PM Family of Faith monthly overview

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

Wednesday, 5 February, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in Marian Hall

Wednesday, 5 February, 6:30 PM Finance Council meeting in the parish library

Thursday, 6 February, 6:30-8:00 PM Little Rock Bible Study in Marian Hall

Friday, 7 February, 9:00-10:30 AM Little Rock Bible Study in Marian Hall

Sunday, 9 February, 8:00-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in CGS classroom

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

Sunday, 9 February, 11:45 AM-1:30 PM RCIA in Marian Hall pie room

Monday, 10 February, 3:00-5:00 PM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in CGS classroom

