

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

Last weekend I mentioned that we're spending a lot of time in the Gospel of Luke this year. Luke has a beautiful preoccupation with Jesus' healing miracles – perhaps tied to Luke's own previous life as a physician. As He works to reveal Himself, Jesus uses these miracles to help His people understand who He is by what He does. When He heals, Jesus rejoices in the physical wellbeing of the person being healed, but more than that He is intimately concerned with the deeper restoration going on under the surface. When Jesus restores a blind man's sight, He is also opening up his vision to Jesus standing in front of him. When He heals the woman with the hemorrhage or raises Jairus' daughter back to life, He is certainly concerned with the life-changing or life-ending illness they're suffering through, but more than that He is showing the deeper reality "I bring you new life, I restore you as a whole person and integrate you back into our People."

Last weekend's Gospel showed an early sign, when Jesus encountered Simon (eventually St. Peter) on the seashore. He met Simon and James and John right where they were – tired, worn out, aggravated from an unsuccessful day's work. Jesus had no interest in meeting these guys where they wished they were – He met them in a very concrete, visceral moment with His invitation: "Put out into deep waters." This call has been resonating in my own prayer throughout the week – this invitation to be unafraid of the depths. I've succeeded in some moments at staying in tense or loaded moments in my own prayer and my encounters with our people, and the Holy Spirit has rewarded this perseverance with tangible experiences of His grace and with His encouragement to forge ahead. I've failed in some moments by escaping into the accessible familiarity of distraction and (*continued on page 2*)

February 16, 2025
6th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

*Readings are in the hymnal,
#1109*

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 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

February 16, 2025

(continued from page 1) spiritual bypass, and the Holy Spirit has used the flat-footedness of these moments to remind me about His desire to work even through my own weakness. In both of these responses, this same theme has been poignantly clear, “stay in the deep waters with Me.”

Anyway, I share this with you specifically as an invitation – as we read through the Gospel of Luke at these weekend Masses, recognize the way the Holy Spirit is trying to reveal Himself and open up your own heart, not just in that weekly liturgical moment but in ** every * single * moment ** of your life. The Lord delights in you and is wonderfully patient with you (and me), and His invitation is always waiting for your “yes,” even and especially after a “no.” If something resonates from the weekend liturgy, give it space to grow and marinate. If you feel Him calling you into deeper waters, do not be afraid – He’s a good lifeguard.

God bless you,

Fr. Joe

Family Board Game Night & Potluck - February 21, 5:30-8:30 PM in Marian Hall. Join us for an evening of family games, fund for all ages! If you can, please bring a dish to share.

LADIES NIGHT OUT St. Mary’s Parish is planning another ladies night out. We will meet at **6:00 PM at Old Towne Inn** for a relaxing evening of friendship and fellowship, **Thursday, February 27. Please sign up by February 24th** (signup sheet in the gathering space), so that reservations can be made. Questions or comments, please call Joyce Humfeld at 608-606-0873 or 608-634-4059.

Freedom in Forgiveness - March 8, 2025 at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, La Crosse. Come together with other like-minded men; attendees are empowered to find freedom in forgiveness and hope in healing. Register at: menofthecross.org or scan the code on the card (*available in the gathering space*).

February 16, 2025

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Feb. 3-9, 2024

Offertory: \$3,094.40

CCHD: \$60.00

Total: \$3,154.40

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

January E-gifts: \$2,341.25

2024-2025

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal: \$35,560.00

Received to date: \$34,175.00

Donors: 85

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 15 February, 6:30 PM +Ambrose Timmerman
(Timmerman Friends)

Sunday, 16 February, 10:30 AM +Frank Kneeland, Jr.
(Ann Graham)

Wednesday, 19 February, 5:15 PM Vernon Memorial Employees
(Diana Hernandez)

Friday, 21 February, 8:00 AM +Verna Mae Buhr
(Joanne Krueger)

Saturday, 22 February, 6:30 PM +Pete Swanson
(Joel & Kathryn Anderson)

Sunday, 23 February, 10:30 AM +Matthew Keenan
(Roger & Joyce Humfeld)

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR FEBRUARY: ST. THERESA

Sunday, 16 February, 8:00-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
in CGS classroom

Sunday, 16 February, after 8:00 AM Mass Monthly RE activity in Coon
Valley

Sunday, 16 February, 9:00-10:15 AM Confirmation Class in Marian
Hall & basement classroom

Sunday, 16 February, 10:00 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal

Monday, 17 February, Parish Office Closed - Secretary PTO

Monday, 17 February, 3:00-5:00 PM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
in CGS classroom

Monday, 17 February, 5:00-8:00 PM Marriage Group in Marian Hall

Tuesday, 18 February, 1:00 PM St. Mary's Book Club meets in parish
library

Wednesday, 19 February, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in
Marian Hall

Thursday, 20 February, 4:00 PM Pastoral Council Meeting in Marian
Hall

Thursday, 20 February, 6:30 PM Finance Council Meeting in library

Friday, 21 February, 5:30-8:30 PM Family Game Night & Potluck in
Marian Hall

Sunday, 23 February, 8:00-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
in CGS classroom

Sunday, 23 February, 9:00-10:15 AM Theology of the Body in
basement classroom

Sunday, 23 February, 11:45 AM-1:30 PM OCIA in Marian Hall pie
room

Sunday, 23 February, 12:00-2:00 PM Reading Group meets in Parish
Library

Monday, 24 February, 3:00-5:00 PM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd
in CGS classroom

Monday, 24 February, 5:00-6:30 PM Community Meal at Good
Shepherd Church

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Feb. 22, 6:30 PM

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister

Will Fisher Altar Server

Seth Kiedinger Altar Server

Dan Kiedinger Lector

Sun., Feb. 23, 10:30 AM

Dcn. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister

Basil Stevenson Altar Server

Reuben Stevenson Altar Server

Mary Ellen Hatton 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 Julianne 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.

February 16, 2025

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.

The **Viroqua Community Bell Choir** will be starting a beginning bell group on Tuesday, **February 25, from 4:30 - 5:15** at the Viroqua United Methodist Church, 221 S. Center Street, Viroqua. Prospective members should be age 12 and up, with the goal a mixture of youth and adults; players should have two years of musical experience in order to be comfortable with the process of counting and of reading notes. Music choices will be lively with a variety of bell special effects. Contact Cinda Woodward, cindawoodward@aol.com, or 608-632-9266, texts welcome.

Thank you to all the parishioners that made valentines for our elderly. We have mailed and delivered valentines to the homebound parishioners and have distributed the rest to the various nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Your thoughtfulness brings smiles and lets the elderly know that they are not forgotten.

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



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

R&J's HONEY FARM
52676 Haugen Ln.
Westby, WI 54667
608-634-4059 (home)
608-606-0832 (cell)
rjhoneyfarm@hotmail.com

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**KINDNESS
COUNTS LLC**

"Blessed are you who are poor, for the kingdom of God is yours." ~ Luke 6:20