

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

I'd like to talk to you about chisels. First, some context – I've been building up my woodshop for about nine or ten years, ever since getting going in woodworking back in seminary. Back then, I used the well-outfitted cast-iron-filled student woodshop at the seminary, supplementing main fixtures with this or that tool as a need came up. Toward the end of seminary, I raided a cabinet maker's retirement sale for some basics – a router table, a miter saw, some gorgeous 8/4 cherry – all in the hopes of one day having a space just like I have now. With the helpful going-away gift of some ash from a lumber supplier in Wausau, one of my first woodshop projects here was a big old workbench to host most of my work.

These last few years, I've been arranging and rearranging my shop down in the rectory basement to suit my needs; and last week I took delivery of a new table saw with a few more safety features and steadier tracking to keep my fingers firmly attached. And yet for all of these bigger-ticket save-up-for-a-while implements and tools, my favorite piece of shop equipment is a simple set of chisels. Chisels are at once delightful, terrifying, and a point of pride. They're delightful in the precision and nuance they offer – the shaping of a workpiece, tight edgework, and careful finishing of a joint to bring two pieces together. Chisels are terrifying in how efficiently they can run a long split through a troubled-over piece of wood. They're a point of pride in how they're maintained, the edge they keep, even in their storage. They're also one of those tools that need careful TLC to keep an edge – it's just as important to take the time to hone and sharpen their edges as it is to use them with practice and skill to give a clean cut and even to avoid a workday-ending injury.

(continued on page 2)

March 30, 2025
4th Sunday of Lent

*Readings are in the hymnal,
#1027*

Eucharist

Saturdays - 6:30 PM

Sundays - 10:30 AM

Wednesday - 5:45 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. 6:15 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 6:15 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

March 30, 2025

(continued from page 1)

Over the last few months, I've been working away at the crucifix for Viroqua's current sanctuary renovation. In some ways this whole fixture is the prime motivation behind what we're doing, restoring and returning this powerful reminder of the vehicle for our salvation and what we celebrate in every Mass – thank the Good Lord that we still have the original from our construction 60-something years ago. I started off sanding down the original corpus and smoothing out a few hard lines, and it's now soaking up a last bit of finish. The original cross is too weather-worn for restoration, but thanks to that same lumber supplier I got my hands on some beautiful black walnut boards for a new one. These boards have been the ready recipients of the blows, scrapings, and cuttings of that very same set of chisels, and through this process that simple reminder to take the time to hone and sharpen has been coming up over and over. I tend toward the "I'll take care of myself after this or that job" camp, and these chisels are telling me powerfully how important it is to stay rooted, to return to the Lord and keep the tools in shape.

God bless you,

Fr. Joe

The Passion: We are looking for volunteers to help with the performance of the Passion of Christ on Good Friday. Sign up in the atrium or contact Brenda Corr - (608) 632-5208 or brendacorr@mwt.net. Rehearsals are on Mondays and Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 PM with additional times during Holy Week.

Grief Share *RESCHEDULED*—Tuesdays 5:00 - 7:00 pm, April 8th through July 1st, 2025. For information, please contact the parish office. *(also posted on bulletin board in meeting space)*

The PCCW and Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish are both offering a \$500 scholarship to two graduating seniors of our parish. Scholarship applications can be picked up in the gathering space or downloaded from the parish website, www.stmaryparish.org . Scholarship applications are due in the parish office by **Monday, April 14.**

Easter Triduum Schedule:

Holy Thursday:	5:15 PM Adoration in the chapel after service until midnight in Viroqua
Good Friday:	12:10 PM in Viroqua 3:00 PM in Coon Valley
Holy Saturday:	8:15 PM in Viroqua
Easter Sunday:	8:00 AM in Coon Valley 10:30 AM in Viroqua

March 30, 2025

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Mar. 17-23, 2024

Offertory: \$3,523.70

Total: \$3,523.70

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

February E-gifts: \$2,233.65

2024-2025

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal: \$35,560.00

Received to date: \$36,085.00

Donors: 88

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 29 March, 6:30 PM +Pete Swanson

(Roger & Joyce Humfeld)

Sunday, 30 March, 10:30 AM +Carl P. & Margaret S. Simon

(Joseph Simon)

Wednesday, 2 April, 5:45 PM Fr. Joseph Richards

Friday, 4 April, 8:00 AM +Evelyn & Joe Biebl, Sr.

(Biebl Family)

Saturday, 5 April, 6:30 PM +Pete Swanson

(Mark & Phyllis Lucey)

Sunday, 6 April, 10:30 AM Hernandez Torres Family

(Diana Hernandez)

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Apr. 5, 6:30 PM

Den. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister

Will Fisher Altar Server

Amy Matthes Lector

Sun., Apr. 6, 10:30 AM

Kyle Prorok 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!

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR MARCH: ST. JOSEPH

PCCW CIRCLE FOR APRIL: ST. BRIDGET

Sunday, 30 March, 8:00-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good

Shepherd in CGS classroom

Sunday, 30 March, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM First Communion Class in basement classroom

Sunday, 30 March, 12:00-1:30 PM Reading Group meeting in the parish library

Monday, 31 March, 3:00-5:00 PM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in CGS classroom

Monday, 31 March, 6:30-8:30 PM *The Passion of Christ* rehearsal

Wednesday, 2 April, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in Marian Hall

Wednesday, 2 April, 5:15 PM Stations of the Cross, Mass and Adoration following

Thursday, 3 April, 6:30-8:30 PM *The Passion of Christ* rehearsal

Friday, 4 April, First Friday Adoration following Mass

Saturday, 5 April, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM Confirmation Retreat at Corr residence, starting with Mass

Sunday, 6 April, 8:00-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in CGS classroom

Sunday, 6 April, following Mass Children's Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, 6 April, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM First Communion Class in basement classroom

Sunday, 6 April, 12:00-1:00 PM Family of Faith monthly overview

Monday, 7 April, 3:00-5:00 PM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in CGS classroom

Monday, 7 April, 6:30-8:30 PM *The Passion of Christ* rehearsal

Tuesday, 8 April, 5:00-7:00 PM Grief Share Support Program in Marian Hall pie room

REMINDER: to those who donated food—please pick up your dishes/containers

Fish Fry at St. Charles, Genoa – April 4

Come enjoy a delicious Fish Fry at St. Charles School, 707 Eagle Street, Genoa, WI on April 4th! Eat in or get it to go.

Serving from 5 pm - 7 pm or gone, in the cafeteria. Dinner includes: 3 pieces of cod fish, baked potato, coleslaw, baked beans and a bun for \$15. Drinks and desserts sold separately. While you visit, play some games & enjoy the camaraderie!

March 30, 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.

We are hoping to increase the content in the **Parish Library** by adding some new books. If you would like to donate money as a way to support this effort, please make your check out to the Annunciation of the BVM with 'parish library' in the memo line or cash in envelope marked 'for the parish library'. Donations may be mailed to or dropped off at the parish office or placed in the weekend's contributions baskets.

Parish Family,

If you are interested in participating in a parish-wide (non-monetary) birthday gift for Father Joe in April, please get into contact with Carly Zadow, either after Sunday Masses, or at 608-792-4872 / zadow2021@gmail.com.

Confirmation Retreat - April 5, 2025, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM at Corr residence. Bring sponsors, a rosary and appropriate attire to be outdoors. Drop event forms off at the office this coming week if planning to attend.



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

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

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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Dan Kiedinger



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dan@oakwoodrealty.com

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"But now we must celebrate and rejoice;...he was lost and has been found." ~ Luke 15:32