

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends, and happy Easter!

A few weeks ago, a hidden gem from Isaiah snuck itself into the first reading – “See, I am doing something new!” I buried this under the powerful story of the Woman caught in adultery, but it’s worth naming again. For the last forty-something days we have been doing the hard work of Lent – through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving making ourselves aware of the difference of that season, of our own need for redemption, and of many of the ways we try to provide and fend for ourselves. We’ve been inviting Jesus into our own stories to prepare ourselves, to get ready to enter into Him into His story. It’s hard work, and arriving at the end of Lent emotionally and spiritually ready for it to be over does not mean you didn’t do that hard work well. Into the middle of Lent this simple line stands out – right as you and I recognize what needs to be made new, this Word is spoken, “See, I am doing something new.”

This line is mirrored in a few other places. Revelation 21: 5 shows the One seated upon the throne (you know who) speaking this Word: “Behold, I am making all things new.” 2004’s *The Passion of the Christ* doesn’t match with the power and authority of scripture, but it does share a powerful moment when the soon-to-be-crucified Jesus on the first Way of the Cross falls and speaks (*continued on page 2*)

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

April 20, 2025
Easter Sunday

Readings are in the hymnal,
#1065

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

April 20, 2025

(continued from page 1) to His rushing-to-His-side Mother a mix of the two lines, “See, Mother, I make all things new.” As I heard this reading from Isaiah, I couldn’t help feeling that moment, Jesus in His suffering, death, and finally His resurrection taking all of creation into Himself, meeting us in our own suffering and death by joining us in it, and finally – triumphantly – breaking the prison bars of death by rising from the dead.

There is power in letting ourselves encounter the risen Christ. There is power in many of the scenes we will witness in the next weeks’ readings, with Jesus appearing to His disciples (importantly, still bearing the marks of His ordeal), with the Church coming together through the Acts of the Apostles, all the way through the same Holy Spirit who has been moving in Jesus’ life descending on and into His Church at Pentecost. We have been doing the hard work of Lent for the last forty-something days here – now the next fifty days are a time for us to live Christ’s resurrection with Him, to let ourselves be swept up into new life with Him. “See, I am doing something new!” These are words worth hearing.

God bless you, my friends, and happy Easter!

Fr. Joe

Spring Luncheon - St. Mary’s Parish, 900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, WI 54623

Saturday, April 26, 2025

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

\$10 per person. Open to the general public. Invite your family and friends and join us for lunch and door prizes. Beginning at 11:30 AM, Linda Schulte will present her mission trip to Casa Hogar in Peru. For more information call 608-452-3841.

The Richland Deanery Spring Assembly will be held **Saturday, April 26, at noon** at St. Jerome’s in Wonewoc. Our speaker will be Bev Cousineau, coordinator for St. Thera’s Adoration Chapel in Union Center. There will be time to visit the Chapel of Perpetual is a signup sheet in the atrium for those who wish to rideshare. Questions, please call Joyce Humfeld at 608-606-0873.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Blest Art is visiting your parish **April 26-27, 2025**, on behalf of the Christian families in Bethlehem, Palestine. Our mission is to support those families in the Holy Land. When Blest Art visits your parish, we will have hand-carved nativity sets, statues, crosses, rosaries, and many other pieces of beautiful olive wood art. Please visit our display after each Mass.

We gladly accept cash, checks, and all major credit cards.

April 20, 2025

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Apr. 7-13, 2025

Offertory: \$3,641.00

Total: \$3,641.00

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

March E-gifts: \$2,109.45

2024-2025

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal: \$35,560.00

Received to date: \$36,485.00

Donors: 89

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 19 April, 8:30 PM People of the Annunciation & St. Mary's Parishes

Sunday, 20 April, 10:30 AM +Carl P. & Margaret S. Simon
(Joseph Simon)

Wednesday, 23 April, 5:15 PM +Agnes Thielker
(Angie Leis)

Friday, 25 April, 8:00 AM +William & Grace McGinley
(Jim McGinley)

Saturday, 26 April, 6:30 PM +Ione Hauser
(Peter & Karen Hundt)

Sunday, 27 April, 10:30 AM +Ione Hauser
(Bud Hauser)

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Apr. 26, 8:30 PM

Den. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister
Lane Fisher Altar Server
Reid Fisher Altar Server
Paul O'Rourke Lector

Sun., Apr. 27, 10:30 AM

Den. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister
Jacob Kimmel Altar Server
Mariah Sullivan Altar Server
Megan Prorok Lector

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

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Today's Missals - we have 20
extra copies available to take
home.
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We would like to invite everyone to **St. Philip's Church, Rolling Ground** (Soldiers Grove) for our Pancake Breakfast on Sunday **April 27th from 7:30 to 11:00**. We will be serving buttermilk pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, applesauce, cheese curds and Natural maple syrup. There will be a free will offering and a 50/50 raffle will be held. Mass will be held at 9:00 a.m. this day. Carry outs available by calling- 608-624-5498

The contemplative reading group is planning to meet on **June 8th**, in the library from **12-2:00 PM** to discuss *Dorothy Day: Spiritual Writings*.

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR APRIL: ST. BRIDGET

Friday-Monday, 18-21 April, Parish Office closed for Easter

Monday, 21 April, 5:00-8:00 PM Marriage Group in Marian Hall

Tuesday, 22 April, 5:00-7:00 PM Grief Share Support Program in Marian Hall

Wednesday, 23 April, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in Marian Hall

Wednesday, 23 April, 6:00-7:30 PM First Reconciliation

Friday-Thursday, 25 April-1 May Fr. Joe leaving after Mass

Friday & returning Thursday morning to attend wedding and retreat

Saturday-Sunday, 26-27 April Blest Art visiting parish

Saturday, 26 April, 12:00 PM Richland Deanery Spring Assembly at St. Jerome's, Wonewoc

Sunday, 27 April, 8:00-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in CGS classroom

Sunday, 27 April, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM First Communion Class in basement classroom

Sunday, 27 April, 11:45 AM-1:30 PM OCIA in Marian Hall pie room

Monday, 28 April, 3:00-5:00 PM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in CGS classroom

Monday, 28 April, 5:00-6:30 PM Community Meal at Good Shepherd Church

Are you passionate about **faith-based education** and **academic excellence**? Saint Patrick's Catholic School, Sparta is seeking **dedicated teachers and a passionate administrator** to join our vibrant parochial school community! Interested candidates should email office@stpatricksparta.net with one of the following subject lines: **Teacher Position** or **Administrator Position**

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.

Jubilee Pilgrimage to Italy - 9/29-10/8/2025

Join Fr. Daniel Sedlacek and St. Charles Parish in Genoa for a profound spiritual journey through Italy as we celebrate the Jubilee Year and honor our patron St. Charles Borromeo. This pilgrimage offers a unique opportunity to deepen your faith while visiting sacred Catholic sites in Rome, Orvieto, Assisi, Milan, Arona, and more. Special highlights include the Diaconate Ordination of Kyle Lang of the Diocese of La Crosse at St. Peter's Basilica, walking through the Holy. Cost: \$6,277.00

Viroqua Community Bell Choir Spring Concert - 2:00 PM, Sunday, April 27, 2025, at the Viroqua United Methodist Church, 221 S. Center Ave. The concert will be a variety-show format featuring challenging bell music from the newest composers, musical productions, and secular and sacred music accompanied by local musicians. The popular saxophone group "Burlap Sax" will also perform, and the concert will debut a second bell choir group. Admission is free as always, with a suggested freewill offering.

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

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"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad." ~ Psalm 118:24