

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



April 6, 2025
5th Sunday of Lent

*Readings are in the hymnal,
#1030*

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

Hello friends,

On Wednesday morning last week, I put the last period in one notebook (sage green) and cracked open a new one. For a decade or two I've found spiritual journaling a helpful exercise in prayer – less of a historical record (although if my cause for canonization ever comes up, my journals will be a powerful aid for the devil's advocate [a real role]), and more of a method to slow down my mind and heart and speak what I want to speak directly to Jesus. Those journals hold everything from my own reflections on scripture and reading to puzzling through hard pastoral situations to processing the different hats I wear. I highly recommend it if you ever ask the question, “but what do I even do when I pray?” Liturgical prayer, thanksgiving and petition, intercession, these are all building blocks in our relationship with the Lord. Beyond those, if you ever struggle with the aspect of simply spending time with Jesus, a spiritual journal and sitting in the silence with Him can be a tremendous help.

Anyhow, after putting that last period down I flipped back to the first entry in that notebook, dated January 1, 2024. This was just about a year and a half into my pastorship here, and seeing that date got me thinking on how we're coming up on three years together. To put it simply, I am grateful for this time. I was not expecting to become a pastor quite so early into my priesthood, but I have found your openness to the Holy Spirit heartening. For all the transition and seasons my two parishes have seen, you have a remarkable resilience (*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 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

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(continued from page 1) and persevering dedication to your parish homes and communities. I am grateful for our chemistry, to work toward and through our own collaboration as distinct parishes in communion with each other, to listen for the Lord's voice together and try our derndest to respond to it. I am grateful that the Lord has given me this assignment to jump in to pastorship, sometimes head first, sometimes feet first, sometimes with a belly flop.

Perhaps this all feels like I'm building up to an announcement – I'm not. I just want to acknowledge my own experience looking back on that last year and a half of building and listening, at the year and a half before it of getting to know each other and my own figuring out the parishes, and to express a simple curiosity for where the Lord is leading us over the course of my new journal (this one's maroon). I've mentioned a few extra roles I've taken on with deanship and this diocesan rebuilding & renewal committee – those tertiary roles will inform the next year and a half of notebook pages, as will my secondary role as your Pastor and my primary role as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Let's see where He leads us.

God bless you,

Fr. Joe

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.**

THE PASSION: Join us for a live performance of Jesus' passion and death on **Good Friday, April 18th at 8:00 PM.** Parental discretion is advised as this is a realistic representation. *Recommended for age 12 and up.*

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. Therea'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.

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

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FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Mar. 24-30, 2025

Offertory: \$3,124.25

Good Friday: \$20.00

Total: \$3,144.25

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

Works of Charity: \$226.21

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, 5 April, 6:30 PM +Pete Swanson

(Mark & Phyllis Lucey)

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

(Diana Hernandez)

Wednesday, 9 April, 5:45 PM Women of the Parish

(PCCW)

Friday, 11 April, 8:00 AM +Verna Mae Buhr

(Garith & Julie Steiner)

Saturday, 12 April, 6:30 PM William Chart Family

(Darlene Chart)

Sunday, 13 April, 10:30 AM +Guy Nicks

(Family of Guy Nicks)

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR APRIL: ST. BRIDGET

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

Wednesday, 9 April, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in Marian Hall

Wednesday, 9 April, 5:15 PM Stations of the Cross, Mass and Adoration following

Thursday, 10 April, 6:00 PM Finance Council in parish library

Thursday, 10 April, 6:30-8:30 PM *The Passion of Christ* rehearsal

Friday, 11 April, *Happy Birthday, Father Joe!*

Sunday, 13 April, 8:00-10:00 AM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in CGS classroom

Sunday, 13 April, 9:00-10:15 AM Confirmation Class in Marian Hall & basement classroom

Sunday, 13 April, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM First Communion Class in basement classroom

Sunday, 13 April, 11:45 AM-1:30 PM OCIA in Marian Hall pie room

Monday, 14 April, 3:00-5:00 PM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd in CGS classroom

Monday, 14 April, Scholarship applications due in parish office

Monday, 14 April, 6:30-8:30 PM *The Passion of Christ* rehearsal

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Apr. 12, 6:30 PM

Julie Moore Eucharistic Minister

Seth Kiedinger Altar Server

Dennis Vinger Lector

Sun., Apr. 13, 10:30 AM

Den. Anthony Shay Eucharistic Minister

Royce Scoville Altar Server

Alexis Scoville Altar Server

Sasha Scoville Altar Server

Al Mislivecek Lector

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

Automatic Transfers for Tithing

St. Mary Parish provides a system for the members of the parish to support the church using the convenience of automatic transfers from their checking or savings account. Avoid the inconvenience of writing a check. Save on the cost of support envelopes. Please pick up a form today in the Atrium for making your contributions to the parish by means of an automatic transfer. Thank you!

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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

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.

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

Roger and Joyce Humfeld

R&J's
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Let me help you sell your home, farm, or vacant land.



"Go, and from now on do not sin any more." ~ John 8:11