

# Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Hello friends,

I've just gotten back to the rectory after our second combined pastoral council meeting (we've been on a two-a-year track in addition to separate meetings). As I rustle through some of my own consultative work at the Diocese looking at the future of parish structures, I am grateful to now have three years under my belt here and (I think) a good sense of where the Holy Spirit is taking our parishes. This was a blessing to get both of our councils together and wrestle with a few Big Questions that I think will set us up well for an ongoing response to where the Lord's leading. I'd like to share these questions with you too for your own prayer and open dialogue with the Lord. If you'd like, this might even be good material to take into an hour's quiet prayer. So...

First question: "How are You (that is, the Holy Spirit) inviting me to be Your missionary? Let this one be personal before you get into big community movements/ideas – what is the Holy Spirit opening up in your own heart?" I poked at the dads a bit last weekend – let yourself be a little selfish with the question "how are You blessing me in my fatherhood, Father?" Same deal here. Before we get into the question of how the institution or "The Man" (whether that's the Diocese or Fr. Joe or whomever) needs to respond to the Holy Spirit, it's critically important to ask how the Holy Spirit is asking *me* to respond to Him. *(continued on page 2)*

## June 22, 2025 The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Readings are in the hymnal,  
#1091

### Eucharist

Saturdays - 6:30 PM  
Sundays - 10:30 AM  
Wednesday - 5:15 PM  
Fridays - 8:00 AM

### Livestreaming Mass

[www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley](https://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](http://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](mailto:stmaryformation@mwt.net); (608) 637-7711

Beth Lakmann, Music Director, [stmaryparish@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryparish@mwt.net); (608) 637-7711

Fran Campbell, Secretary/Bookkeeper, [stmaryparish@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryparish@mwt.net), (608) 637-7711; Parish Kitchen (608) 637-7878

400 Congress Avenue, Viroqua, WI 54665

# June 22, 2025

*(continued from page 1)*

Second question: “How are You inviting us as a parish to be your missionaries? Let your perspective open up here to the parish level – where is the Lord leading us as a parish? What is He inviting us to?” Now it’s time to expand a bit more – as a representative member of your own community (whether that’s St. Mary’s in Coon Valley, Annunciation in Viroqua, whether you’re visiting from out of town or just exploring the Church in general) how do you perceive the Holy Spirit stirring in and inviting your community further up and further in?

Third question: “Where are You inviting us to go together? Let your perspective open up to our two parishes together. What are some opportunities in front of us for collaboration, where are we already working together, and where is He leading us?” We are in a season of the Church’s life where we need collaboration (with and beyond each other) more than in the past century. Where is the Lord leading our parishes side by side?

Now, one big caveat if you’re going to ask the Holy Spirit questions like these – if you are going to effectively listen, you need to first be quiet. Acknowledge and notice your own response to these questions, respectfully set them to the side, then let Him lead. You might wind up in familiar waters, might wind up confronting long-dominant fear, you might even wind up receiving a new trajectory from Him. Discipleship costs a lot, and it’s worth every bit.

God bless you,

Fr. Joe

## **Monday, June 30-Thursday, July 4: Annunciation of the BVM Parish-Viroqua is hosting Vacation Bible**

**School** with area parishes, conducted by the Dominican Sisters of Mary Mother of the Eucharist.

Proposed schedule: 8:30 AM Mass  
9:00 AM-12:00 PM Sisters’ Program for K-6  
Wednesday evening Parish Mission with Sisters:  
5:15 PM Mass  
5:45-6:30 PM Adoration  
6:30-7:30 PM Presentation with soup supper provided in Marian Hall  
Friday, July 4, 11:30 AM-2:00 PM, day at  
Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, La Crosse

Our seminarian, **John Francis**, who started the Bible Study group, will be participating in a **mission program this summer called Biking For Babies**. It is an organization that raises funds to help pregnancy resource centers. John Francis will be biking from Lincoln, NE to St. Louis, MO, July 14-19, a 600-mile trip. His personal goal is to raise \$6000, with a total missionary goal of \$450,000. I wanted to provide you with the address to help support him and his mission work. You can donate online at <https://givebutter.com/b4b-2025missionary/ne-team-1> or mail a check to Biking for Babies, PO Box 644, St. Charles, MO, 63302. **MAKE SURE TO PUT HIS NAME IN THE MEMO LINE TO GIVE HIM THE CREDIT FOR HIS GOAL.**

Thanks for considering this worthy cause. He asked that if we are unable to contribute financially, please keep in your prayers the women going through crisis pregnancies that they will be able to utilize services at pregnancy resource centers.

# June 22, 2025

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of June 9-15, 2025

Offertory: \$3,392.00

Total: \$3,392.00

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

May E-gifts: \$2,532.00

## 2024-2025

## DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal: \$35,560.00

Received to date: \$39,720.00

Donors: 93

THANK YOU!

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, 21 June, 6:30 PM +Donald Malherek**

(Ben & Carly Zadow)

**Sunday, 22 June, 10:30 AM +Ione Hauser**

(Bud Hauser)

**Wednesday, 25 June, 5:15 PM +Art & Agnes Leis**

(Angie Leis)

**Friday, 27 June, Torres Family (Fr. Joe will say Mass intention at**

*Priest Unity Days in La Crosse)*

(Diana Hernandez)

**Saturday, 28 June, 6:30 PM People of the Annunciation & St.**

**Mary's Parishes**

**Sunday, 29 June, 10:30 AM +Helen Schneider**

(Phyllis Krause)

## CHURCH CALENDAR

**PCCW CIRCLE FOR JUNE: ST. THERESA**

**Monday, 23 June, 1:30-4:00 PM Girls' Bible Study in new parish**

**library/meeting room**

**Monday, 23 June, 5:00-6:30 PM Community Meal at Good**

**Shepherd Church**

**Tuesday, 24 June, 5:00-7:00 PM Grief Share Support Program in**

**Marian Hall**

**Wednesday, 25 June, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in**

**Marian Hall**

**Friday, 27 June, No Mass - Fr. Joe at Priest Unity Days**

**Saturday, 28 June, 10:00 AM Ordination to the Priesthood,**

**Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman, La Crosse - Dcn.**

**Matthew Szymanski**

## Ministry Schedule

**Sat., June 28, 6:30 PM**

Julie Moore Eucharistic Minister

Lane Fisher Altar Server

Reid Fisher Altar Server

Mark Brueggen Lector

**Sun., June 29, 10:30 AM**

Raven Stevenson Eucharistic Minister

Basil Stevenson Altar Server

Mariah Sullivan Altar Server

Al Mislivecek Lector

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

# MARCH FOR LIFE WISCONSIN

**RESCHEDULED**

**NEW DATE:**

**Saturday, July 26, 2025  
2-4pm Wisconsin State Capitol**

The **122nd St. Charles Homecoming Picnic** will be held on **Sunday, July 6th, at the church, 707 Eagle St., Genoa, WI.** The annual event is held on the first Sunday in July. Food will be served from **11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Each meal includes Pogy's grilled chicken and sides, as well as a serving of homemade risotto, which is a cheesy rice delicacy passed down through generations of Italian immigrants who settled in the area. Raffle drawings will begin at 3 p.m. Most events will be held outdoors, with dining options available inside the adjacent school. Entry is free and open to the public. Meals cost \$15 each, smaller hot dog plates available for younger attendees for \$6. For more information, visit St. Charles School and Parish Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/StCharlesSchoolGenoa>.

## 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 [stmmaryparish@mwt.net](mailto:stmmaryparish@mwt.net).

**Diocesan Annual Appeal—For we are God’s co-workers:** The Appeal ends June 30, 2025. **Any gift postmarked by June 30, 2025,** will be included in this year's appeal. Parishes will have until July 6, 2025, to mail any gifts received at the parish before June 30, 2025, to us the gifts collected. *Any gift postmarked after June 30, 2025, for individuals and July 6, 2025, from parishes will be credited to next year's appeal.*

**Fr. Michael Klos' 25th Anniversary Celebration will take place on Sunday, July 20, 2025, at Sacred Heart Church - Eau Claire.** The celebration will begin with Holy Mass at 3:30 pm and will be followed by a celebratory luncheon in the church hall. Because you have been an important part of this 25 year journey, I would be honored if you would join me in giving thanks to God. RSVP to "[office@shspec.org](mailto:office@shspec.org)". Please put "25th Anniversary" in the subject line. *(if unable to attend, mailing address: Rev. Michael Klos, Parish Life Center, 448 North Dewey Street, Eau Claire, WI 54703-3241)*



Estate Planning, Probate, Trust, and Litigation  
608-784-1605; [Scott@lacrosselaw.com](mailto:Scott@lacrosselaw.com)

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### Kickapoo Counseling

110 N. Main Street  
Westby, WI 54667  
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[info@kickapoo-counseling.com](mailto:info@kickapoo-counseling.com)

If you would like to advertise on this page, please contact 608-637-7711

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