

# Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Photos from 2025 Ordination and Fr. Szymanski's First Mass



Hello friends,

I need to start off with an apology – a few weeks ago Fr. Michael Klos and I held an impromptu business meeting on a golf course and talked about a little anniversary celebration for him. Fr. Klos has a part in both our parishes' histories – he's a native son of St. Mary's in Viroqua (Westby), and his first multi-year pastorate was at St. Mary's in Coon Valley – and on June 24 he celebrated his 25<sup>th</sup> ordination anniversary. The apology part – after we discussed a possible Wednesday evening celebration (this past Wednesday, also the second anniversary of his mother Pat Klos' death) we never solidified any plans, so I never communicated any plans to you. Despite my worst efforts, the evening turned out quite well – Fr. Klos joined us for that Mass, and the two of (*continued on page 2*)

**July 13, 2025**  
**15th Sunday in**  
**Ordinary Time**

*Readings are in the hymnal,  
#1136*

## **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

July 13, 2025

*(continued from page 1)* us had a needed moment to break bread down at the Driftless. Thank you to everyone who providentially prayed with us Wednesday evening!

Wednesday evening also coincided with the memorial of a set of saints you may be unfamiliar with – St. Augustine Zhao Rong and his companions. St. Augustine & co. represent a community of Chinese martyrs who laid down their lives over almost a millennium and a half of evangelization in China – a work that’s still continuing today. It’s a telling and powerful thing when a foreign missionary serves and sacrifices in a foreign land – he or she is saying, “the Lord’s love and Gospel mission are so important that I’m willing to lay it all down with a people who aren’t even my own.” It reveals the catching effectiveness of the Gospel even more when missionaries are raised up in the ministered-to community – when, despite ongoing hostility and resistance – the Gospel catches on enough to move new converts to follow Christ all the way. To put that more clearly, a mark of missionary success is the raising up of disciples and saints and martyrs and missionaries among the community being directly served. St. Augustine Zhao Rong and his companions fit this model – they were Chinese locals served by foreign missionaries who laid down their lives following Jesus Christ among their own people.

All this came together Wednesday evening – remembering Pat and Ed and the home that, among other life artifacts, raised up a priest; celebrating the anniversary of one of our own locals who’s laid down 25 years of his life (and more to come) to leave home and carry the Gospel with him; and honoring this community of martyrs who’ve received the Gospel, given it space to expand, and carried it out with them. These are some of the benchmarks of success I’m striving for – as a foreign missionary to this land (I’m a native Californian and more recently a native La Crossian) working to raise up local missionaries and disciples and saints and martyrs in this land, and it is beautiful to see you responding with open hearts to our Lord’s invitation. We are in good company!

God bless you,

Fr. Joe

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Thank you to those that financially supported me and the mission of **Biking for Babies** and all that have prayed for the many pregnancy resource centers serving mothers and babies. Thanks to you, we were able to raise over \$10,000 that will go to support these critical organizations across the country. This Monday, July 14th, the 'Nebraska team' and I will be embarking on the National Ride traveling from Lincoln, NE and arriving in St. Louis, MO on July 20th. Please keep me and my team in your prayers this week! Thank you so much.

In Christ,  
John Francis

# July 13, 2025

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of June 30-July 6, 2025

Offertory: \$4,018.25

Total: \$4,018.25

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

June E-gifts: \$2,886.92

THANK YOU!

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, 12 July, 6:30 PM Women of the Parish**  
(PCCW)

**Sunday, 13 July, 10:30 AM People of the Annunciation & St. Mary's Parishes**

**Wednesday, 16 July, 5:15 PM Women of the Parish**  
(PCCW)

**Friday, 18 July, 8:00 AM Alonso Family**  
(Diana Hernandez)

**Saturday, 19 July, 6:30 PM +Bernarda Lenske**  
(Biebl Family)

**Sunday, 20 July, 10:30 AM +Guy Nicks**  
(Family of Guy Nicks)

## Ministry Schedule

**Sat., July 19, 6:30 PM**

Dennis Vinger    Eucharistic Minister  
Will Fisher       Altar Server  
Pat Biebl          Lector

**Sun., July 20, 10:30 AM**

Kyle Prorok       Eucharistic Minister  
Jacob Kimmet     Altar Server  
Sebastian Kimmet Altar Server  
Matthew Tubbin   Lector

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

## CHURCH CALENDAR

**PCCW CIRCLE FOR JULY: ST. JOSEPH**

**Monday, 14 July, 1:30-4:00 PM Girls' Bible Study in new library/meeting room**

**Tuesday, 15 July, 1:00 PM St. Mary's Book Club meets in the parish library**

**Wednesday, 16 July, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in Marian Hall**

***Ladies' Night Out*** - All the women of the parish are invited to a night out for friendship and fellowship. We will be joined by the women of St. Mary's, Coon Valley. **The evening will be held at Old Towne Inn in Westby on July 31, at 6:00 PM.** For *reservations*, please call or text Joyce Humfeld at 608-606-0873 by **July 25th**.

**3rd Annual Picnic on the Lawn – A Community Celebration; Saturday, July 26, 2025-11:00 AM–4:00 PM; St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley, WI** All are welcome to join us for a fun-filled afternoon at our 3rd Annual Picnic on the Lawn! This free community event features delicious pork prepared by Simply Smoked, walking tacos, kids' hot dogs and ice cream treats. Live music by Jen Wilder (11:30 AM – 1:00 PM) and Leather and Lace (1:00 – 3:00 PM), a bounce house, dunk tank, parents vs. kid's games, and more! Goodwill donations are appreciated. Some of the entertainment and beverages will be available for a small fee. Don't forget your lawn chair—and come enjoy a wonderful summer day with friends, family, and neighbors!

# July 13, 2025

## Pastoral Council Members

Kris Brueggen  
Phyllis Krause  
David Hall

Cathy Poshepny  
Jenny Leum  
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](mailto:stmaryparish@mwt.net).

# MARCH FOR LIFE WISCONSIN

RESCHEDULED

NEW DATE:

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

**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)*

## CURTIS LAW

[WWW.LACROSSELAW.COM](http://WWW.LACROSSELAW.COM)

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### Kickapoo Counseling

110 N. Main Street  
Westby, WI 54667  
608-634-2365

[info@kickapoo-counseling.com](mailto:info@kickapoo-counseling.com)

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

**Roger and Joyce Humfeld**  
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*"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart,...and your neighbor as yourself." ~ Luke 10:27*