

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Friends,

This week I want to share a simple prayer that my spiritual director recently shared with me – the “Unity Prayer” from Elizabeth Kindelmann’s *Flame of Love*. Notice the wording in here – a series of personal elements (feet, hands, hearts, souls, thoughts, ears, glances, and lips) and dispositions (those of togetherness, unity, unison, harmony, and hope for mercy) – yet all are rooted in the primary naming “My adorable Jesus,” and request for Him to lead. Importantly, this is the difference between an encouraging or sentimental aphorism (also good, but different) and a prayer – the former is directed to self, the latter is directed to the Lord. This is an important reminder that the work of Christian living is before anything I do Christ’s own work in me and you. Anyway, it is a beautiful prayer and I’ll let it speak for itself.

The Unity Prayer

My adorable Jesus,
May our feet journey together;
May our hands gather in unity;
May our hearts beat in unison;
May our souls be in harmony;
May our thoughts be as one;
May our ears listen to the silence together;
May our glances profoundly penetrate each other;
May our lips pray together to gain mercy from the eternal Father, amen.

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September 14, 2025 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

*Readings are in the hymnal,
#1208*

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

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 Laurdan, Music Director, stmaryparish@mwt.net; (608) 637-7711; Tom Leis, Librarian, saintmaryparishlibrary@gmail.com

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

400 Congress Avenue, Viroqua, WI 54665

September 14, 2025

(continued from page e1) In our nation and parishes, we need the Holy Spirit's healing and restoration and unity. By my director's instruction I am preparing for a novena of novenas (that is, praying this prayer three times in morning, afternoon, and evening, nine days in a row) starting this Monday (September 15, the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows) and ending next Tuesday (September 23, the feast of St. Pio, a powerful advocate for spiritual liberation and restoration). I invite you to join me.

God bless you,

Fr. Joe

Please extend condolences to the family of **Janet Marie (Harter) Lucey** who passed away Thursday, September 4, 2025. Funeral services were held on Friday, September 12, 2025, with Msgr. Steven Kachel and Fr. Joseph Richards officiating. Janet was laid to rest at the Viroqua Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

Hello Parish Family! We will be starting our Montessori-based Early Childhood programming, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS), the week of October 20th. In very short form, the CGS is a place for children to encounter Our Lord through prayer and working with intentionally created materials made for their particular spiritual needs. We had two Level 1 (3-6 year old) sessions per week last year, and we are expanding this year by adding in two Level 2 (6-9 year old) sessions per week. Our options for this year are as follows:

Level 1 (3-6 y/o): Mondays 9:30 am to 11:30 am OR 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Level 2 (6-9 y/o): Tuesdays 9:30 am to 11:30 am OR Wednesdays 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

If a child is in school, and won't be able to make it to one of the 3:00-5:00 sessions until closer to 3:30, that is absolutely fine. The Lord can do wonderful things in just 1.5 hours! Apologies if you've tried to contact me via phone last week; my cell phone stopped functioning on Monday. My carrier is working on getting it fixed, so until then, please contact me via email - zadow2021@gmail.com - or speak with me in person at the RE meeting on the 14th if you have any questions, or would like your child(ren) to attend.

Thank you, and God bless you! Carly Zadow

LIBRARY CORNER *Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*

There are more recent editions of this title, but our library has a 1988 publication of: *Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*. It is a collection of blessings compiled by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. This book is 500 pages of blessings to be used within one's family and home. There is a blessing for your Christmas tree, your child before marriage, your Sunday meal, for moms to give their babies while nursing, your child on their birthday, etc. There is also a section of common prayers and litanies. I consider this text to be one of our library's gems! I am so fond of this book that I have ordered a copy on Amazon to have in our home.

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September 14, 2025

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Sep. 1-7, 2025

Offertory: \$3,882.54

Total: \$3,882.54

Needed Weekly: \$4,600.00

July E-gifts: \$2,929.93

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 13 September, 6:30 PM +Deceased Relatives of Biebl/Skowron

Families

(Biebl Family)

Sunday, 14 September, 10:30 AM People of the Annunciation & St.

Mary's Parishes

Wednesday, 17 September, 5:15 PM Women of the Parish

(PCCW)

Friday, 19 September, 8:00 AM +Fila Torres

(Diana Hernandez)

Saturday, 20 September, 6:30 PM +Helen Pedretti

(Pedretti FamilyP)

Sunday, 21 September, 10:30 AM +Guy Nicks

(Family of Guy Nicks)

CHURCH CALENDAR

PCCW CIRCLE FOR SEPTEMBER: ST. ANTHONY

Sunday, 14 September, after 10:30 AM Mass Family of Faith & Safe

Environment in Marian Hall

Tuesday, 16 September, 1:00 PM St. Mary's Book Club meets in the

parish library

Wednesday, 17 September, 10:00 AM-12:30 PM St. Mary's Quilters in

Marian Hall

Friday, 19 September, Parish Office Closed

Sunday, 21 September, Family of Faith & Safe Environment meets

following 8 AM Mass in St. Mary's church basement, Coon Valley

Sunday, 21 September, 9:15 AM Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, 21 September, 12:00-2:00 PM Contemplative Reading Group

meets in the parish library

Monday, 22 September, 5:00-6:30 PM Community Meal at Good

Shepherd Church

Ministry Schedule

Sat., Sep. 20, 6:30 PM

Julie Moore Eucharistic Minister

Will Fisher Altar Server

NOT FILLED Altar Server

Paul O'Rourke Lector

Sun., Sep. 21, 10:30 AM

Raven Stevenson Eucharistic Minister

Francis Corr Altar Server

Reuben Stevenson Altar Server

Mary Ellen Hatton Lector

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

- **Sunday, September 14th: After the 10:30 AM Mass in Viroqua**
- **Sunday, September 21st: After the 8:00 AM Mass in Coon Valley**

It's time to register the whole family for our upcoming formation programs!

Program

Age

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) Atrium I

3-6

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) Atrium II

6-9

Blessed First Reconciliation

Gr 2-5

Blessed First Communion

Gr 2-5

Family of Faith (FoF)

K-Gr 9

Encounter: Bible Timeline

Gr 6-8

Decision Point

Gr 9

Confirmation Preparation

Gr 10-12

Bible Study for Sunday Gospel Preparation

Gr 11+

Little Rock Bible Study (6 & 3 session options)

Gr 11+

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

Adult

Contemplative Reading Group

Adult

The **contemplative reading group** is gathering on **September 21, 2025**, in the parish library to discuss *The Interior Castle - St. Teresa of Avila* translation by Mirabai Starr.

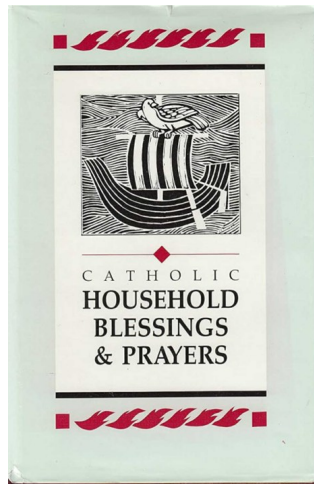
September 14, 2025

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Tom Leis,

Parish Librarian

saintmaryparishlibrary@gmail.com



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.

LDCCW SHARE SHOP - Saturday, September 20, 2025, at Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine, La Crosse

FREE admission; 9:30 AM registration OR to register, email kay@pmcmgmt.com or call/text 608-780-0485.

(see gathering space bulletin board for more information)



Estate Planning, Probate, Trust, and Litigation
608-784-1605; Scott@lacrosselaw.com



Kickapoo Counseling

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

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

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"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son..." ~ John 3:15