

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



Feast of
St. Mary
Magdalene:
Wednesday, July
22nd

Hello friends,

By way of update, this weekend we're officially starting our customary priest rotation, with Fr. Emmanuel on one side of our shared assignment and myself on the other, switching off weekend by weekend. I'm deeply grateful for your response and welcome the last few weeks – I certainly felt warmly welcomed and I believe Fr. Emmanuel did too in Wonewoc/Hillsboro two weeks ago, in Viroqua/Coon Valley last weekend. This weekend Fr. Emmanuel is taking the driver's seat in Viroqua/Coon Valley, and with an asterisk I'll be in Hillsboro/Wonewoc – that asterisk is a wedding up in the Stevens Point area on Saturday that has Fr. Clayton covering the 9:30 and 4:00 Masses before my return on Sunday. Fr. Clayton is a big part of this whole puzzle, and I am grateful to him for his willingness to step in and serve our communities as his more-travel-heavy schedule allows. Thank you for welcoming him into our communities too!

Last weekend Fr. Emmanuel shared an invitation at the middle two of our four Masses in the West, to read through St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians. In my tiny-print bible, Ephesians makes up all of four pages, making it one of those delightful single-sitting coffee shop reads. Fr. Emmanuel's invitation was to take in this letter as an

invitation to authentic community life and outward-facing ministry, rooting ourselves in a chosen charity and hope rooted in Jesus Christ's own life, death, and resurrection. What struck me as I read through this letter was the subtextual invitation to begin living in the Kingdom of God even here on this earth – one of my seminary professors clung to a beautiful refrain regarding the Kingdom of Heaven, that we are "already, but not yet" living in it. That's to say that we begin here on this earth to live as God's sons and daughters, experiencing with Jesus for as long as we are here on this earth the movement through His death into His resurrection. Another priest friend of mine put it well another time, that the work of the Church through history is to take into herself (and ourselves) the world, to make an offering of the world and our own lives to God, and to unite our own experience and hearts to Jesus' heart, and to pass through with Him into the new life of His resurrection. One day, by God's grace, we hope to leave behind the "not-yet" of this and enter fully into our life with Him in Heaven, but that doesn't mean for that He doesn't ask us also to build and live in His Kingdom already here on earth.

Anyhow, I think there may be a real grace in following Fr. Emmanuel's invitation to take in the hopeful Letter to the Ephesians and intentionally live Christ's life with each other on Earth broadly and within our own parishes in particular. To aid in that I'm adding in an intentional petition to the Universal Prayer for each of our parishes to pray in a special way also for our brothers and sisters in the other three parishes under my pastorate. I invite you and encourage you to join me in seeking out those opportunities for encounter and community that the Lord puts before us.

God bless you,
Father Joe

Father Joseph M. Richards, Pastor (608) 606-9787;

Father Emmanuel S. Famiyeh, Associate Pastor (608) 604-1413; Deacon Tony Shay;

Carlene Zadow, Parish Secretary, office@abvmviroqua.diocparish.org; Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Director, cgs@abvmviroqua.diocparish.org;

Fran Campbell, Bookkeeper, office@abvmviroqua.diocparish.org; Pat Obernberger, Parish Activities Coordinator, cre@abvmviroqua.diocparish.org;

Beth Laurdan, Music Director, musicdirector@abvmviroqua.diocparish.org; Cole Hewitt, Maintenance, maintenance@abvmviroqua.diocparish.org;

Diana Hernandez-Torres, Sacristan; Megan Prorok, Church Decorator, prorokmegan@gmail.com; Tom Leis, Librarian, saintmaryparishlibrary@gmail.com

July 19, 2026
16th Sunday in
Ordinary Time

Readings: Gather Hymnal #1137

Eucharist

Saturdays - 6:30 PM

Sundays - 10:30 AM

Wednesday - 5:15 PM

Fridays - 12:10 PM

Livestreaming Mass

www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley

Diocesan Televised Mass

Channel 19: Sunday, 9:30 AM,

Livestream: Diocesan Facebook page.

Pastoral Visits:

Please contact the parish office if you or a loved one is in need of a pastoral visit or if you would like to be remembered in our parish's public prayers.

Baptism:

Call the parish office for information and scheduling.

Confession:

Sat.: 9:30 AM during Adoration & 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 Fridays: after Mass

Benediction at 1:30 PM;

Tuesdays: 4:30 PM in CV

Wednesdays: after Mass

Benediction at 6:30 PM

Saturdays: 9:30 AM

Online Giving:

<https://dioc.org/annunciation-of-the-blessed-virgin-mary-parish-viroqua>

Parish Office:

400 Congress Avenue,
Viroqua, WI 54665

HOURS:

MTWF: 9 AM-3 PM

Thursday: 11 AM-3 PM

Website: www.stmaryviroqua.org

Office: 608-637-7711

Fax (608) 299-3721

July 19, 2026

CONGRATULATIONS to our Associate Pastor, Father Emmanuel, on his 36th Ordination Anniversary, which he will celebrate on **Wednesday, July 22nd**, the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene!

Coon Valley Family Picnic: St. Mary Parish in Coon Valley would like to invite you to join us for our **Annual Family Picnic** on **Saturday, July 25th** from **11:00 AM–4:00 PM** on our parish lawn (900 Central Ave, Coon Valley, WI). This is a free community event, and *everyone is welcome!* We will be serving hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, desserts, and ice cream treats. The afternoon will also include live music, games, a bounce house with water slide, parent vs. kids contests, and more fun for all ages. Goodwill donations will be gratefully accepted.

Blood Drive: We are hosting a blood drive next **Saturday, July 25th**, the feast day of apostle and martyr St. James the Greater, down in **Marian Hall** from **9am to 1:30pm**. If you are interested in participating, please sign up by using the URL (tinyurl.com/StMary72526), QR code, or call 877-232-4376. Please contact Pat Obernberger with any questions you may have!



Corn Boil: The Door of Hope Pregnancy and Family Care Center in Viroqua is hosting their 33rd **annual Corn Boil fundraiser** at the **Vernon County Fairgrounds Expo Center** on **July 30th** from **12-2pm**. Please consider attending! They are also looking for help with **corn shucking** from **9-noon** that same day. There is a sign up sheet in the gathering space if you are interested in helping with that.

Levi's Sendoff Picnic: Please join us on **Thursday, July 30th at 5:30pm** for a sendoff picnic for our visiting seminarian, Levi. There will be yard games and good community; all parishioners from Viroqua and Coon Valley are welcome! Pulled pork & sloppy joes will be provided along with water, lemonade & iced tea. Please bring a salad or dessert to share. Your **RSVP** to Julie Moore at **307-359-2322** is much appreciated. See you there! **Where:** Parker & Julie Moore's home – S5140 Thorson Lane, Viroqua.

Cashton Healing Service: Come and experience God's supernatural love! **Sunday, August 2, 2026**. Mass at **10:00 AM**, followed by Adoration. **12:15 PM** Corporate Prayer for Healing, followed by Individual Prayer with Healing Teams at **12:30 PM**. All are welcome. **Where:** Sacred Heart Church, 1205 Front Street, Cashton, WI. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

Well-Read Mom: Calling all women who like to read! Our **Well Read Mom** group is looking forward to exploring this year's theme of the Year of the Woman with some fantastic books, including *A Room with a View* by E.M. Forester and *Joan of Arc* by Mark Twain. We are open to **women of all stages of life** who are interested in reading high quality literature and growing in friendship. We will meet monthly throughout the school year to discuss great books and have fun. Check out wellreadmom.com or contact Rebecca Kimmet at (608)444-6844 or rjkimmet@gmail.com for more information.

Pastoral Council Members

Kris Brueggen	Cathy Poshepny
Phyllis Krause	Jenny Leum
David Hall	Dcn. Tony Shay
Aaron Kane	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@mw.net.

Finance Council Members

Matt Bomkamp	Paul O'Rourke
Melanie Halvorson	Dale Pertzborn
Rhonda Kiedinger	

Our Finance Council assists the pastor in the administration of the parish's financial resources, responsibilities, and building and grounds. It meets regularly to review our income and expenses, to discuss any issues with our facilities, and to draft an annual budget.

July 19, 2026

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of July 6-12, 2026

Offertory: \$3,879.00

Mission Co-op: \$1,310.00

Total: \$5,189.00

Needed: \$5,800.00

June E-gifts: \$2,514.85

THANK YOU!

2025-2026

DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Goal: \$36,920.00

Received to date: \$42,091.00

Donors: 85

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 18 July, 6:30 PM - *Father Emmanuel*

Father Emmanuel Famiyeh

Sunday, 19 July, 10:30 AM - *Father Emmanuel*

+ **Barbara Vesbach** (David & Debra Abt)

Wednesday, 22 July, 5:15 PM - *Father Joe*

+ **Jim Graham** (Ann Graham)

Friday, 24 July, 12:10 PM - *Father Emmanuel*

+ **Larry Cina** (Roger & Phyllis Krause)

Saturday, 25 July, 6:30 PM - *Father Joe*

+ **Ambrose Timmerman** (Timmerman Family)

Sunday, 26 July, 10:30 AM - *Father Joe*

+ **Patrick & Kevin Hall** (Larry Rehman)

Ministry Schedule

Sat., July 25, 6:30 PM

Julie Moore	Eucharistic Minister
Mark Brueggen	Lector
Will Fisher	Altar Server
NOT FILLED	Altar Server

Sun., July 26, 10:30 AM

Pat Obernberger	Eucharistic Minister
Matt Tubbin	Lector
Mariah Sullivan	Altar Server
NOT FILLED	Altar Server

If not able to serve as scheduled, please contact bethlakmann@icloud.com to request a sub. Thank you!

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, 19 July Altar Server Training following 10:30am Mass

Monday, 20 July, 3pm-4:30pm Girls Bible Study in Sitting Room

Tuesday, 21 July, 1:00pm St. Mary Parish Library Club

Wednesday, 22 July, 10am-12pm St. Mary's Quilters in Marian Hall

6:40pm **Return Book Study in Marian Hall**

Thursday, 23 July, 6:30pm Crux Bible Study in Marian Hall

Friday, 24 July, *PARISH OFFICE CLOSED*

Saturday, 25 July, 9am-1:30pm Blood Drive in Marian Hall

9:30am-10:30am **Adoration & Confessions**

11am-4pm **Coon Valley Family Picnic at St.**

Mary's Coon Valley

A Prayer for our Priests

Lord Jesus, I entrust the care of my priests to You. Please give Father Joe and Father Emmanuel whatever virtues and strength that they need today in order to serve those entrusted to their care as You would. You are our Good Shepherd; please draw both of these men, Your beloved priests, closer and closer to Your own heart. Take their burdens upon Your own shoulders, and give them Your yoke, which is easy and light. Please bring them to find rest for themselves in You today, and give them Your peace. Amen.

FREE Electric Kitchen Range

Broiler doesn't work - contact parish office if interested.

Please join us in a **novena for our summer seminarian, Levi**, as he departs from his summer assignment with us. This novena will begin this **Thursday, July 23rd** and go until **Friday, July 31st**, his last day with us. The handout will be available *in the Gathering Space*, so please pick one up as you leave to pray it either individually or as a family! *God bless you all and each!*

July 12, 2026



Congratulations to all those who participated in the Enrollment in the Brown Scapular on Thursday, July 16th, the Memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel!

WESTBY LOCKER & MEATS
The Sausage & Meat Shop
Rosanne & Rod Aspenson
402 N. Main St., Westby, WI 54665
meatsusa@mwlt.net
608-634-4515



Kickapoo Counseling
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Westby, WI 54667
608-634-2365

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"The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness..." Romans 8:26

