

ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH

Hello folks,

I am giving some of my space this weekend to Levi for a farewell message, but first a quick note on some scheduling. After the 10:30 Mass I'll be heading up to the Cities to fly out to Colorado and California until Wednesday next week. With Dcn. Tony and Dcn. Dad both taking semi-concurrent time away, this will throw off our weekday schedule, while the weekend schedule remains unaffected. In short, our weekday services from August 9-19 will stand: 1) adoration and a Communion service on August 10 in Coon Valley, starting at 4:30, 2) a 12:10 Mass on August 14 in Viroqua, and 3) a 5:15 Mass in Viroqua on August 19. One special note, while August 15/the Assumption is customarily a holy day of obligation, since it's on Saturday this year the obligation is dispensed. Still, we'll have a 12:10 Mass on the fifteenth with Msgr. Scheckel, replacing morning adoration. Now to Levi!

God bless you,
Father Joe

Dear friends,

It seems kind of difficult for me to find the right words in this short reflection that can sum up my feelings about my time in Viroqua and Coon Valley this summer. The first thing that comes to mind is just how thankful I am that Our Lord has called me to enter into seminary so that He could bring so many great people into my life. It has been a blessing to be welcomed into this community and to start to get to know more of God's children. Thank you all for your hospitality, generosity, and overall support of my vocation. Having this time to get into the rhythm of parish life has been a great help on my continued path of formation and discernment. It amazes me how much God has done for me in the span of a couple months with you all. The Church in Viroqua and Coon Valley will remain on my heart as the Lord leads me on to my next step.

I am at peace with moving on to my next step, and I'm excited to see how the Lord is going to work in and around me as I continue with seminary. I will soon be heading back to St. Francis de Sales Seminary in Milwaukee to start my second pre-theology year. While it has been great being involved in parish life, it's also good to have the time at seminary to continue learning and growing. The life at seminary is kind of like Jesus' quiet years in Nazareth. This is a time of preparation before going out on mission. It is a time for me to be filled up by Our Lord, so that I have more that I can pour out to the people around me. I am excited to continue working so I can share with others the gifts that I'm receiving from God. There's so much more to say, but for now I just want to finish with a request for prayers. Prayers for me, yes, but don't forget to pray for each other and for our priests and future priests. Never underestimate the power of prayer. God bless you all!

With the love of Christ,
Levi



MT HOREB, SINAI
FRANCIS FRITH (1822 - 1898)

AUGUST 9, 2026
19TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

Readings: Gather Hymnal #1146

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 & Marriage:

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://diolc.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) 299-372

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.diolcparish.org; **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Director,** cgs@abvmviroqua.diolcparish.org;

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

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

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

AUGUST 9, 2026

Final Call for Lectoring & Extraordinary Ministry:

There is still time to volunteer to serve our parish as a regularly scheduled lector or extraordinary minister during weekend Masses. If you feel so called, please sign up on the sheets in the gathering space no later than **Sunday, August 30th**. There will be more information on scheduling and training in September. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.

Paper Drive for St. Charles & Sacred Heart Schools:

The Viroqua & Coon Valley PCCWs are hosting a **Paper Drive** benefitting St. Charles Catholic School in Genoa and Sacred Heart Catholic School in Cashton. The drive will run throughout the month of August. You will find a labeled box in the entryway of each church for you to place your donations in. The schools are looking for **kleenex, paper towel, toilet paper, and printer paper**. If you feel called to contribute financially, please place your monetary donations in the collection basket in an envelope labeled "School Paper Drive." The monies will be split 50-50 to each school. Thank you for your prayerful, generous giving! Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.

Saturday Adoration & Reconciliation:

Please join us here on **Saturday mornings** for Adoration and Reconciliation from **9:30 to 10:30am**. This is an excellent opportunity to begin the weekend by setting aside a moment to spend time with our Lord, especially during the busyness of summer. *Families with young children are warmly welcome to attend!* Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.

PCCW Meeting:

The PCCW will be meeting **Thursday, August 20th at 5:15pm** in the pie room (the room behind the parish kitchen). There will be a report from the steering committee, along with planning out the Fall Dinner. *All women in the parish are welcome!* We will pray the **rosary** in the church at **4:30pm** prior to the meeting for anyone who would like to participate

Upcoming Parish Office Hours:

On top of Father and Deacon being on vacation next week, both Fran and Carly will be out of town from **Monday, August 17 to Friday, August 21**, Fran on PTO, Carly up in Wausau to help with a CGS training. Fran will be popping in Monday morning to complete weekly money counting as usual, but will be off for the rest of the week from there. Pat will be working in the parish office on Wednesday for anyone who might need in-person assistance. *Carly will be checking and responding to voicemails and emails to the parish office remotely throughout the week*, so please either call and leave a message or send an email if you need anything. For urgent matters, you are free to shoot Carly a text message at 608-792-4872, and she will do her best to respond promptly.

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 office@abvmviroqua.diocparish.org.

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.

AUGUST 9, 2026

FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of July 27-August 2, 2026
Offertory needed weekly: \$5,800.00

Offertory: \$6,577.00
June E-gifts: \$2,514.85

THANK YOU!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Sat., August 15, 6:30 PM

Gladys Jacobson	Eucharistic Minister
Pat Biebl	Lector
Will Fisher	Altar Server
NOT FILLED	Altar Server

Sun., August 16, 10:30 AM

Pat Obernberger	Eucharistic Minister
Dale Pertzborn	Lector
Alexis Scoville	Altar Server
Sasha Scoville	Altar Server
Royce Scoville	Altar Server

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



CHRIST RESCUING PETER FROM DROWNING
LORENZO VENEZIANO (1336-)

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 8, 6:30 PM - Father Joe
+ **Germaine Schaeffer** (Robert Reich)

Sunday, August 9, 10:30 AM - Father Joe
Bishop Gerard Battersby

Father Joe will say Wednesday's intention while away.

Wednesday, August 12, No Mass, Adoration, or Confessions
**For the People of ABVM, St. Mary CV, St. Aloysius,
& St. Jerome Parishes**

Friday, August 14, 12:10 PM - Father Emmanuel
+ **Anna Mae Krause** (Patricia Effinger)

Saturday, August 15, 12:10 PM - Msgr. Roger Scheckel
+ **Ursula Werner** (Sonja Finn)

Saturday, August 15, 6:30 PM - Msgr. Roger Scheckel
+ **Harry & Gladys Solakian** (Robert Reich)

Sunday, August 16, 10:30 AM - Msgr. Roger Scheckel
+ **Mary Ellen Hatton** (Dan & Renae Harter)

PARISH CALENDAR

**Sunday, August 9 (after Mass) - Tuesday, August 18: Father Joe
out of state on vacation**

**Monday, August 10, 3:00pm-4:30pm: Girls Bible Study in Sitting
Room**

Tuesday, August 11, 4:30pm: Adoration in Coon Valley
5:15pm: Communion Service in Coon Valley

**Wednesday, August 12, 10:00am-12:00pm: St. Mary's Quilters in
Marian Hall**
(NO 5:15 MASS, ADORATION, OR CONFESSIONS)

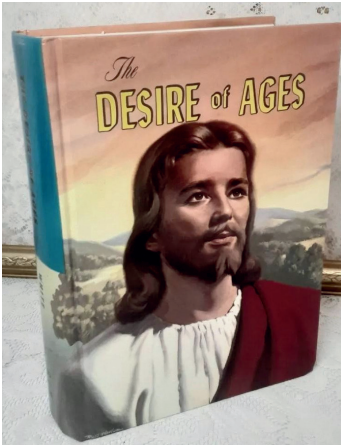
**Saturday, August 15, 12:10pm: Mass for the Feast of the
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (NO ADORATION)**

**Sunday, August 16 - Friday, August 21: Fran and Carly both out
of office. Carly will be checking office phone messages &
emails while away.**

WHAT IS THE WORKS OF CHARITY ACCOUNT?

The Works of Charity Account (which has gone by many names, a couple of which being "Front Door Ministry" and "Custodial Fund") is an account kept entirely separate from where we keep our weekly offertory donations (which is the money we use to keep the lights on, maintain the building/grounds, pay our staff, etc.). This account is used primarily to fund requests that we receive from local community members who are in a crunch and need financial assistance, usually along the lines of paying a utility bill, a month's rent, a trip to the grocery store, or a tank or two of gas. We are often able to meet these requests in cooperation with a couple of our local Lutheran churches. This is where many of our special feast day collections contribute to, such as next weekend's 12:10 Mass for the Feast of the Assumption. If you'd like to learn more about this ministry or are curious about how to support it financially outside of those special collections, please reach out to Father Joe or the parish office.

AUGUST 9, 2026



LIBRARY CORNER

Desire of Ages by Ellen G. White

This weekend I am going to get a bit nostalgic. Someone recently returned a book to our library that I had not noticed before: *The Desire of Ages* By Ellen G. White. This edition was published the year of my birth, 1964. The original publication ...1898! I grew up in Cashton but my parents drove to Viroqua for medical care. Dr. David Vig delivered me and Dr. Ed Vig was our family doctor. If you are 60 and older, and sat in the waiting room of the Vig Clinic (currently the site of the Public Library) waiting for Nurse Sally to come and get you for your appointment, you likely paged through a copy of this book, as it was on the shelf in the waiting room. My breath caught in my throat as all the memories of

childhood vaccination/clinic visits came rushing back. The 804 pages of this book contain every story you have ever heard about Jesus from the Annunciation to His resurrection. This book is in mint condition. It is also one of the reasons many of us were well into adulthood before we realized Jesus actually had brown skin. The art work in this book would cause one to believe that Jesus and his ancestors were born closer to Oslo than Nazareth! This book is an absolute gem!

Tom Leis, Parish Librarian

saintmaryparishlibrary@gmail.com

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

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

info@kickapoo-counseling.com

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NEW PATIENTS ALWAYS WELCOME



637-2655
1225 Favor Drive
Viroqua



Oakwood Realty LLC

608-606-5344
dan@oakwoodrealty.com

Dan Kiedinger



Let me help you sell your home, farm, or vacant land.



"AT ONCE JESUS SPOKE TO THEM, 'TAKE COURAGE, IT IS I; DO NOT BE AFRAID.'" - MATTHEW 14:27