

ANNUNCIATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH



CHRIST AND THE SINNER - ANDREY MIRONOV (2011)

Friends,

First thing for this week, a note on scheduling. Fr. Emmanuel has been working out details for his home visit for a while, trying to nail down still-pricey-but-not-ridiculous airline tickets back to Ghana, and has it nailed down to October 6 - November 14. I'm getting priest coverage lined up to make sure weekend Masses go ahead as scheduled, but an FYI that

we'll see daily Masses affected in both our clusters – I hope to have that full breakdown ready to go for next weekend's bulletin, so keep your eyes peeled.

Second, a note on Archbishop Fulton Sheen. Last week we celebrated one of my own patron saints, Padre Pio, an Italian Franciscan whose years on this earth overlapped with some of our own. We've got another recent holy man too, with Venerable Fulton Sheen becoming Blessed (almost-Saint) Fulton Sheen this last Thursday. With 2000 years of history, many of our Saints lived long before our longest-tenured parishioners were born – I think that, along with the powerful example of 1,900 years of pre-us Saints, there's something relatable about Saints who lived during our own lifetimes, and Fulton Sheen's roots in Illinois add yet another layer to that relatability. As we celebrate Archbishop Fulton Sheen and ask for his intercession I'd like to share a few quotes from this very quotable guy:

- “We become like that which we love. If we love what is base, we become base; but if we love what is noble we become noble.”
- “I was once talking in a church, and a baby began to cry, and the mother took the babe out, and as she was on the way I said, ‘Madam, the child is not bothering me.’ She said, ‘no, you’re bothering the child.’”
- “There are not one hundred people in the United States who hate the Catholic Church but there are millions who hate what they wrongly perceive the Catholic Church to be.”
- “Criticism of others is thus an oblique form of self-commendation. We think we make the picture hang straight on our wall by telling our neighbors that all his pictures are crooked.”
- “You must remember to love people and use things, rather than to love things and use people.”
- “When a man loves a woman, he has to become worthy of her. The higher her virtue, the more noble her character, the more devoted she is to truth, justice, goodness, the more a man has to aspire to be worthy of her. The history of civilization could actually be written in terms of the level of its women.”
- “Unless there is a Good Friday in your life, there can be no Easter Sunday.”
- And one of my favorites, “Hearing nuns’ confessions is like being stoned to death with popcorn.”

Anyway, thank you to Youtube for making Blessed Fulton Sheen even more accessible.

God bless you,
Father Joe

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Readings: *Gather Hymnal #1167*

Holy Mass

Saturdays	4:00pm	Coon Valley
	6:30pm	Viroqua
Sundays	8:00am	Coon Valley
	10:30am	Viroqua
Tuesdays	5:15pm	Coon Valley
Wednesdays	5:15pm	Viroqua
Thursdays	8:00am	Coon Valley
Fridays	12:10pm	Viroqua

Livestreaming Mass

www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley

Diocesan Televised Mass

Channel 19: Sunday, 9:30 AM, Livestream:
Diocesan Facebook page.

Confession

Saturdays	9:30-10:30am	Viroqua
	3:15-3:45pm	Coon Valley
	5:45-6:15pm	Viroqua
Sundays	9:45-10:15am	Viroqua
Wednesdays	5:45-6:30pm	Viroqua

Baptism & Marriage

Contact our parish office for information
and scheduling.

Eucharistic Adoration

Saturdays	9:30-10:30am	Viroqua
Tuesdays	4:30-5:00pm	Coon Valley
Wednesdays	5:45-6:30pm	Viroqua
First Fridays	12:45-1:30pm	Viroqua

Rosary

30 minutes before all Masses

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.

Online Giving

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

Parish Office

400 Congress Avenue,
Viroqua, WI 54665

Website: www.stmarysviroqua.org

Office: 608-637-7711

Fax: (608) 299-372

HOURS:

MTWTF: 9 AM-3 PM

Thursday: 11 AM-3 PM

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, musicedirector@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

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

If you missed our RE registration event last week, please take a look on the **tables in the Gathering Space** this weekend.

You will find information on this year's offerings, general registration forms, sacrament registration forms, session schedules for all groups, and Safe Environment materials for all ages. Please pick up what you need for your family, and *return all forms to the Parish Office*. Don't hesitate to reach out to Pat Obernberger with any questions. Thank you!

Annual Pancake Breakfast – Oct 11, 2026

St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley will hold their **annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, October 11, 2026 from 7:30 AM – gone or Noon** (whichever comes first). Meal includes: delicious stack of pancakes with local real maple syrup, eggs, sausage, applesauce, milk, orange juice and coffee! Also purchase a treat to take home from the bake sale! \$10 for adults, \$5 children ages 6-12, 5 and under free. Make your pancakes just the way you like them with our topping bar! Your choice of maple syrup, blueberries, strawberries, chocolate syrup, sprinkles, whip cream and peanut butter (while supplies last).

St. Philip's Fall Festival

St Philip's Church in Rolling Ground (Soldiers Grove address) will hold our **annual pork dinner and fall festival on Sunday October 4, 2026 from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm**. We will be serving Pulled pork, scalloped potatoes, coleslaw, baked beans, cheese curds and homemade pie and ice cream. *Carryouts available*. All this for a ticket price of only \$12.00/adults and \$5 for children 6 and under. Mass will be at 10:30. There will also be a bake sale, a raffle, and a basket raffle.

Well Read Mom

Mark your calendars! Well Read Mom's next meeting is **Saturday, October 10th from 9:30 am to 11:30**. Women of all ages and stages of life are welcome to join us for fellowship and a discussion of *So Big* by Edna Ferber.

Small Groups: Necessary Component of the Christian Life

Small groups are a unique avenue for us to learn more about Christ's teaching, grow in fellowship with one another, prepare ourselves to participate in the Sunday Eucharistic celebration, and pray together. It is striking that Jesus promised "...where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matt 18:20). The purpose of small groups is to foster greater openness to Jesus Christ and grow in our faith, hope and charity. Small groups also help to build community and a sense of belonging in our parishes, develop strong friendships in Christ, deepen our relationship with the Lord by deepening our understanding, strengthen us by walking with others, and accept others and ourselves as imperfect persons who are seeking God. *If you have ever thought about facilitating or being a part of a small group, but don't know where to start, please reach out to Carly in the parish office for assistance and resources!*

Mass Intentions

Father Emmanuel is going to be visiting his family in Ghana from mid-October through mid-November, and would like to bring some Mass intentions along with him to offer while he is gone. The suggested donation for a Mass intention in our Diocese is \$20.00. If you have any intentions that you would like offered by Father Emmanuel while he is gone, please reach out to the parish office.



MEMORIAL OF SAINT
THÉRÈSE OF LISIEUX
(THE LITTLE FLOWER):
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1ST

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.

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

PARISH CALENDAR

Tuesday, September 29:

6:30pm: **Healing the Whole Person** - Marian Hall

Wednesday, September 30:

10:00am-12:00pm: **St. Mary Quilters** - Marian Hall

Thursday & Friday, October 1 & 2:

Parish Office Closed: Carly on vacation

Saturday, October 3:

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

Sunday, October 4:

9:00-10:15am:

Family Faith Formation - Coon Valley Basement

Altaration (Middle School Formation) - Pie Room

Decision Point (9th Grade Formation) - Sitting Room

Confirmation - Confirmation Room in Basement

During 10:30am Mass: **Scott Edwards Confirmation
& First Communion** - *Welcome Home!*

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Sat., Oct. 3, 6:30 PM

Julie Moore	EM
Barb Ross	Lector
Simon King	Server

Sun., Oct. 4, 10:30 AM

Raven Stevenson	EM
Megan Prorok	Lector
Kyle & Vi Prorok	Servers

**For sub requests, contact
bethlakmann@icloud.com.**



FINANCIAL REPORT

Week of Sept. 14-20, 2026

Offeratory needed weekly: \$5,800.00

Offertory: \$4,091.50

July E-gifts: \$2,531.59

THANK YOU!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 26, 6:30 PM - *Father Joe*
+ **Barbara Vesbach** (Linda Hall)

Sunday, September 27, 10:30 AM - *Father Joe*
+ **Larry Cina** (Jerry & Paula Cina)

Wednesday, September 30, 5:15 PM - *Father Joe*
+ **Judy Neuerburg** (Ann Graham)

Friday, October 2, 12:10 PM - *Father Emmanuel*
Women of the Parish (PCCW)

Saturday, October 3, 6:30 PM - *Father Emmanuel*
+ **Ivan & Mary Cowell** (Angie Leis)

Sunday, October 4, 10:30 AM - *Father Emmanuel*
+ **Guy Nicks** (Family of Guy Nicks)

“It is never true to say that we have no time to meditate; the less one thinks of God, the less time there will always be for God. The time we have for anything depends on how much we value it. Thinking determines the uses of time; time does not rule over thinking. The problem of spirituality is never, then, a question of time; it is a problem of thought. For it does not require much time to make us saints; it requires only much love.”

*-Blessed Fulton Sheen, who was beatified on
Thursday, September 24, 2026 in St. Louis, Missouri*

SIGN UPS FOR OUR FALL DINNER ARE NOW AVAILABLE

Fall Dinner this year will be on **Wednesday, October 21st**. Please prayerfully consider how you and your family could use your gifts to contribute to the parish through participation in this beautiful event. We are in need of many generous hearts who are willing to serve in both large and small ways. ***Please sign up in the Gathering Space!***

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD BEGINS OCTOBER 19TH!

Our Level 1 (3-6 year old) atrium sessions will be; **Mondays** 9:00am-11:00am in Viroqua or 3:30pm-5:00pm in Genoa, or **Thursdays** 3:00pm-5:00pm. Level 2 (6-9 year old) atrium sessions will be on **Wednesdays** 3:00pm-5:00pm in Viroqua.

If a child is in school and won't be able to make it to a 3:00-5:00 session until closer to 3:30, that is just fine. The Lord can do wonderful things in 1.5 hours! Contact Carly in the office, at cgs@abvmviroqua.diocparish.org, or at 608-792-4872.

God bless you!

SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

ADVANCE CARE PLANNING WORKSHOPS

If you could not speak for yourself, who would you want to make medical decisions for you? What would you want this person to know about your healthcare goals and values? Life is so unpredictable. We never know when an illness or injury will occur. That is why it is extremely important to plan and write your wishes down. An Advance Directive is a legal document that allows you to designate a person to make your healthcare decisions, only if you cannot make them yourself! It allows you to include specific medical treatment options and instructions for your end-of-life care. In collaboration, St. Mary's and The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary churches will host two free Advance Care Planning Workshops. These workshops will also address Catholic beliefs and assist you in updating or creating your own Advance Care Plan.

Date: Thursday, October 1st, 2026

Time: 3:00-5:00 pm

Location: St. Mary's Catholic Church
900 Central Avenue, Coon Valley, Wisconsin

-OR-

Date: Thursday, October 8th, 2026

Time: 5:00-7:00 pm

Location: Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
400 Congress Avenue, Viroqua, Wisconsin

Pre-registration is encouraged by calling 608-637-7711. You may also register by email to: stmaryparish@mwt.net. Please include your name(s), telephone number and which session you will be attending. Please feel free to invite others. Walk-ins will be welcomed.

LOOKING FOR A CATHOLIC MENTAL HEALTH THERAPIST? FIND ONE AT WICCT.ORG

WESTBY LOCKER & MEATS

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



Kickapoo Counseling

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

info@kickapoo-counseling.com

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Dan Kiedinger



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



"IF THERE IS ANY ENCOURAGEMENT IN CHRIST, ANY SOLACE IN LOVE, ANY PARTICIPATION IN THE SPIRIT, ANY COMPASSION AND MERCY, COMPLETE MY JOY BY BEING OF THE SAME MIND, WITH THE SAME LOVE, UNITED IN HEART, THINKING ONE THING." - PHILLIPIANS 2: 1-2