

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR

Fr. Joseph Richards (Fr. Joe)

Rectory: 400 Congress Ave, Viroqua, WI 54665

Cell Phone: 608-606-9787

Email: fatherjoerichards@gmail.com

Office Hours in Coon Valley: Thursday after Mass and by appointment

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday.....4:00pm

Sunday.....8:00am

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday..... 6:30pm

Thursday.....8:00am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday.....3:30pm until Mass

Sunday.....7:15am to 7:45am

PARISH OFFICE

Amy Stafslie, Admin. Assist.....608-452-3841

Bulletin deadline: Wednesday noon

E-mail: stmaryscv@mwt.net

Open most Wednesdays and Thursdays

COORDINATOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Vacant

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Nancy Peters (Secretary), John Mislivecek, Bryan Berg and John Roesler (Buildings and Grounds)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Ryan Goodwin, Marlene Humfeld, Sue Humfeld, Mike Kammel, Jim Prindle and Steve Schulte.
(2 appointed vacancies)

PCCW - Parish Council of Catholic Women

Clarice Kammel (President), Nancy Peters (Treasurer), Linda Berg (Secretary)

ORGANISTS

Mary Beth Smith, Linda Schulte, and Chris Carskadon.

Fr. Joe also serving:

Annunciation of the BVM Parish, Viroqua

Mass Times: Weekend.....Saturday.....6:30 PM

Sunday10:30 AM

Weekday: Wednesdays - 6:30 PM & Fridays - 8:00 AM

New Parishioners: Welcome to our parish! Please introduce yourself to Fr. Joe and contact the parish office for registration and information. <https://www.stmarycv.org/visit-us>

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Call or email Fr. Joe. You can also use our website under the Sacraments tab: <https://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments>

Sacrament of Baptism: Please submit a registration by mail, or e-mail to both stmaryscv@mwt.net AND fatherjoerichards@gmail.com You will be contacted by the parish office to finalize your requested date. The registration form at: <https://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments>.

Sacrament of Anointing / Visitation of the Sick: Please contact the parish office or Fr. Joe when someone you know is in need of the Sacrament or a pastoral visit. Requests may also be made from our website under the Sacraments tab. <https://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments>

Mass Intentions: Please use the Mass Intention envelopes available in the church.

Book of Prayer Requests: Located in the back of church. Feel free to add your own prayer requests. The requests will be included in the parish prayers.

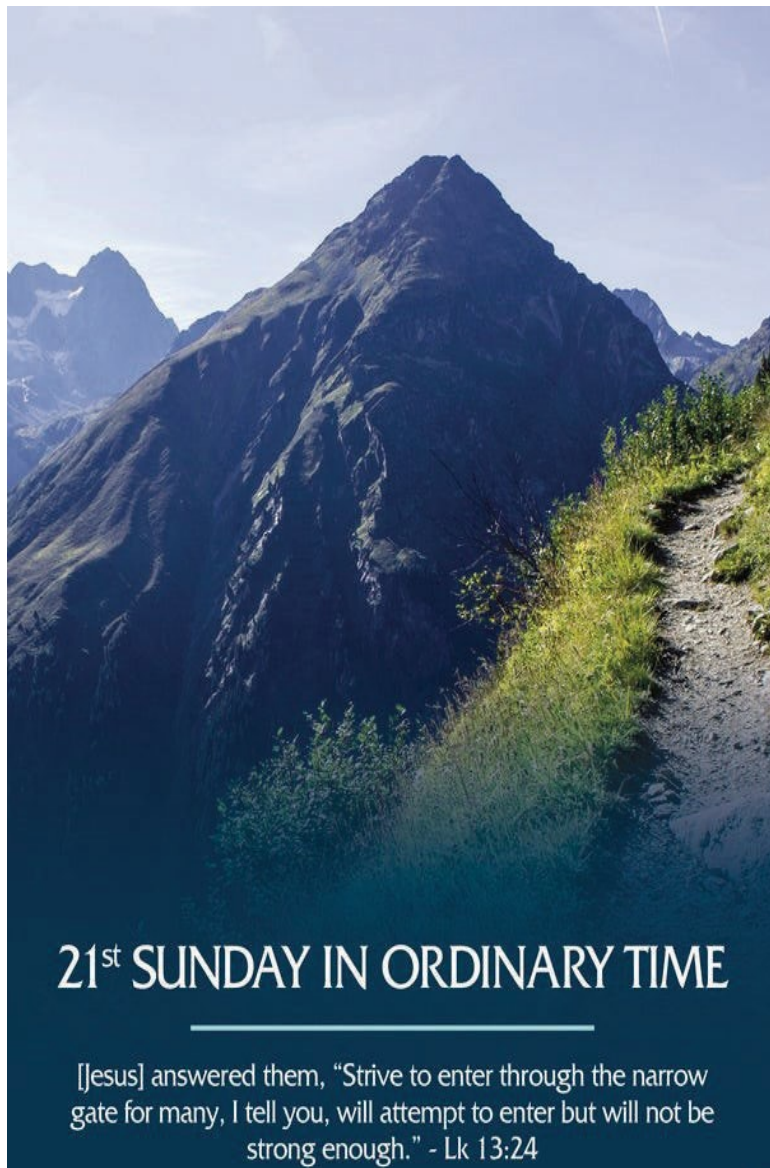
St. Mary's Parish

900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, WI 54623

Phone: 608-452-3841

Website: stmarycv.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley



21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

[Jesus] answered them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." - Lk 13:24

Fr. Joe Richards

August 21, 2022

Readings: 640C



Hello folks,

This is draft 2 of this weekend's bulletin article, squeezed in at the last second Friday morning. I had promised you two things for this weekend: first, to concelebrate with Fr. Cao; second, to deliver our second State of the Parish address. Unfortunately, I got a positive COVID test this morning after a false negative test on Thursday, so all those are off for the moment. The upside to all this is that we have an excellent redundancy built in with Fr. Cao coming to town, so greet him for me and a special thank you to the Holy Spirit for providential timing. I'm doing well (it's hitting me like a head cold) and I've contacted the folks I think needed contacting for close contact, but if you have any questions feel free to reach out. Now on to the two points of the originally intended bulletin article for this weekend.

First, a quick note about getting in touch with me. Last week we locked in an official priest's cell phone. **Please feel free to reach me at 608-606-9787 (or by email at fatherjoerichards@gmail.com).** Some quick ground rules – I arranged this line with the intention of being directly accessible to you. In emergencies, anything goes. Outside of emergencies, I try to keep pretty healthy business hours, meaning please do text or call to tell me last minute when you can't read for the weekend. Just not at 10:00 at night. I trust your discretion and warmly welcome your communication.

Second thing, a bit on what we were going to talk about this weekend at our *State-of-the-Parish* address: the question on the table is about *Religious Education* at our parish this year. Allow me to share with you a quick outline of what I had planned to bring up this weekend:

- *What's the program?* This year we'll be using the *Sophia Institute's A Family of Faith* for our baseline RE curriculum. A Family of Faith is structured around a monthly session between a program leader (myself or one of our catechists) and the parents in Week One, then a subsequent lesson on that month's material within the family in Week Two, then a Mass with families in Week Three and flexible options for service, prayer, and community development in Week Four.
- *What's the rationale behind switching things up?* Accounting for several factors – the weighty responsibility our catechists have been carrying, what is feasible within our current culture and with our current personnel, and the overall structure of this program – A Family of Faith, combined with an emphasis on the Sunday liturgy, can help us lay a foundation for our parish's ongoing disciple formation.
- *What's the main thing?* Family and Mass. First, the family is (as is explicitly stated in the Rite of Baptism) the primary educator of children. Kids might learn content more effectively from a trained educator, but they receive (or don't receive) the faith primarily from their most important support systems – their families (parents, grandparents, godparents, siblings, etc.). Without the faith, the content doesn't do anyone much good. Second, the Mass is what makes us who we are, so our religious education and formation as disciples absolutely and inescapably must be rooted in what we do every Sunday – coming together at Mass around the Eucharistic table. If we're asking what the most important and most missed part of religious education often is, it's integrating catechesis with the lived reality of Christian discipleship, centered in this moment.
- *When do we start?* The first weekend in October. I invite families who are interested in hearing more or who would like to receive their curriculum early to come to either of the 8:00 Masses on September 4 or 11 and to stick around after for a few minutes, where I'll rehash some of this weekend's material and have room for Q & A.

There are a lot of questions that are going to come up as we approach our October start. I'll try to answer them in a timely fashion, but in the meantime feel free to reach out to me by phone or email. God bless you, and please join me in praying for the success of this endeavor!

– Fr. Joe

St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley, WI

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2022

- 1) Isaiah 66:18-21
- 2) Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13
- 3) Luke 13:22-30

FOCUS: We strive to be faithful always.

The liturgy today gives us a chance to step back and think of our journey as disciples. This journey is not a short sprint, but a marathon. Its urgency is always there. The narrow gate is always there. But we are not alone, and we have food for the journey. Our eucharistic celebration strengthens us and gives us the grace to continue our journey to be faithful.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Isaiah shares the Lord's promise of gathering all nations before him. The author of the Letter to the Hebrews exhorts them to strengthen themselves and endure their challenges as "discipline." In the Gospel, Jesus is asked if only a few people will be saved. He tells them to strive to enter the kingdom of God through the narrow gate.

Intentions

Aug 20 ~ 4:00 PM - †Adam Hemmersbach

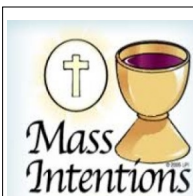
Aug 21 ~ 8:00 AM - †Sylvester Dowiasch

Aug 23 ~ 6:30 PM - †Eugene Freit

Aug 25 ~ 8:00 AM - †Frank Sedevie

Aug 27 ~ 4:00 PM - †Deceased members of the Roskos and Roninggen Families

Aug 28 ~ 8:00 AM - †Sylvester Dowiasch



If there is a special weekend date you would like, please get your request(s) in early. The following dates are open for the next few months.

Saturdays in 2022 are full.

Sundays: Oct 23, Nov 27, Dec 11 & 25.

Weekdays: Sept 1, 8, 20, & 27. Oct 6, 11, 13, 18, 25, and 27.

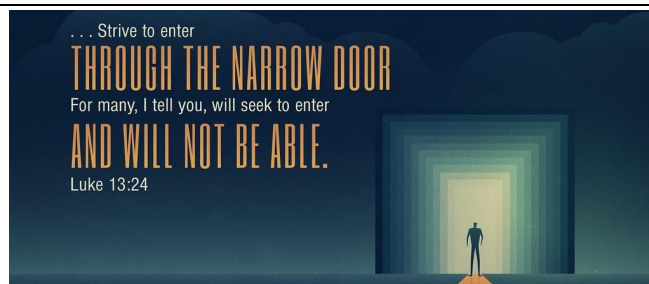
If you have questions feel free to email the parish office at stmaryscv@mwt.net or leave a message at 608-452-3841..

Upcoming Events/Calendar

- **August 20/21** ~ Cross Catholic Outreach weekend and *State of the Parish Address* after Mass by Fr. Joe
- **September 4** ~ **Religious Education Parent meeting** after 8 AM Mass (Can't make this date? A second meeting will be the next week)
- **September 6** ~ Pastoral Council Meeting at 7:05 PM
- **September 11** ~ **Religious Education Parent meeting** *alternate date* following the 8 AM Mass
- **September 13** ~ PCCW Meeting at 7 PM in church basement
- **September 22** ~ *Finance Council Meeting* 7:00 PM
- **October 9** ~ ***Save the Date*** **Our Annual Pancake Breakfast!**

Sunday Mass streaming Live on Facebook is back:

<https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley>



Sign in using **AmazonSmile** and select St. Mary Parish as your preferred charity at smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1218730.

Remember to shop for deals at **smile.amazon.com**, or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon app, and AmazonSmile will donate to us at no cost to you."

amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Donations: Here are some ways to support your parish:

- *Attend Mass and drop* your contribution envelope at either church, Coon Valley or Viroqua and the funds will be directed to St. Mary's
- US Postal Service: mail directly to the parish office, your 2021 Contribution envelope is postal ready!
- *Bill Pay* through online banking, add St. Mary's as contact (if possible, use your envelope number as the account number).
- Use our *online service* at: diolc.org/st-mary-coon-valley (a processing fee will be deducted from your contribution, which averages 3% for debit/credit cards and \$.75 for EFT/ACH. Your contribution will be recorded for the full amount).

Next Week in Service — Aug 27/28

If you are not able to serve as scheduled below, please find a substitute. Thank you!

Readers: **Sat.** – Robert Kerska **Sun.** – Volunteer

Ushers: **Sat.** – Volunteers **Sun.** – Volunteers

Money Counters: Loree Nickelotti, Rodney and Kathy Berg

Giving Last Week

		Week 33	8/14/2022
Adult Env.(27)	\$1520.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	\$177.00	Received This Week	\$1,747.00
Assumption	\$50.00	Running total needed	\$66,000.00
Total	\$1747.00	YTD Received	\$60,686.05
		Difference	(5,313.95)

Parish Announcements

Cross Catholic Outreach this weekend (Aug 20/21)

Please warmly welcome **Father Nghia Cao** who was born in Vietnam and has been in the United States for 37 years. He is a Redemptorist priest of the Denver Province and has been an ordained priest for 14 years. After finishing the philosophy program at St. John's Seminary College in Camarillo, CA, Fr. Cao earned a Master of Divinity degree from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, IL. He served as parochial associate pastor at Holy Ghost Parish in Houston, TX as well as St. Mary's of the Assumption Parish in Whittier, CA. In the mountainous regions of Sapa, N. Vietnam, Fr. Cao served as a missionary to the impoverished H'mong people. He served the H'mong people for 7 years raising funds for the many projects such as food, water, shelter, medical care, education, self-help programs, and emergency relief. He has spent the last 3 years assigned by his Provincial Superiors to the Liguori Mission House in the St. Louis area and is currently assigned to the Kansas City, MO Redemptorist Liguorian Magazine and parish missions. Fr. Cao's heart is for all poor people everywhere and as God is willing, he is happy to work alongside Cross Catholic Outreach in service of our needy brothers and sisters.

New Catholic Devotional

This year's addition of the *Catholic Devotional* has arrived and are free for you to take home for your self or take an extra to share with a family member or friend. Within you will find several common prayers and devotions produced by Apostolic Publishing Co and sponsored by Campbell's One Stop in Soldiers Grove, Borgen's Café in Westby and Vossseteig Funeral Homes.

Buildings and Grounds Update

We have been working to secure quotes to replace the **gutter system and sidewalks** around the church. This should alleviate the rainwater from running into the church basement. Please continue to use caution around the drains on the sidewalk. We are still waiting on bids for the gutters.

The sidewalk bid is \$6,043.00 from Von Ruden Concrete, LLC (this will replace all the sidewalk around the church—957 feet and be sprayed with salt protection).

The **garage roof** also needs to be shingled. We are also awaiting bids for this project.

Please continue to prayerfully support the council and Father as they continue to work through and make these difficult but necessary decisions.

PCCW Meeting

Our next PCCW meeting will be held on September 13 at 7:00 PM in the church basement. All ladies of the parish are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Bulletin Deadline

The deadline for bulletin items is noon each Wednesday. Prior to major holidays, announcements should be received at least two weeks prior to printing.

Diocesan/Local Announcements

Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC)

Happy National Senior Citizens Day on August 21st! The ADRC Resource Connections Magazine is free in the back of church. It lists several opportunities for seniors in Vernon County for classes, workshops, bus schedule, meals offered by city and more. Or call 608-637-5201 for more information or to get on their mailing list.

St Patrick's Sparta Summerfest - Aug 20 and 21

St Patrick's Parish in Sparta will be hosting their annual Summerfest celebration on August 20th (11 am - 9 pm) at the Eagles Club in Sparta. The day includes food, raffles, silent auctions, children and family activities, bingo, cornhole tournaments, a bake sale and quilt sale, DJ music and raffles. The festive activities continue on August 21st from 9 am - 1 pm at St. Patrick's School and includes a chicken dinner, live auction and raffles. For more information: 608-269-2655 or <https://www.facebook.com/summerfestsparta/>.

Chris Stefanick to speak on Living Joy - Wed, Aug 24

Living Joy is an urgently needed message for a world grasping for joy but settling for short-lived pleasures. With his characteristic humor and insights from daily life, Chris Stefanick will share the path to living joy, the joy that only Jesus Christ can give. Chris will present virtually on Wednesday, August 24th from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person. The first 80 people to register will receive Chris's new book, "Living Joy," retail cost of \$24. To register, visit diolc.org/witness-joy

American Red Cross BLOOD DRIVE - Aug 29

Monday, August 29 from 1-6pm at the *Coon Valley Lutheran Church*. The current supply of blood is critically low! Visit redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment or call Mike Lusk to set up an appointment or to volunteer to help with the drive. After your donation, you will receive refreshments.

Five-Week Series: Grief Circle (in-person)

Franciscan Spirituality Center; Sep 6, 13, 20, 27 and Oct 4 Tuesday, 10 a.m.-noon Facilitator: Karna Marks. This group is for those who are grieving the death of a loved one. It is a welcoming place to share your thoughts, feelings and concerns, where you can talk about your loss with other people who understand, because they are also grieving. Sometimes friends and family, although well-intentioned, may not understand the meaning of your loss and the depth of your pain. The support of others on the same journey can provide a great deal of comfort and healing. Karna Marks is a trained spiritual director on staff at the FSC. www.FSCenter.org (608) 791-5295

MMOC Chicken-Que - Sep 8

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish will be holding a Chicken-Que on Thursday, September 8, (11 am - 6 pm) for pick up and delivery only. Price is \$12 and includes a half chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, homemade beans and dinner roll. For presale tickets (guaranteed) and deliveries: 608.518.6145. No minimum order/no delivery charge. Enter at Weston Street.

Diocesan/Local Announcements continued

Aquinas Fest - Sep 9

The Aquinas Catholic Schools Foundation is proud to present the 45th Annual Aquinas Fest on Friday, September 9, 2022 from 3 pm - 8 pm at Aquinas High School (Cameron Street and AHS Parking Lot). This festival is a community builder, bringing together current students, current/past parents, alumni, faculty, staff, and friends to celebrate Aquinas Catholic Schools. Sweepstakes Drawing is at 6 pm. Grand Prize: \$10,000 cash or \$15,000 MSRP Discount from Clason Buick GMC. Call 608.784.0707 for more details!

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend

Give your marriage a well-deserved vacation. Plan to go on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend and come back with a marriage that is refreshed and full of energy! Upcoming dates are- September 9th - 11th in Dubuque, IA or November 18th - 20th in Holstein, IA. For more information call Greg and Denise at (563) 920-9419 or drubner9419@gmail.com

First Responder Recognition Mass - Sep 11

Law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical service personnel, and dispatchers are invited to attend the 4th Annual Blue Mass on Sunday, September 11, at the 10:30 am Mass at **St Patrick Parish in Onalaska**. The Blue Mass celebrates the men and women who serve our communities and their families. It includes prayers and a blessing for those who work to keep us safe. Participants are invited to attend in their full-dress uniforms, if applicable. Participants should arrive between 9:50 and 10:10 am. The Blue Mass is open to all. Please contact Steve Nott, Liturgical Planner, for more information: liturgyplanner@stpatsonalaska.com, (608)783-5535 ext 8.

Beacon of Light and Hope Celebration – September 11th

After much patience, hard work and commitment from so many, Bishop Callahan is am happy to announce that the restoration of the Cathedral, dedicated to St. Joseph the Workman, is complete. Giving thanks to God, Bishop Callahan will be celebrating Mass on Sunday, September 11 at 10:30 a.m. Food, fun, music, games, tours, trivia and other events to follow!

Join us for Rural Life Day – September 21

The Diocese of La Crosse will hold its 41st annual Rural Life Day on Wednesday, September 21, hosted by Jack and Pat Herricks at 12130 Hwy. 33, Cashton, WI. Come celebrate the farmers in our midst, who benefit us all by their good stewardship of the land. The day begins with 10 a.m. Mass celebrated by Bishop William Patrick Callahan, followed by awards, recognitions, the blessing of crops and machinery, and a catered lunch. For a flyer or brochure, visit diolc.org/rural-life. For more information, contact Deacon Bob Zietlow, Rural Life Committee Liaison, rzietlow@diolc.org.

Queen of the Americas Guild Conference - Oct 21 & 22

This years conference features Caridnal Burke, Joseph Pearce and Dr. Robert Royal at the Shrine in La Crosse, examining Our Lday of Guadalupe's importance in the history of literature. Pamphlets are available in the back of church or for more information visit: queenoftheamericasguild.org or call 630-584-1822 or email staff@queenoftheamericasguild.org

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- All those who are suffering from the Coronavirus and those who are working tirelessly to help the ill recover.
- All the military men and women who are supporting our freedom.
- All political leaders may their decisions be made for the good of all citizens.
- For those fighting cancer, especially members of our parish.
- For children suffering with life threatening conditions and illnesses.
- The intentions listed in our parish Book of Prayer.
- Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

To add a request call 608-452-3841 or email stmaryscv@mwt.net



Kids Corner

All in the Right Order

What was one of the things Jesus said in today's Gospel reading about the people in the Kingdom of Heaven?

*Follow the squiggly line to sort out the words.
Start with "Some" in the top left corner.*

