



St. Mary Parish

900 Central Ave, Coon Valley, WI 54623

Fr. Joe Richards, Pastor | Dcn. Tony Shay

April 27, 2025 | Sunday of Divine Mercy - Second Sunday of Easter | Readings 552C

CONNECT WITH US

PASTOR

Rectory: 400 Congress Ave.
Viroqua, WI 54665

Cell Phone: 608-606-9787

Email: jrichards@diolclergy.org

Office Hours in the Sacristy

Tuesday 1:00pm until Mass

Thursdays after Mass until noon or by appointment

DEACON

Email: ashay@diolclergy.org

Parish Phone

608-452-3841

Mailing Address

904 Central Ave
Coon Valley, WI 54623

Email

stmaryscv@mwt.net

Website

www.stmaryscv.org

Social Media

www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley

Bulletins

Bulletin Deadline: Monday, 6 days prior

Parish Office Hours

Varies - most Wednesdays, Thursday morning and most Fridays

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday | 4:00pm

Sunday | 8:00am*

**Livestreamed on our Facebook page*

Weekday Masses

Tuesday | 5:15pm

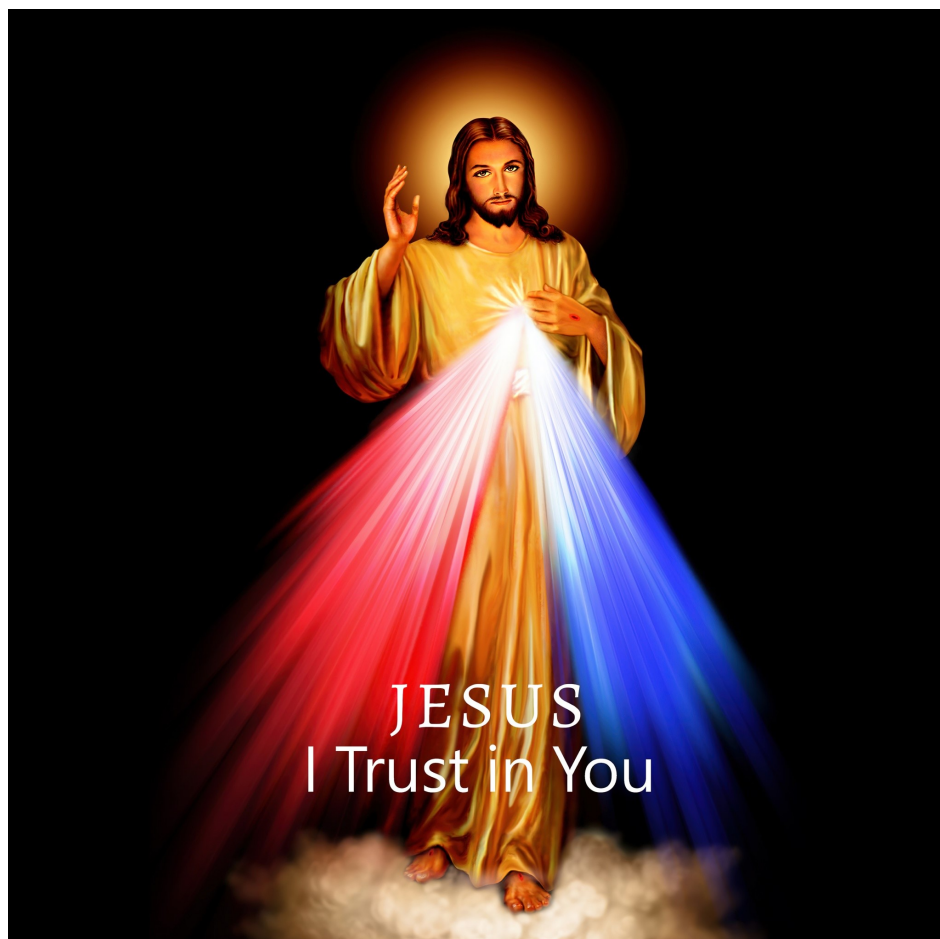
Thursday | 8:00am

Confession

Saturday | 3:30pm - 3:45pm

Devotions

Adoration Tuesday | 4:30pm



Administrative Assistant

Amy Stafslie 608-452-3841
stmaryscv@mwt.net

Coordinator of Religious Education

Bridget Goodwin
bladams50@gmail.com

Parish Finance Council

Mary Gajewski, John Mislivecek,
Nancy Peters (Secretary), and John
Roesler (Buildings and Grounds)

Parish Pastoral Council

Mike Callan, Ryan Goodwin, Marlene
Humfeld, Sue Humfeld, Robert
Kerska, Lori Pedretti and Steve
Schulte

PCCW

(Parish Council of Catholic Women)
Clarice Kammel (President), Nancy
Peters (Treasurer), Linda Berg
(Secretary)

Musicians

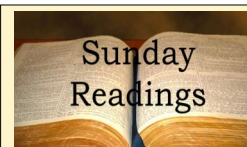
Mary Beth Smith 608-632-9548
Linda Schulte 608-397-3643
Chris Carskadon 608-790-4495

Fr. Joe also serving:
Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Viroqua

Mass Times:

Weekend: Saturday 6:30pm
Sunday 10:30am

Weekday: Wed - 5:15 pm
Fri - 8:00am



April 27, 2025
 1) Acts off the Apostles 5:12-16
 2) Revel. 1:9-11a, 12-13. 17-19
 3) John 20: 19-31

Intentions / Schedule

SATURDAY, April 26

Divine Mercy Sunday / Second Sunday of Easter

- 4:00pm Mass - Roskos and Roningen Families
 (living and deceased)

Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Robert Kerska

SUNDAY, April 27

Divine Mercy Sunday / Second Sunday of Easter

- 8:00am Mass - † Betty Callan

Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Ryan Goodwin

Money Counters: Steve Grabowski and Bernie Roesler

TUESDAY, April 29

St. Catherine of Siena

- 4:30-5:00pm NO Adoration

- 5:15pm NO Mass (Fr. Joe on Retreat)

THURSDAY, May 01

St. Joseph the Worker

- 8:00am NO Mass (Fr. Joe on Retreat)

SATURDAY, May 03

Third Sunday of Easter

- 4:00pm Mass - † Donald "Bud" McCormick

Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Robert Kerska

SUNDAY, May 04

Third Sunday of Easter/First Communion

- 8:00am Mass - † Helen Stafslie

Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Marlene Humfeld

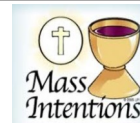
Money Counters: Loree Nickelotti, Rodney and Kathy Berg

Upcoming Events/Calendar

- **Apr 20-26** - National Volunteer Week
- **Apr 25-30** ~ Fr. Joe on Priest Retreat **no daily Mass**
- **Apr 26** ~ PCCW *Spring Luncheon* 11 AM - 1 PM
- **Apr 26** ~ Welcome Fr. Honore Kombo
- **Apr 26/27** ~ Divine Mercy Sunday - second collection by PCCW members. Donations will help the La Crosse Diocesan Council of Catholic Women.
- **Apr 27** ~ Welcome Fr. Sam McCarty
 ~ Parish Social after the 8 AM Mass sponsored by the PCCW St. Theresa Guild
 ~ First Communion Rehearsal in Viroqua after the 10:30 AM Mass (moved from April 30)
- **Apr 29** ~ Greif Share in Viroqua from 5-7 PM
 ~ No daily Mass at 5:15 PM Fr. Joe on Retreat
- **May 1** ~ No daily Mass at 8 AM Fr. Joe on Retreat
 ~ Confirmation in Richland Center at 6:30 PM
- **May 3** ~ **First Communion Retreat** combined with Genoa 10:00am-3:00pm at the Leum Residence: E3664 State Highway 56, Genoa, WI
- **May 4** ~ First Communion Sunday
 ~ Rel Ed after the 10:30 AM Mass in Viroqua
- **May 6** ~ Greif Share in Viroqua from 5-7 PM
- **May 12** ~ PCCW Meeting at 5:30 PM
- **May 13** ~ Greif Share in Viroqua from 5-7 PM
- **May 15** ~ Coffee and Fellowship after 8 AM Mass
- **May 18** ~ Rel Ed end of year party after 8 AM Mass and Parish Social!
- **May 20** ~ Greif Share in Viroqua from 5-7 PM

Open Sat. and Sun. dates: Jul 6, 13, & 20. Aug 3, 9, 10, 16 or 17 & 31.

Open Weekdays: May 22. Jun-full. Jul 1, 8, 10, 22, 24, 29 & 31.



Request a specific date by filling out an intention envelope or by emailing the office. As of July 1, 2024 suggested stipend amount is \$20 per Mass. If you have questions feel free to email the office at stmarysevc@mwt.net or voice message 608-452-3841.

DID YOU KNOW?

If you are 70 ½ or older, you can do a **qualified charitable distribution (QCD)** of up to \$100,000 a year from your **IRA directly to a charity**. The distribution won't show up in your adjusted gross income and CAN count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD). The QCD allows you to be more strategic with your RMD. Consult your tax advisor before making any decisions. If a QCD is for you, please consider St. Mary's Parish as your charity of choice.

Annual Appeal 2024-2025

| As of 04/25/2025 | Total Pledged | Total Payments |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| Pledged/Paid | \$13,655.00 | \$12,029.97 |
| Target Amount | <u>\$14,050.00</u> | <u>\$14,050.00</u> |
| Under Target | \$395.00 | \$2,020.03 |
| Percent Pledged: 97.19%, Percent Received: 85.62% | | |
| Number Contributing: 28 | | |
| To donate online, visit: diolc.org/donate-online/ and in the drop down box choose: 2024(445) St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley | | |



Inspired by the Spirit Campaign

5 Year Goal : \$105,000.00
 As of April 25, 2025
 Pledges received (30): \$109,520.00
 Payments received: **\$57,496.50**
THANK YOU!

| Giving Last Week | | 4/20/2025 | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Adult Env (25) | \$1075.00 | Needed Weekly | \$2,000.00 |
| Easter Env (27) | 1010.00 | Received This Week | \$2,388.00 |
| Offertory | <u>303.00</u> | Running total needed | \$32,000.00 |
| Total | \$2,388.00 | YTD Received | \$33,214.96 |
| Good Friday | \$432.00 | Difference | 1,214.96 |

From the Pastor

Hello friends,

Before I get to the Big News from last week, a bit of business. If you're reading this after Mass, thinking, "that wasn't Fr. Joe," it's likely because that wasn't me celebrating Mass. I must apologize – I usually like to publish my absences with a bit more notice, but Easter threw regularity off a bit. This weekend I am out in Indianapolis for a spiritual directee's wedding (pray for Audrey and her now-husband Sean). I'm following this up immediately with a retreat out in Oconomowoc. I'll be back Thursday night in time for our Confirmations out in Richland Center and Friday morning Mass as usual. In the meantime, there will not be Mass on Tuesday or Thursday, but Dcn. Tony will lead a Communion service on Wednesday at 5:15, followed by adoration.

Now for the Big News. I'm sure you've heard by now that Pope Francis passed away last Monday after a lengthy stay at the hospital for double pneumonia and finally a stroke and cardiac arrest. His death reminds me of our last pope who died in office, John Paul II. John Paul II fostered a deep devotion to Divine Mercy and appropriately died on Divine Mercy weekend (that is, this weekend) twenty years ago. Similarly, Pope Francis died on Easter Monday – a fitting moment to pass through death with hope into Christ's resurrection. For a man deeply committed to letting Jesus Christ's work, teaching, and Paschal mystery mean something, this was a powerful moment for him to pass into the next life himself. On Saturday morning the Church celebrated his funeral Mass in Rome, and we join the Church across the world in mourning his death and thanking God for his life and selfless service.

This also brings us into an interesting season in the church – a period known as "Sede Vacante," (the seat is empty), the preparation for the conclave that will choose the next pope. When a pope dies, the Church first enters a period of official mourning. All major decisions are put on hold save the selection of a new Holy Father. Meanwhile, within fifteen days after the pope's death all the Church's cardinals gather in Rome, hand in their phones, and enter a closed-door session to select the next pope. They proceed through a series of voting waves until a two-thirds majority is reached. With each failed wave, black smoke billows out of a special chimney at the Vatican, until finally white smoke billows to indicate a successful vote. Technically any baptized male is a candidate for the papacy, but the chances of someone like me or Fr. Sam getting nominated are thankfully slim. Most likely is that one of the cardinals at the conclave will be the one to step out on the balcony and be hailed as the new Holy Father with a "habemus Papam," or "we have a pope!" I invite you to pray earnestly for the selection of our next Holy Father, perhaps even to join me in a daily rosary for that intention until the process is complete.

God bless you, and a very happy Easter to you,
Fr. Joe

Parish Announcements

Divine Mercy Second Collection - Apr 26/27

There will be a second collection this weekend, during the April 26/27 masses by PCCW members. Donations will help the La Crosse Diocesan Council of Catholic Women with the many programs they sponsor. This is a yearly collection. Please be generous with your donation.

Please Pray for Our First Communicant

Please keep **Jaxyn Halvorson** in your prayers as he prepares to receive the **Sacrament of First Holy Communion**. May this be a joyful and grace-filled time for Jaxyn and his family as he takes this important step in his faith journey. We pray that he may always remain close to Jesus in the Eucharist and grow in love, faith, and understanding of God's presence in his life.



Jaxyn, along with his fellow First Communicants from our Viroqua parish, have already received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation and are now in the final stages of preparation. The children will attend a rehearsal this Sunday, **April 27th**, followed by a special retreat on **Saturday, May 3rd**, to help them reflect and spiritually prepare. Jaxyn will joyfully receive his First Holy Communion during the **8:00 AM Mass on Sunday, May 4th**. Please continue to support him and his fellow communicants with your prayers during this sacred time.

Rosary Help Needed for the month of May



Rosary before Mass in the month of May is traditionally dedicated to honoring and seeking the intercession of Mary. To commemorate our parish namesake, the rosary will be recited 20 minutes before weekend masses in May. Please make an effort to join us. We are looking for parishioners who would be willing to help out (could do as couples). We have a handout on how to recite the rosary that we can provide. If interested please call or text Karen Callan (608 397-3490) or Bob Kerska (608 317- 8392). Thanks!

Mother's Day Rose Sale - May 10 & 11

Honor your Mother the weekend of May 11th & 12th with a rose! The PCCW is sponsoring the annual Mother's Day Rose Sale after both masses. A \$2 donation per rose is requested, with all proceeds going to Wisconsin Right To Life.



Lenten Rice Bowls and Student Mite Boxes - please drop in the collection.

National Volunteer Week—April 20–26, 2025

We recognize the heart and hands behind the many acts of service that keep our parish and community thriving. Thank You to All Our Volunteers! Your time, energy, and compassion make a difference in countless ways. We honor your commitment and hope to inspire others to follow your lead. See the list of many volunteer positions in last weekends bulletin.

Parish Announcements continued

As we mourn the death of Pope Francis, let us join with Catholics worldwide in praying for the repose of his soul and for those in choosing his successor.

O God, Father of all, we entrust the soul of Pope Francis to Your loving mercy. May he find eternal rest and joy in Your presence. We thank You for his life and ministry, and for the guidance he provided to Your Church.

As the College of Cardinals prepares to elect his successor, we ask for Your wisdom and guidance. May they be led by the Holy Spirit to choose a leader who will faithfully uphold the Church's teachings and continue Pope Francis's legacy of compassion and service.

May the new Holy Father be blessed with strength, courage, and unwavering faith. May he be a beacon of hope for the world, and may his leadership inspire all to live lives of love, justice, and peace.

We pray for the continued strength and unity of the Church. Amen



Diocesan/Local Announcements

A Message from Bishop Battersby "Experience the Tenderness and Love of our Father"

You are invited to listen to a compelling message from Bishop Battersby about God's love and mercy. His 7-minute message is available at diolc.org/mercy, or by using your smartphone to scan the QR code to the right



La Crosse Auxiliary Flower Sale

This is the La Crosse Auxiliary's 45 Annual Flower sale for local nursing scholarships. We have awarded over \$400,000.00 in scholarships for Viterbo and WWTC nursing students. This year's sale will showcase a fresh look and an expanded selection of flowers. **A supply of plants will be available on site at the garage on the corner of 11th and Ferry Street, in La Crosse from April 29- May 1, 2025**

Aquinas Booster Club Chicken Q - May 7

The annual Chicken Q will be held in the Cass Street parking lot at Aquinas High School on Wednesday, May 7th, serving from 11 a.m. until gone. Delicious chicken and fixings for \$12 per plate. All proceeds support student-athletes at Aquinas High School and Aquinas Middle School. If you would like to preorder tickets, please call Aquinas at 784-0287 ext 4113 and speak with Denise Knutson.

Diocesan/Local Announcements

Carlo Acutis: Roadmap to Reality

This movie explores the life and legacy of the soon-to-be Saint Carlo Acutis and how he navigated the modern world. It tackles urgent technology-related questions, examining how the virtual landscape threatens our fundamental understanding of what it means to be human. The movie will be in theatres April 27 - 29 (3 days only) at the following cities: Marcus - La Crosse; Micon Downtown - Eau Claire; Marcus Cedar Creek - Rothschild. Be part of this national Catholic moment. Gather your friends, your youth group or your parish. For more information, visit carloacutisfilm.com

Activity Corner

True or False:

When Jesus Came to the Apostles

1. When Jesus first came to the Apostles after His resurrection, He said "Peace be with you" twice. True or False?

2. When Jesus rose from the dead, you couldn't see the marks from the nails in His hands and feet any more. True or False?

3. The Apostles panicked and ran away when they saw Jesus because they thought he was a ghost. True or False?

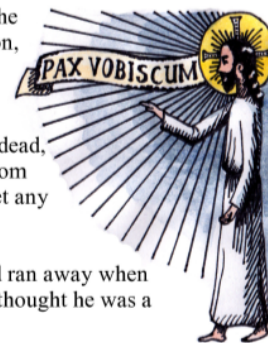
4. Jesus breathed on the Apostles and told them that they now had the power to forgive people's sins. True or False?

5. The Apostle Thomas was not with the others when Jesus first came to them after He rose from the dead. True or False?

6. Thomas believed that they had seen Jesus, so he wasn't surprised when Jesus came again a week later. True or False?

7. Jesus told Thomas to put his fingers in the nail-holes in His hands and put his hand in Jesus' side where the spear had gone in. True or False?

Answers: 1.T, 2.F, 3.F, 4.T, 5.T, 6.F, 7.T.



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

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday from 3:15pm to 3:45pm

Sacrament of Baptism: Submit a registration by mail, or e-mail to both stmaryscv@mwt.net AND jrichards@diolclergy.org You will be contacted by the parish office to finalize your requested date. The registration form at: 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. 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.



Mercy

The Word that Describes God's Heart

The Church celebrates the Feast of Divine Mercy, the Sunday after Easter, on the 27th of April. This is a fitting time to focus on God's forgiving love, the mercy poured out through the suffering, death and resurrection of His Son, including the mercy He shows each one of us in ways too numerous to count.

Mercy means God's Heart desiring to alleviate our misery caused by personal sin. The "Good News" is that Jesus is the Divine Physician who came to heal the sickness of sin. As we receive His forgiveness, we are compelled by this love to **trust** Jesus and avoid sin in the future. The word trust is significant as it is a key aspect of the Divine Mercy message from Jesus. Trust is not blind, wishful thinking but **hope** based upon the Person who gave His life for us. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who leaves the ninety-nine to go after the one lost sheep. He is grieved – heartsick – until He finds this sheep, and then lifts it upon His shoulders and carries it home. This describes Jesus' personal love for each of us.

Trust starts small and grows through experience. We practice and live trust on a daily basis "by praising and thanking God in all things." (Consoling the Heart of Jesus, Fr. Michael Gaitley, p. 95)

This is the place to begin in our desire to trust Jesus.

The merciful love of God is the central theme of the Bible and it is prevalent in the readings for Mass. The Psalm prayed for Divine Mercy Sunday puts words around the Lord's merciful love and what it means to trust Him. "I was hard pressed and was falling, but the LORD helped me. My strength and my courage is the LORD, and He has been my Savior" (Psalm 118:13-15). We can ask Jesus to help us trust Him, especially when we are "hard pressed" and "falling".

The Gospel describes the Risen Christ instituting the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a "Sacrament of Mercy," as He breathes on the Apostles and says to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained" (John 20; 22-23).

Jesus gave to Sr. Faustina, a Polish nun, messages about God's mercy and how much we need it. "Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy." "My mercy is greater than your sins, and those of the entire world. I let My Sacred Heart be pierced with a lance, thus opening wide the source of mercy for you. Come then with trust to draw graces from this fountain." (Diary, 300,1485)

The greatest attribute of God is His mercy. This is most evidently seen as we gaze upon the Crucifix, where Jesus takes upon Himself our sins that we might be freed from them and know His peace and joy.

This fountain of mercy is most especially received in the Sacrament of Reconciliation where we experience forgiveness and healing in a tangible way. Jesus said, "When you go to confession, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I Myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy.... and I fill it with My light." (1602, 1725)

Set aside time for you and your family to receive the immense healing grace of making a good confession and receiving forgiveness. The Lord will bless you with *His* peace.

The simple **Chaplet of Divine Mercy** can be prayed anytime, but it is especially encouraged at the Hour of Mercy, which is 3:00PM - the hour of Jesus' death - or when someone is near death. The **Novena to Divine Mercy begins on Good Friday**. Find directions and the brief prayers for the Novena at the parish or visit thedinemercy.org.

By Ann Lankford

Easter Flower Donations in Memory/Honor of:

Tyler Turben

By Sharon and Sara Anderson

Pauline Berg

By Rodney and Kathleen Berg

Cole James Berra

By Dennis and Kay Berra

Adrienne Nodland***Gloria Bradley***

By Keith and Jody Boraas

Jim and Betty Callan***Bob and Leona Welsh***

By Michael and Karen Callan

Arlan and Virginia Dwyer***Rhonda Buckmaster******Bob Janeiro******Randy Jones***

By Keith Dwyer

Fleming and Ollendick Families***Jan Brandau and Family***

By Jim and Barb Fleming

Larry and Myrtle Geier***Mary Brueggen******Chuck and Theresa Brueggen***

By Curt and Jean Geier

Maria Rabotski***Evelyn Gajewski***

By Don and Mary Gajewski

Arlene and Norbert Seichter***Stella and Joseph Grabowski***

By Steve and Michelle Grabowski

Edward and Anna Kerska

By Robert E. Kerska

Bernard and Cecilia Humfeld***Larry Humfeld******Corrine Mislivecek***

By John and Julie Mislivecek Family

Allen and Mercedes Christen***William and Rosie LeJeune***

By Francis and Carol LeJeune

William and Rose Marie LeJeune***Frank and Dennis LeJeune***

By Sandra Ritter, Jean, Joan, and
Peggy LeJeune

For the Parish

By Aaron and Kelly Palmer

Ralph Pedretti

By Andrew Pedretti

Albert and Stella Hohlfeld***Gary and Scott Hohlfeld***

By Roger and Nancy Peters

Connie Peterson***Jayne (Peterson) Frydenlund***

By Jeff and Lisa Peterson

Cheryl Roesler

By Joe Roesler

Donald and Rita Weber***Alfred and Mildred Roesler***

By John and Carol Roesler

Roskos and Roningen Families

By Rosey Roningen

Abbillyne Mitchell***Evelyn Rutz-Thornton******Dawn Coburn***

By Richard and Jenna Schams

Toni Sheehan and Ray Sheehan

By Maripat Sheehan

Cameron Sokolik***Arnold and Phylis Schute******Veryl and Virginia Coffin***

By Doug and Pam Schute

Leyton and Helen Stafslie***Lucas Seelow and Nevaeh Niemyjski***

By Amy Stafslie and Family

Dan Tiedeman***Don and Pat Kammel***

By Caroline Tiedeman

Kylie Von Ruden

By Bruce, Shirley, Chase and
Kenzie Von Ruden

Ken and Hazel Williams***Gavin Williams***

By Rich and Sue Williams

Thank you for supporting St. Mary Parish, if you
donated and do not see your listing here, please
contact the parish office.