

# St. Mary Parish

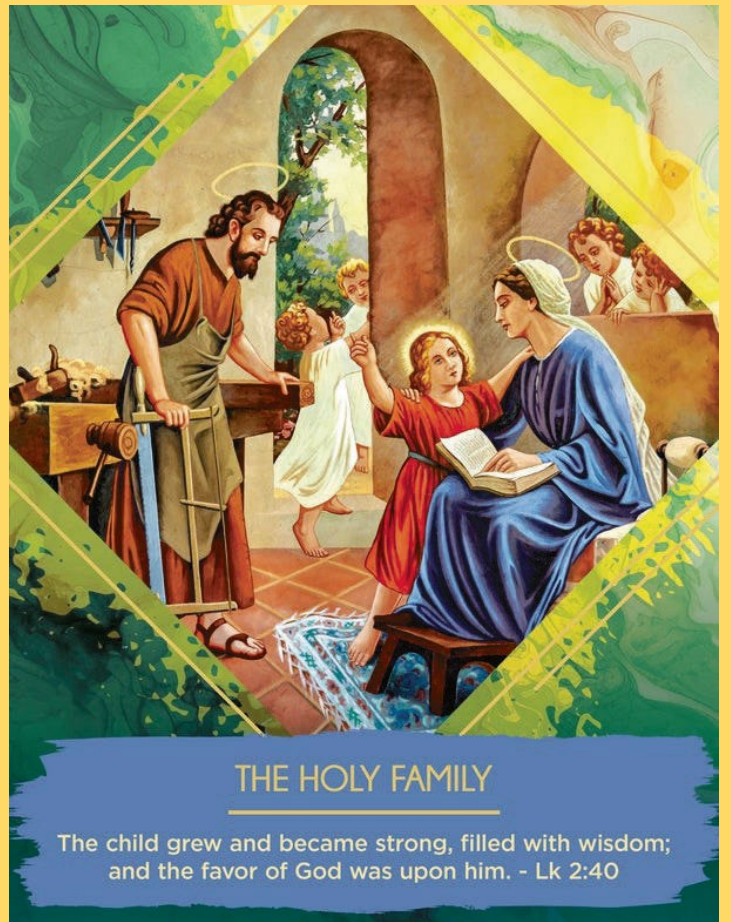
Fr. Joe Richards, Pastor  
Dcn. Tony Shay

## Church Address:

900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, WI 54623  
Parish Phone: 608-452-3841  
Website: [www.stmarycv.org](http://www.stmarycv.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley](http://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley)

December 31, 2023

Readings: 493B



THE HOLY FAMILY

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. - Lk 2:40

## PASTOR

Fr. Joseph Richards

Rectory:.....400 Congress Ave, Viroqua, WI 54665

Cell Phone: .....608-606-9787

Email:..... [jrichards@diolclergy.org](mailto:jrichards@diolclergy.org)

Office Hours in Coon Valley Sacristy:

Tues. 1:00 PM until Mass time and

Thurs. after Mass until noon and by appt

## DEACON

Anthony Shay.....[ashay@diolclergy.org](mailto:ashay@diolclergy.org)

## WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday.....4:00pm

Sunday.....8:00am

## WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday.....5:15 pm

Thursday.....8:00am

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday.....3:15pm to 3:45pm

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

## PARISH OFFICE

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

Bulletin deadline: ..... Wednesday noon

E-mail: .....[stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net)

Open most Wednesdays and Thursdays

## COORDINATOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Bridget Goodwin.....[bladams50@gmail.com](mailto:bladams50@gmail.com)

## PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

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

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

## PCCW (Parish Council of Catholic Women)

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

**MUSICIANS:** MaryBeth Smith, Linda Schulte, & Chris Carskadon

Fr. Joe also serving:

## Annunciation of the BVM Parish, Viroqua

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

Sunday .....10:30 AM

Weekday: ..Wednesdays - 5:15 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. [www.stmarycv.org/visit-us](http://www.stmarycv.org/visit-us)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday from 3:15pm to 3:45pm and Sunday from 7:15am to 7:45am

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Please submit a registration by mail, or e-mail to both [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net) AND [fatherjoerichards@gmail.com](mailto:fatherjoerichards@gmail.com) You will be contacted by the parish office to finalize your requested date. The registration form at: [www.stmarycv.org/sacraments](http://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](http://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, Coon Valley, WI*  
*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph*



**Sunday Readings**  
December 31, 2023

1) Genesis 15:1-6; 2) Hebrews 11:8, 11-12;  
3) Luke 2:22-40

**Intentions / Schedule**

**SATURDAY, December 30**  
*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph*  
-4: 00pm Mass - † Deceased member of the Roskos and Roninggen Families  
Altar Servers: Volunteers      Ushers: Volunteers  
Lector: Nancy Peters

**SUNDAY, December 31**  
*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph*  
-8:00am Mass - Don and Roxanne Weber  
Altar Servers: Volunteers      Ushers: Volunteers  
Lector: Ryan Goodwin

Money Counters: Loree Nickelotti and Curt Horman

**MONDAY, January 01**  
*The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*  
-8:00am Mass - Our Parish Family  
Altar Server: Volunteer      Lector: Volunteer  
Ushers: Volunteers

**TUESDAY, January 02**  
-NO Mass - Our Parish Family

**THURSDAY, January 04**  
-NO Mass - All Roskos and Roninggen Families

**SATURDAY, January 06**  
*The Epiphany of the Lord*  
-4: 00pm Mass - † William and Rose Marie LeJeune  
Altar Servers: Volunteers      Ushers: Volunteers  
Lector: Nancy Peters

**SUNDAY, January 07**  
*The Epiphany of the Lord*  
-8:00am Mass - Dennis and Frank LeJeune  
Altar Servers: Volunteers      Ushers: Volunteers  
Lector: Marlene Humfeld

Money Counters: Steve Grabowski and Bernie Roesler



Annual Appeal 2023-24		
As of 12/29/23	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$8,920.00	\$7,770.00
Target Amount	\$14,515.00	\$14,515.00
Under Target	(\$5,595.00)	(\$6,745.00)
Percent Pledged: 61.45%, Percent Received: 53.53%		
Number Contributing:		20


To donate online visit: <https://diolc.org/stewardship/> then choose either "single gift, reoccurring gift, or pledge" and in the parish dropdown, choose; 2023 (445) St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley.

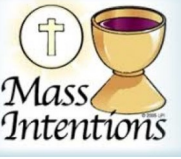
**Upcoming Events/Calendar**

- **Jan 01 ~ Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**  
8:00 AM in Coon Valley and 10:30 AM in Viroqua
- **Jan 2-5 ~ \*update\*** Fr. Joe on Retreat, **no daily Mass**
- **Jan 07 ~ RE** in Viroqua after the 10:30 AM Mass for both Coon Valley and Viroqua students.
- **Jan 09 ~ Finance Council Meeting** 6 PM
- **Jan 16 ~ Pastoral Council Meeting** 4 PM
- **Jan 21 ~ Coffee and refreshments** after Mass sponsored by the PCCW - St. Theresa Guild
- **Jan 21 ~ RE** monthly activity after the 8 AM Mass in Coon Valley
- **Jan 22 ~ PCCW Meeting** 5:30 PM
- **Feb 04 ~ RE** in Viroqua after the 10:30 AM Mass for both Coon Valley and Viroqua students.



**CONFESSIONS**  
Saturday: 3:15pm to 3:45pm  
Sunday: 7:15am to 7:45am

 **Sunday Mass streaming Live on Facebook**  
<https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley>

 **Open Sat. and Sun. dates:** Mar 23 & 31.  
Apr. 13; Jun 1 or 2, 8, 9, 22, 23, 29, 30  
**Open Weekdays:** Feb. 1, 13, 15, 29; Mar. 5, 12, 14, 21; Apr. 4, 11, 16, 30; May 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 23, 28, 30.  
Request a specific date by filling out an intention envelope or by emailing the office. If you have questions feel free to email the parish office at [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net) or leave a message at 608-452-3841.

 **Inspired by the Spirit Campaign**

5 Year Goal : \$105,000.00  
As of December 29, 2023  
**Pledges received (30): \$109,020.00**  
Payments received: \$35,337.50  
**WE HAVE EXCEEDED THE GOAL!**  
**THANK YOU!**



Needed this Month	
\$10,000.00	at \$2000 per week
\$9,726.10	Received as of week 4
<b>(\$273.90)</b>	Short for the Month

Giving Last Week		12/24&25/23	
Adult Env(38)	\$1,610.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	\$711.00	Received This Week	\$4,356.00
Christmas (36)	\$2,000.00	Running total needed	\$104,000.00
Imm. Concept	\$25.00	YTD Received	\$95,512.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,356.00</b>	Difference	(8,487.03)
Retire Fund Rel	\$10.00	Food Pantry	\$123.00

## From the Pastor

Hello friends,

I write this from the waiting room up at Mayo in Rochester – not for myself, but visiting a priest friend who had a fall this week. Anyhow, pray for Fr. Whatshisname (God is okay with anonymity). After our very well attended Christmas liturgies ran their course, I spent the first few days this past week down in the basement of the rectory. I've spent the last few years building up a woodshop that meets my flavor of recreation needs very effectively, and I'm currently working on an altar for the St. Pat's (Onalaska) side chapel – a big old bear of a 72" x 36" altar. Not to brag, but it's going to be gorgeous. Beginning with my old man's general contractor work in California and making full use of a woodshop at Mundelein Seminary, woodworking has been an important hobby for me. After a day's rich work with you delving into your relationships with the Lord, I find it cathartic to feel the grain of the wood under my fingers, to see stock become lumber and to see lumber become product. If you ever see me with dirty fingernails, you can reliably count on it being a healthy and tenacious mixture of glue and sawdust.

This next week I'll be heading up to Wausau (Rothschild) after Monday's 8:00 (Coon Valley) and 10:30 (Viroqua) Masses for a retreat with some of the other priests of the diocese. As I understand it, this retreat will delve into story work – understanding personal narrative, the baggage and blessings we carry, and the way the Holy Spirit weaves His way in and through this whole process. If you've been to confession or engaged in spiritual counselling of any sort with me, I hope you take it as a comfort to know I place no more demand for spiritual integration on you than I do on myself. The lifelong (and longer) work of growing in sainthood is not something that's confined to regular or occasional Sunday Mass attendance or annual confessions – it's not even confined to sharing your morning coffee with the Lord before the kids wake up or the underrated blessing of daily Mass. While those tangible artifacts structure our spiritual life and provide the skeleton to hold the soul upright, the Christian spiritual life is a matter of wholehearted discipleship, of letting the Holy Spirit into every moment. It's hard work, and it's very good work.

God bless you, and may Jesus Christ's light shine into every corner of your heart as we continue through the Christmas season.

Fr. Joe



## Parish Announcements

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - Jan 1st

We will be offering a Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God on January 1st at 8:00am. Because the Feast falls on a Monday this year, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation. However, there is no better way to begin the New Year than by celebrating Mass and receiving our Lord Jesus in the Eucharist!

*Thank You*

Thank you to all the musicians, cantors, choir and parishioners at St. Mary's for making this Christmas season a joyous one. May the new year bring you peace, love and happiness. God Bless you all.

### 2024 Contribution Envelopes and Calendars

Still a few envelopes to be picked up in the back of church. If you cannot find your envelopes or you do not currently have envelopes assigned to you please contact the parish office by leaving a message at 608-452-3841 or email: [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net)

WITH  
*Gratitude*

The musicians here at St. Mary's in Coon Valley would like to give a heartfelt thank you to Father Joe and all the parishioners, for the Christmas greeting and gift. We feel very humbled to be able to lead the music as we worship Our Lord. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

### 2023 End-of-Year Contributions

All donations that need to be recorded for the 2023 tax year must be submitted on or before **December 31st**. All donations to the office by this time will be posted to the 2023 year-end tax statement. Any payments made after the deadline will post to the 2024 year-end tax statement. **Thank you for supporting St. Mary Parish!**

**Are you celebrating your 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2024?** If so, please let the parish office know your name and the date by calling 608-452-3841 and leaving a message or email: [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net).



### Rectory Gutter



### Upgrade Underway



Three R's Construction has been hard at work removing the old in-roof gutters from the rectory and wrapping the fascia. New gutters coming soon.

## Diocesan/Local Announcements

### Pilgrimage for Life - Jan. 17-21

We are excited to offer the Pilgrimage for Life. We will travel by coach bus to Washington, DC, to participate in the annual March for Life. This opportunity is for anyone ages 13 and up. The estimated cost is \$400 per person. All information and the registration link can be found at <https://diolc.org/yva/youth-opportunities/pilgrimage-for-life/>

### "The ANSWER" Eucharistic Rally Tickets are now on sale!

The time has come to say "Yes!" to this life-changing event that will be held June 7, 2024 at the La Crosse Center. Discounted tickets are now available for purchase. However, you may also want to check with your parish office as there are some parishes that have already begun purchasing group tickets and reserving buses for this event. Please check out the official website for all the detailed information. The registration link is found at the following link or by using your smartphone's camera to scan the QR code to the right. <https://diolc.org/the-answer/>



### New Year's Resolution: The Catechism in a Year

If you ever wanted to understand what it means to be Catholic and allow those truths to shape your life, this podcast is for you. Fr. Mike Schmitz and Ascension Press will begin "The Catechism in a Year" on January 1, 2023. With this podcast, Catholics will read the entire Catechism of the Catholic Church in 365 days, understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter, see how Church teaching is rooted in Sacred Scripture, absorb over 2,000 years of Sacred Tradition, encounter God's plan of sheer goodness, and transform their relationship with the Church that Christ founded. <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear>

### More Resources for the New Year

- Reading the Bible in a Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz – Ascension Press: <https://media.ascensionpress.com/category/ascension-podcasts/bibleinayear/>
- Receive Bishop Barron's daily Gospel reflections from Word on Fire <https://www.wordonfire.org/reflections/>
- Read or listen to the Scripture Readings from Mass each day of the week – US Bishop's Website <https://bible.usccb.org/>

### A Minute with Jesus



Jesus came to earth as an infant, born of Mary

Mary was prepared to be the Mother of our Savior; by God's favor she was created "full of grace" and free from sin. The Savior – Jesus – was to be called Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Jesus will remain with us throughout our life as we receive Him in the Eucharist.

- Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, thank You for the gift of Mary, Your Mother, through whom the world received You as our Savior.
- This week, read how this glorious news was revealed to the Shepherds in Luke 2: 8-20

## Activity Corner

### Holy Family Word-Find

L G O D S E L F L E S S  
O M H V J E F A E J A C  
C O O P E R A T I O N A  
H T L C S L M H S S H R  
I H Y H U E I E H E L P  
L E O O S A L R A P O E  
D R T M A R Y H R H V N  
H O M E H N J A E E T  
F A I T H R O P E A C E  
F O S T E R Y P P O O R  
P E R F E C T Y C A R E



See if you can find all these words about the Holy Family in the puzzle!

Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end!

CARE	GOD	LOVE
CARPENTER	HAPPY	MOTHER
CHILD	HELP	MARY
COOPERATION	HOLY	PEACE
FAITH	HOME	PERFECT
FAMILY	JESUS	POOR
FATHER	JOSEPH	SELFLESS
FOSTER	JOY	SHARE
	LEARN	

The best way to be like the Holy Family:



### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



- Those sick and suffering in any way, may they find healing and strength in our Lord.
- For military men and women who are supporting our freedom.
- Our political leaders, may their decisions be made for the good of all.
- For the people of Ukraine, Israel and Gaza whose lives have been affected by acts of war.
- 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.

To add a request call 608-452-3841 or email [stmaryscv@mw.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mw.net)



# Flower Donations in Memory/Honor Of:

As of 12/29/2023

*Anonymous Donation*

*Tyler Turban*

By Sharon and Sara Anderson

*Jim and Betty Callan*

*Bob and Leona Welsh*

By Mike and Karen Callan

*Arlan and Virginia Dwyer*

*Rhonda Buckmaster*

*Randy Jones and Bob Janiero*

By Keith Dwyer

*Fleming and Ollendick Families*

By Jim and Barb Fleming

*Maria Rabotski*

*Art and Evelyn Gajewski*

By Don and Mary Gajewski

*Joseph and Stella Grabowski*

*Norbert and Arlene Seichter*

By Steve and Michelle Grabowski

*Adam, Arnold and Del Marie Hemmersbach*

*Doug Rude*

By Stan and Lori Hemmersbach

*David and Shirley Hanson*

*Henry and Myra Hanson*

*Ken and Jo Hanson*

*Larry and Sara McKittrick*

By Dave and Sue Humfeld

*Joan Urbanek*

*Reinald (Reiny) and Darlene Kammel*

By Mike and Clarice Kammel

*Edward and Anna Kerska*

By Robert E. Kerska

*Allen and Mercedes Christen*

By Francis and Carol LeJeune

*Bernard, Cecelia, and Larry Humfeld*

By John and Julie Mislivecek Family

*Ralph Pedretti*

By Andrew Pedretti

*Albert, Stella, Gary and Scott Hohlfeld*

By Roger and Nancy Peters

*Jayne Peterson-Frydenlund*

By Jeff and Lisa Peterson

*William and Rose Marie LeJeune*

*Frank and Dennis LeJeune*

By Sandra Ritter, Joan, Jean, & Peggy LeJeune

*Donald and Rita Weber*

*Alfred and Mildred Roesler*

By John and Carol Roesler

*Cheryl Roesler*

By Joe Roesler

*Deceased members of the Roskos and*

*Roningen Families*

By Rosey Roningen

*Ed and Betty Gorman*

By Steve and Linda Schulte

*Helen and Leyton Stafslie*

*Lucas Seelow and Nevaeh Niemyjski*

By Amy Stafslie Family

*Dan Tiedeman*

*Don Kammel*

By Caroline Tiedeman

*Kylie Von Ruden*

By Bruce, Shirley, Chase & Kenzie Von Ruden

*Gavin Williams*

*Ken and Hazel Williams*

By Rick and Sue Williams

Thank you for supporting St. Mary Parish. If you have donated toward the flowers and your name is not listed here, please contact the parish office. Updates will be posted in the back of church.