

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
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/
StMarysCoonValley](http://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley)

*February 25, 2024
Readings: 506B*



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.
- Mk 9:7-8

PASTOR

Fr. Joseph Richards
Rectory:.....400 Congress Ave, Viroqua, WI 54665
Cell Phone:608-606-9787
Email:..... 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

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
Open most Wednesdays and Thursdays

COORDINATOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Bridget Goodwin.....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
Sunday10:30 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

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 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.

St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley, WI

Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday Readings

February 25, 2024

- 1) Genesis 22:1-2, 9a; 2) Romans 8:31b-34;
3) Mark 9:2-10

Intentions / Schedule

SATURDAY, February 24

Second Sunday of Lent

-4:00pm Mass - † Bob and Leona Welsh
Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
Lector: Bob Kerska

SUNDAY, February 25

Second Sunday of Lent

-8:00am Mass † Stella Grabowski
Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
Lector: Ryan Goodwin

Money Counters: Loree Nickelotti and Curt Horman

TUESDAY, February 27

-5:15pm - Stations of the Cross Server: Adam S.
-approx. 5:45pm - Mass - † Carol Cade

THURSDAY, February 29

-8:00am - Our Parish Family

SATURDAY, March 2

Third Sunday of Lent

-4:00pm Mass - † Joan Clements
Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
Lector: Jeana LeJeune

SUNDAY, March 3

Second Sunday of Lent

-8:00am Mass - Our Parish Family
Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
Lector: Marlene Humfeld

Money Counters: Steve Grabowski and Bernie Roesler



CONFESSIONS

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



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

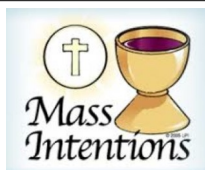
Annual Appeal 2023-24

As of 02/16/2024	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$9,640.38	\$8,340.38
Target Amount	\$14,515.00	\$14,515.00
Under Target	(\$4,874.62)	(\$6,174.62)
Percent Pledged: 66.42%, Percent Received: 57.46%		
Number Contributing: 23		

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

- **Feb 25** ~ ****date change**** RE monthly activity after the 8 AM Mass in Coon Valley—Stations of the Cross
- **Feb 20** ~ **5:15 PM Stations of the Cross** - 5:45 PM Mass
- **Feb 27** ~ **5:15 PM Stations of the Cross** - 5:45 PM Mass
- **Mar 03** ~ RE in Viroqua after the 10:30 AM Mass for both Coon Valley and Viroqua students.
- **Mar 05** ~ **5:15 PM Stations of the Cross** -5:45 PM Mass
- **Mar 06** - cleaning of the church basement 1:00PM
- **Mar 09** ~ ***date change*** RE monthly activity 2-2:45PM at the Norseland Nursing Home
- **Mar 11** ~ PCCW Meeting 5:30PM
- **Mar 12** ~ **5:15 PM Stations of the Cross** - 5:45 PM Mass
- **Mar 17** ~ Coffee and refreshments after Mass sponsored by the PCCW - St. Cecilia Guild
- **Mar 19** ~ **5:15 PM Stations of the Cross** - 5:45 PM Mass
- **Mar 26** ~ **5:15 PM Stations of the Cross** - 5:45 PM Mass
- **Mar 28** ~ No 8 AM Mass
- **Mar 28** ~ **Holy Thursday Mass** in Viroqua at 5:15 PM
- **Mar 29** ~ **Good Friday Service** - here at 12:10 PM ~ in Viroqua at 3:00 PM



Open Sat. and Sun. dates: Jun 9, 23 & 30; Jul 13, 20, & 27; Aug 3 or 4, 10, 11, 24, 31.
Open Weekdays: Mar. 12, 14, & 21; Apr. 4, 11; May 2, 7, 14, & 23. Jun.6, 11, 13, 18, 20, & 25. Jul 2, 4, 9, 11, 25, & 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 or leave a message at 608-452-3841.



Inspired by the Spirit Campaign

5 Year Goal : \$105,000.00
As of February 16, 2024
Pledges received (30): \$109,020.00
Payments received: **\$36,779.50**

THANK YOU!



Needed last Month

\$8,000.00	at \$2000 per week
\$6,138.56	Received as of week 3
(\$1,861.44)	Difference for the Month

Giving Last Week

		2/18/2024	
Adult Env(28)	\$1410.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Sun Offertory	\$327.00	Received This Week	\$2,800.56
Cath Life Mag	\$65.00	Running total needed	\$14,000.00
Ash Wed Env	\$497.00	YTD Received	\$14,278.06
AW Offertory	\$141.56	Difference	278.06
Memorials	\$360.00		
Total	\$2,800.56		

From the Pastor

Hello friends,

I have a few strictly FYI little updates for you on cultural business around the parishes this week.

First, an RCIA update. RCIA (the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, currently in transition to OCIA, the Order of...) is a series of classes and ritual steps leading up to a non-Catholic adult becoming Catholic. In the case of a non-baptized person (a "catechumen") this culminates with Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion at the Easter Vigil; in the case of a baptized non-Catholic Christian (a "candidate") this culminates with reception into full communion, Confirmation, and First Communion at any time (often the Easter Vigil). Note that a baptized non-Catholic Christian is not re-baptized – that is a once-and-for-all sacrament. Anyhow, last weekend we had two parishioners make the long trip up to La Crosse for the Rite of Election with the Bishop – a formal recognition of their final preparation for baptism/reception into the Church. After a few more classes and ritual steps these two guys will finish the process at the Easter Vigil this March 30. Pray for Mike and Jared! As an aside, if you or someone in your circle is interested in exploring this process, reach out to me. It takes about a year, and the signing-on-the-dotted-line doesn't really come until the end (last weekend's Rite of Election and the Easter Vigil), making it an easy-entry exploration. Our next class will start sometime in the early fall.

Second, you may have seen some folks coming in and out of the Viroqua rectory this and last weekend. I mentioned in $\frac{3}{4}$ of my homilies last weekend that my friends Seyha & Colleen and Donovan & Clare and their two kids were staying at the rectory on a husband-facilitated retreat for the wives/mothers. Solid Christmas gift. For the last several days here I've also been running another retreat – this one for a unique group of women banded together in the Seven Sisters Apostolate (there's actually nine in the group). Seven Sisters chapters are groups of women who each take one day a week to pray a holy hour for a particular priest, his own discipleship, and his ministry. For the last year or so these women have been praying daily for our parishes, often with particular intentions, as well as for my own wellbeing and amateur journey-to-sainthood. They are awesome, and their behind-the-scenes ministry hints clearly at the fact that any growth and success we see comes from the Holy Spirit's sustenance, providence, and guidance, invited by our own trust and docility. Anyhow, special thanks to the parishioners who put them up at a vacation rental in town, pray for these ladies as they wrap up their retreat, and if you happen to see a completely unfamiliar face this weekend say hello!

God bless you,

Fr. Joe

Parish Announcements

Thank You

The food pantry at the Butikk is ever for grateful for your \$194.00 gift from your November/December collection. This donation will go a long way in stocking our shelves so we can keep helping those less fortunate in our area. We appreciate your continued support.

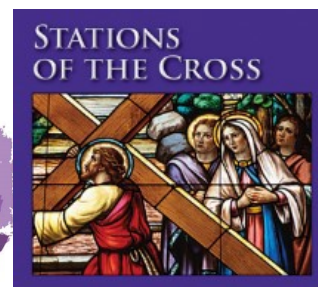
With grateful hearts, *The Bethel Butikk*

Lenten Rice Bowls for Catholic Relief Services and **Student Mite Boxes** for Missionary Childhood Association are now available in the back of the church.

Birthright Baby Bottle Campaign Ends this weekend



Birthright offer love, friendship, and support to women who are pregnant or think they may be pregnant. Birthright's focus is on loving the mother, reminding her that there is hope and ensuring she is not alone. **Please return to the bottles this weekend; however, late bottles will be accepted.**



Lenten Regulations:

The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14. Lenten regulations are as follows:

1. Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent, and Good Friday.
2. In addition to abstaining from meat, Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, until they celebrate their 59th birthday, are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to this regulation may eat only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Diocesan/Local Announcements

Women's Lenten Retreat - Mar 2

Are you struggling to carve time for spiritual enrichment? Join the Women's annual Morning of Reflection on Saturday, March 2nd at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, La Crosse. The FREE event starts with 8 am Mass followed by Rosary & Adoration. Hospitality in the Undercroft (lower level) and presentations will follow. In this time of Eucharistic Revival, the theme is *FAITH & THE REAL PRESENCE: Recognizing Jesus in the Breaking of the Bread*. This event is sponsored by the La Crosse Diocesan Council of Women and Catholic Daughters of America. All are welcome!

Cabin Feverfest - Mar 3

St. Peter's Parish in Middle Ridge will be hosting their annual Euchre tournament & Luncheon on Sunday March 3rd. The doors open for lunch at noon and the card games start at 1:00

Diocesan/Local Announcements continued

PM. The cost is \$15 per person which includes entry in the tournament, a variety of soups, snacks & beverages. Prizes will be awarded. Please call 608-452-4680 with any questions.

CV Lutheran Church

PANCAKE BREAKFAST – Mar 3 serving 8 AM – noon, Adults \$8, children 6-12 \$4, 5 and under free. All are welcome!

FISH FRY - Mar 13, pre-sale tickets only. We will be serving batter-fried cod, baked potato, and cole slaw for \$12.00. The ticket sales are pre-sale only, so we know how much cod to order and are available now from Mike Lusk. They also will be available for sale at the Pancake Breakfast at CV Lutheran Church on March 3.

Healing Mass and Service-Cashton - Mar 4

Are you suffering from physical, spiritual, or psychological distress? God's will is for you to be whole! A Healing Service will be held on March 4th at Sacred Heart Church-Cashton. The evening begins at 4:30 pm with Adoration, devotions, confessions and Holy Mass (5:30), followed by prayers for healing using exorcised and blessed salt, oil, and water, with intercessory prayers by our clergy and lay prayer teams.

Lenten Day of Reflection – Mar 9

March 9, 2024: The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, in La Crosse, WI will be hosting a Lenten Day of Reflection. The day includes talks on **The Four Last Things: Death, Judgement, Hell, and Heaven.** No admission cost! Learn more about the day's schedule at GuadalupeShrine.org/events!

Fish Fry – Mar 15

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, 2006 Weston Street, La Crosse, will be holding a Fish Fry on Friday, March 15, from 4:00 - 7:00 PM, dine-in or carry-out. The price is \$12 for 2-piece and \$14 for 3-piece dinner and includes baked or batter fried fish, baked potato or fries, coleslaw and roll. \$5 kids meal includes grilled cheese, fries, fruit and milk. Beer, wine and desserts available at dine-in for additional cost.

16th Annual La Crosse Lenten Luncheon – Mar 20

Bishop William Patrick Callahan and Catholic Charities cordially invite you to the 16th Annual La Crosse Lenten Luncheon on Wednesday, March 20, 2024! Gourmet soup, salad and bread will be served. We will be honoring our In My Name Award recipient, Sr. Catherine Kaiser, FSPA and our Bill Medland Faithful Servant Award recipients Dan and Mary Mundt Reckase! Cost is \$30.00 per person or reserve a table of 4 for \$120.00. Please **RSVP** online at <https://cclse.org/la-crosse-lenten-luncheon/> by March 15 as seating is limited.

Celebrate Life Convention - Abby Johnson Event – Apr 13

The La Crosse Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (LCDCCW) is hosting their biennial convention on April 13, 2024, at the Radisson Hotel in La Crosse. We are encouraging everyone to purchase a ticket for the event, attend the full day or just the luncheon to hear the guest speaker Abby Johnson.

Abby Johnson is the author of Unplanned, which was made into a movie of the same name. Ms. Johnson was a Planned Parenthood Director for many years. After witnessing an abortion on ultrasound Abby changed her position on abortion. Her testimony is powerful, join us in hearing her important message. For registration and more information visit www.ldccw.org



Activity Corner

ABRAHAM'S SACRIFICE PUZZLE

Do the math! Answer the math problems to find the right words to fit in the spaces to answer the questions!

God wanted to test Abraham's faith.
He told him to sacrifice his only son, Isaac.

Did Abraham trust in God? $\frac{\quad}{3-3=}$

Did God let Abraham sacrifice his son,
or did he stop him?

He $\frac{\quad}{3+4=}$ $\frac{\quad}{6+4=}$ and $\frac{\quad}{5-1=}$ a

$\frac{\quad}{5-3=}$ $\frac{\quad}{1+5=}$

0 YES	4 SENT	8 BURNED
1 NO	5 KILLED	9 SWORD
2 SHEEP	6 INSTEAD	10 HIM
3 COW	7 STOPPED	



Answer: Yes, He stopped him and sent a sheep instead.

Fish Frynder is Live!

For a complete list of all diocesan parish Lenten meals, organized by day, visit the Fish Frynder at diolc.org/fishfrynder or by using your smartphone's camera to scan the QR code to the right above.



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@mwt.net

The Second Week of Lent

REPENT

Meditations for the
Season of Lent

AND BELIEVE

He Was Transformed Before Them

Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him up the mountain where he was transfigured before them. When the experience was over, Jesus told them not to say anything about what they saw until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept silent, but the three of them couldn't help but talk to themselves about what rising from the dead could mean.



As Catholics in a modern world, we can still empathize with the disciples' confusion. Like them, we don't have any scientific understanding of what occurred to Jesus and we discuss what resurrection will really mean for us.

The Transfiguration is a powerful reminder that death is not the end of life. If death meant complete annihilation, then Elijah and Moses would not have appeared with Jesus. In this way, the Transfiguration foreshadows the Resurrection. Although the apostles didn't understand what was happening at the time, later, when the Son of Man had risen from the dead, they were able to understand what the Transfiguration meant.

During this second week of Lent, we are asked to think about how we can be transformed through the power of the risen Lord, and we are reminded that one day, we, too, will be resurrected.

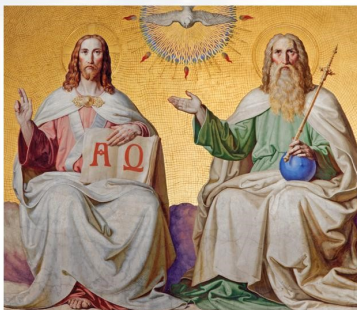
POINTS TO PONDER

- What would I like transformed in my life by Easter?
- As I look over my life, what are some areas where God has already transformed me? Give thanks for those transformations and for those yet to come.
- What is one sacrificial action I can perform this week?

CATHOLIC INSIGHTS

The Last Four Things

St. Alphonsus Liguori recommended that we contemplate the “last four things” especially during Lent. These are: death, judgment, heaven, and hell. While talking about these with children can be difficult, parents can use the season of Lent as a way to gently introduce the topics. One aspect to emphasize is that heaven, as Pope St. John Paul II said, is not “an abstraction



nor a physical place in the clouds, but a living, personal relationship with the Holy Trinity.” Heaven, then, is living an eternity in the presence of and in relationship with our loving God. Likewise, the Church teaches that hell is not so much a physical place, but the choice to turn away from God and the deep pain of separation from our Lord (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1033).

Images: Thinkstock, Shutterstock



FamilyActivity

Stations of the Cross

Did you know you can create your own Stations of the Cross? While many Stations in churches are elaborate and ornate, all that is required is to have 14 crosses, preferably wooden, located so that you can take a step or two between each one. As a family activity, create 14 crosses from small twigs or branches and place them in a line in your backyard or living room. Walk together as a family, remembering the events of the Passion. At each cross, bow or kneel and say, “Because, by your Holy Cross, you have redeemed the world.”

CatechismCONNECTION

“Christ’s Passion is the will of the Father: the Son acts as God’s servant; the cloud indicates the presence of the Holy Spirit. “The whole Trinity appeared: the Father in the voice; the Son in the man; the Spirit in the shining cloud.”

— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 555

LENT PRAYER

**Unto to you,
I cry, my God!**

“Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.”
— 1 Corinthians 15:51–52

Dear God, I don't know what lies ahead for me, but I trust that your love will be with me now and until the end of time.



The traditional location for the Mount of Transfiguration is Mount Tabor, about 11 miles west of the Sea of Galilee. Mount Tabor rises about 1,800 feet above the level plain below. It was identified as the site of the Transfiguration as early as the third century by the theologian Origen. The Church of the Transfiguration, a Franciscan church built on the ruins of a centuries-old Byzantine church, now stands at the summit of Mount Tabor.

“Once again Lent comes to make its prophetic appeal, to remind us that it is possible to create something new within ourselves and around us.”

— Pope Francis

