



# St. Mary Parish

900 Central Ave, Coon Valley, WI 54623

**Fr. Joe Richards, Pastor | Dcn. Tony Shay**

January 25, 2025 | Third Sunday in Ordinary Time | Reading 584A

## 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

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

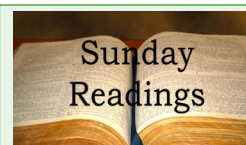
### Fr. Joe also serving:

**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



**January 25, 2025**  
 1) Isaiah 8:23-9:3  
 2) 1 Corinthians 1:10-13  
 3) Matthew 4:12-23

### Intentions / Schedule

#### **SATURDAY, January 24**

*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

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

Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Robert Kerska

#### **SUNDAY, January 25**

*Third Sunday in Ordinary Time*

- 8:00am Mass - † Jim Callan

Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Ryan Goodwin

Money Counters: Loree Nickelotti and Curt Horman

#### **TUESDAY, January 27**

*St. Angela Merici*

- 4:30pm Adoration

- 5:15pm Mass - For the Priest

#### **THURSDAY, January 29**

*Weekday*

- 8:00am Mass - For the Bishop

#### **SATURDAY, January 31**

*Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

- 4:00pm Mass - For the People

Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Nancy Peters

#### **SUNDAY, February 1**

*Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

- 8:00am Mass - † For the Souls of Purgatory

Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Marlene Humfeld

Money Counters: Steve Grabowski and Bernie Roesler

### **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.

### **Upcoming Events/Calendar**

- **Jan 25** ~ Encounter Class (middle school) 9-10:15 in Viroqua
- **Jan 26** ~ **Men's Club Meeting**, 6 PM (\*updated time)
- **Jan 31/Feb 1** ~ Special collection for Catholic Campaign for Human Development
- **Feb 1** ~ Rel. Ed (FoF) after 10:30 AM Mass in Viroqua
- **Feb 8** ~ Encounter Class (middle school) 9-10:15 in Viroqua
- **Feb 14/15** ~ Birthright Baby Bottle Campaign begins
- **Feb 15** ~ Rel Ed (FoF) Activity after 8 AM Mass ~ Parish Social after Mass by the St. Theresea Guild
- **Feb 16** ~ PCCW Meeting at 5:30 PM
- **Feb 18** ~ Ash Wednesday
- **Feb 19** ~ Coffee and Fellowship after Mass
- **Feb 22** ~ Encounter Class (middle school) 9-10:15 in Viroqua
- **Feb 25** ~ Community Dinner at CV Lutheran Church all are welcome to attend, 5-7 PM We are cohosting!

### Mass Intentions

Below are open dates for the next few months.

**Open Sat. and Sun. dates:** Mar 14, 28 & 29.  
 Apr 11 or 12, 18, 25 & 26.

**Open Weekdays:** Feb 10, 12, 17, 18, 19, 24, & 26. Mar 3, 5, 12, 24, 26 & 31.

Request a specific date by filling out an intention envelope or by emailing the office. Suggested stipend amount is \$20 per Mass. If you have questions feel free to email the office at [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net) or voice message 608-452-3841.



### **Inspired by the Spirit Campaign**

5 Year Goal : \$105,000.00

As of January 22, 2026

Pledges received (30): \$109,520.00

**Payments received: \$70,286.50**

**THANK YOU!**

A breakdown of how the Inspired by the Spirit Campaign funds have been allocated is posted in the back of the church.



### **Needed this Month**

\$8,000.00 at \$2000 per week

\$3,699.00 Received as of week 3

**(\$4,301.00) Difference for the Month**

### Annual Appeal 2025-2026

As of 1/22/2026	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$11,325.00	\$8,866.69
Target Amount	<u>\$14,565.00</u>	<u>\$14,565.00</u>
<b>Under Target</b>	<b>(\$3,240.00)</b>	<b>(\$5,698.31)</b>
Percent Pledged: 77.75% , Percent Received: 60.88%		
Number Contributing: 23		
To donate online, visit: <a href="https://diolc.org/stewardship/">https://diolc.org/stewardship/</a> and in the drop down box choose: 2025(445) St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley		

Giving Last Week			1/18/2026
Adult Env (31)	\$1,055.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	<u>259.00</u>	Received This Week	\$1,314.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,314.00</b>	Total needed	\$6,000.00
		YTD Received	\$3,699.00
Food Pantry	\$65.00	Difference	(2,301.00)

## From the Pastor

Hello friends,

This last week we prayed a special Mass on Thursday – every January 22, the calendar anniversary of the Supreme Court’s original decision in *Roe v. Wade* to allow abortion up to the point of viability in a pregnancy, the Church in the United States holds a special day of prayer for the protection of the unborn. I think it’s pretty well established in most folks’ attention that respect for and protection of human life from conception to natural death is critically important to the Catholic Church. This all stems from a Catholic anthropology (the study of the human person) that understands the human person as being made in the image and likeness of God, a union of body and soul that comes together at the moment of conception (not at any point afterward) and lasts all the way until death (when body and soul are separated for a time, but not forever). Much social action has sprung out of the Catholic Church over the last fifty or so years since this initial decision, and our ongoing prayer and work for the preservation, protection, restoration and renewal of human life remains a major part of the Church’s life in the world.

Anyhow, on Thursday we came together to pray this Mass and entrust this work to the Lord. It made me recall back in 2022 when *Roe v. Wade* was overturned and the authority to make decisions about abortion went back to individual states, being struck by an important reality – even while there is some real sense of “victory” or “accomplishment” in the overturning of such a charged decision that so many people have been engaging for so many years, the fact remained that families and women and children in crisis on June 23 would still be in crisis on June 25. The responsibility still stood and is still often taken up by the Lord’s people to care for and accompany these people in their very real needs, for us, as Pope Francis liked to say, to go out to the peripheries.

I think this all highlights the beauty of the Church’s social teaching – when we do things well, we are not pretending that a decision or the presentation of a fact is all it takes to assist and accompany souls. As Pope Benedict elegantly put it in the opening of his powerful letter *Caritas in Veritate* (Charity in Truth), “Love – *caritas* – is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace.” Through my years actively serving the Church, I am grateful to have witnessed powerful responses to the Lord awakening His Church to His people’s needs. More work remains to do, a truth that will stand until the end of all time – just as much as ever before, the perennial question for us to ask in any given moment is not “Lord, how will you fix things?” but “Lord, what do you ask of me right now?”

God bless you,

Fr. Joe

## Parish Announcements

### A Note of Gratitude - Digital Sign Project

With grateful hearts, we thank **John Roesler**, our Buildings and Grounds volunteer, for his generous and faithful service to St. Mary Parish during the installation of our new digital sign. Through his willingness to assist with contractor communication, careful coordination, and by giving of his time — even in bitter cold temperatures. His dedication and quiet stewardship are a blessing to our parish community, and we are deeply thankful for the gifts he so generously shares.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to the **Parish Finance Council** (Mary Gajewski, John Mislivecek, and Nancy Peters) for their diligent and thoughtful service throughout this project. Their commitment to responsible stewardship of parish funds helped ensure this project was completed in a prudent and faithful manner. We are grateful for their continued dedication to serving the needs of our parish with integrity and care.

Finally, we thank you, **our parishioners**, for your continued prayers, generosity, and support. It is through the shared gifts of our parish family that projects like this become possible, strengthening our community and our mission together.

### 2025 Contribution Statements

Contribution statements are available for pickup this weekend, January 17–18, 2026. If you cannot locate your statement or if you have questions or concerns, feel free to leave a message at the parish office. 608-452-3841 or email: [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net). Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

### An Invitation—Novena to St. Joseph beginning Jan 25

Beginning on Sunday, January 25th, the women of our parishes are all invited to pray the Novena to St. Joseph together, asking for his loving, fatherly intercession in the lives all of the men and boys in our parishes. The novena will conclude on Monday, February 2nd, which the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord (the 4th Joyful Mystery!). If you've never prayed a novena before, it is simply 9 days of specific prayers for a particular petition, or in preparation for a feast day. If you are interested in joining us in this time of prayer, there are copies available in the back of the church. You can also find the novena online at <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/st-joseph-full-novena-13879>. God bless you!

### A Table Together – Free Community Dinner - Feb 25

Questions, contact [meals@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org](mailto:meals@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org). See the flyer posted in the back of the church.

~**The February 25** Table Together meal will be cohosted by **St Mary Parish** at Coon Valley Lutheran Church. Food donations and workers will be needed. More information will be provided soon.

### Official from the Diocese

The Most Reverend Gerard W. Battersby, D.D., Bishop of La Crosse, makes the following announcements: His Holiness, Pope Leo XIV has bestowed the papal honor of Chaplain to His Holiness, with the title monsignor, to the **Reverend Monsignor William A. Dhein**, effective December 22, 2025.



## Diocesan/Community Announcements

### Human Trafficking Prevention Month

January is Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Learn more about the vast, tragic reality of human trafficking, and what you can do to make a difference, by visiting [uscgb.org/offices/migration-refugee-services/human-trafficking](https://uscgb.org/offices/migration-refugee-services/human-trafficking)

**World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life** will be celebrated in parishes on the weekend of Jan. 31-Feb. 1. Please pray for all those who have answered the call to consecrated life, aspiring towards joyful holiness in the service of the Church and world. Pray also for many more laborers to enter the vineyard so that Jesus Christ may be better known, experienced and loved.

### Sign up for the 2026 La Crosse SEEK Conference

SEEK is a national conference for an encounter with God, personal transformation, and growth in community! This year we are bringing it locally to La Crosse at the UW-La Crosse Student Union! There will be 23 different talks from Catholic speakers like Bart Schuchts, founder of the Church on Fire Ministry and associated with the John Paul II Healing Center, Bishop Battersby, and others including some from our own diocese. There is a specific track of talks for parishioners like you! SEEK is for everyone to attend: college students, families, and adults (under 18 years old must be accompanied by an adult). SEEK is a 4-day conference adapted to fit most work and school schedules! It is January 29 - February 1: Thursday and Friday evenings, Saturday all day, and Sunday morning. The price is \$50 for the entire event. There will be an optional free child care on Saturday, January 31. Please register on the Roncalli Newman or Blessed Sacrament websites or use the QR Code.



### Heritage Bake Sale - Feb 7

Stop by Blessed Sacrament Parish in La Crosse from 9 AM to 1 PM on Saturday, Feb 7 for some cultural goodies. Featuring Norwegian Lefse and Sandbakkels, Bohemian Kolaches, American Pie, Polis Pierogies, Upper Peninsula pastries and other delicious sweets.

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter is coming to the Diocese of La Crosse | Feb. 13-15, 2026 | Sparrow's Nest, Sparta

Looking for a way to rekindle the love and romance in your marriage? This powerful experience of discovery helps you renew your commitment, deepen your intimacy and reignite the passion that brought you together. Space is limited apply for the weekend by visiting: <https://www.me.org/> to save your spot!

### Evangelization Summit—Mar 10

**Registration Open!** Our first Evangelization Summit will be this Lent during the day on Tuesday, March 10, at Mary Mother of the Church in La Crosse. This will be an opportunity for those excited about being on mission to gather together, support each other, learn and grow in forming disciples who make disciples. <https://diolc.org/rebuildmychurch/updates/>

**Embracing the Call to Holiness** – The Eau Claire Deanery and the La Crosse Diocesan Council of Catholic Women jointly sponsor the “Call to Holiness” A Woman’s Retreat day being hosted by St. James the Greater Catholic Church in Eau Claire on **March 14, 2026**. Registration forms are located on the tables in the back of church, **early bird registration ends February 15th**. Women from all over the diocese are welcome to attend

### Men of the Cross: Forged for Mission | March 21, 2026 | Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

Men of the Diocese of La Crosse! This is your invitation to step

## Diocesan/Local Announcements continued

away from the noise of daily life and be renewed in faith, brotherhood, and purpose. Join other Catholic men for a powerful day of encouragement and formation as we grow stronger as disciples, husbands, fathers, and leaders forged for mission.

**Featured Speaker:** Bart Schuchts. **Mass Celebrant:** Fr. Sam Martin. **Cost:** \$45 (includes breakfast & lunch). **High School Men:** Attend FREE with a parent/guardian

## Activity Corner

### Unscramble and Fill in the Blanks:

A Prophecy about Jesus...



he people who walked in \_ \_ \_ \_ \_  
have seen a great light;  
upon those who dwelt in a land of gloom  
a \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ has shone.

You have brought them abundant \_ \_ \_  
and great rejoicing  
as they rejoice before you as at the \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ,  
as people make merry when dividing spoils.

For the \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ that burdened them,  
the pole on their shoulder,  
and the rod of their taskmaster  
you have \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ,  
as on the day at Midian.

Unscramble the words below to fill in the blanks in the prophecy from today's first reading.

OJY KOEY SSNAKDRE  
GLTHI EHSMSAD ASEVHRT

**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

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Submit a registration by mail, or e-mail to both [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net) AND [jrichards@diolclergy.org](mailto:jrichards@diolclergy.org) 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.