

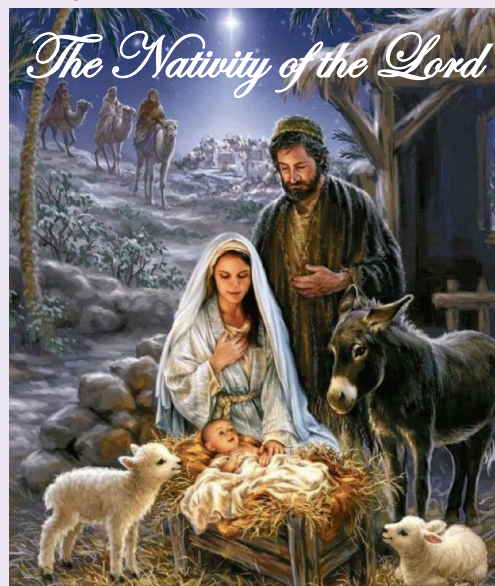
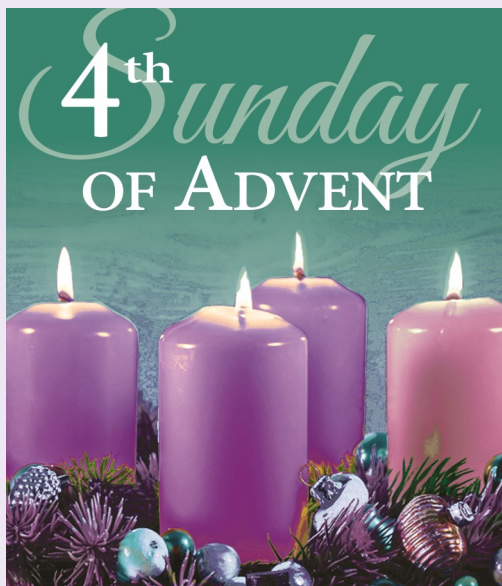
St. Mary Parish

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

December 24 & 25, 2023 - Readings: 487B, 489, & 490



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 fatherjoerichards@gmail.com 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
Fourth Sunday of Advent and the Nativity of the Lord

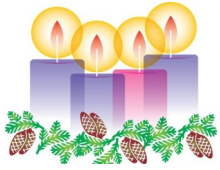
Sunday Readings
 December 24, 24(Vigil) and
 25 (Midnight), 2023

1) 2 Samuel 7:1-5; 2) Romans 16:25; 3) Luke 1:26-28
 1) Isaiah 62; 1-5; 2) Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; 3) Matt 1:1-12
 1) Isaiah 9:1-16; 2) Titus 2:11-14; 3) Luke 2:1-14

Upcoming Events/Calendar

- Dec 24/25 ~ *update* **Christmas Eve 4:00 PM and 12:00 AM (midnight)**
- Dec 25 ~ Christmas Mass in Viroqua 10:30 AM 
- Jan 01 ~ **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**
8:00 AM in Coon Valley and 10:30 AM in Viroqua
- Jan 1-5 ~ *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 ~ RE monthly activity after the 8 AM Mass in Coon Valley
- Jan 22 ~ PCCW Meeting 5:30 PM

Intentions / Schedule

SATURDAY, December 23
 4th Sunday of Advent
 -4: 00pm Mass - Our Parish Family 

SUNDAY, December 24
 4th Sunday of Advent
 -8:30am Mass - Special Intention
 Money Counters: Mike Kammel and Mark Boland

SUNDAY, December 24
The Nativity of the Lord / Christmas Vigil
 - 4:00pm Mass - † Bernard and Cecilia Humfeld
 Altar Servers: LeJeune Family
 Lectors: Marlene Humfeld and Nancy Peters
 Music: Beth Lakman Ushers: Volunteers

MONDAY, December 25
The Nativity of the Lord / Christmas at Midnight
 -12:00am Mass - † Deceased member of the Roskos and Roningen Families
 Altar Server: Seth Kiedinger Lector: Matt Tubbin
 Music: Linda Schulte Ushers: Volunteers

TUESDAY, December 26
 -5:15pm Mass - † Edward and Anna Kerska


THURSDAY, December 28
 -8:00am Mass - † David Holte

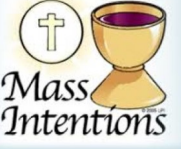
SATURDAY, December 30
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
 -4: 00pm Mass - † Deceased member of the Roskos and Roningen Families
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Nancy Peters

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

CONFESSIONS


Tuesday: after 5:15 pm Mass
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 or leave a message at 608-452-3841.

 **Inspired by the Spirit Campaign**

5 Year Goal : \$105,000.00
 As of December 20, 2023
Pledges received (30): \$109,020.00
 Payments received: \$35,042.50
WE HAVE EXCEEDED THE GOAL!
THANK YOU!

 **Needed this Month**

\$10,000.00	at \$2000 per week
\$5,370.10	Received as of week 3
(\$4,629.90)	Short for the Month

Annual Appeal 2023-24

As of 12/20/23	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$7,715.00	\$6,565.00
Target Amount	\$14,515.00	\$14,515.00
Under Target	(\$6,800.00)	(\$7, 950.00)
Percent Pledged: 53.15%, Percent Received: 45.23%		
Number Contributing:	18	

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.

Giving Last Week

			12/17/2023
Adult Env(30)	\$940.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	\$265.00	Received This Week	\$1,235.00
Total	\$1,235.00	Running total needed	\$102,000.00
		YTD Received	\$91,156.97
Flowers(1)	\$20.00	Difference	(10,843.03)
Retire Fund Rel	\$30.00		

From the Pastor

Hello friends,

You very well may be reading this during our very short Fourth Week of Advent (Saturday at 4:00 until Sunday at 3:59:59.99), so I'll refrain for the moment from wishing you a Merry Christmas. During these last few hours of Advent, I'll wish you a blessed remainder of this invitational season and share an opportunity that may be relevant to you – Retrouvaille. The Diocese's chancery bulletin (a weekly publication with updates and business from around our home turf) just posted the following:



- Marriage in Distress? No matter how hopeless it seems, forgiveness and trust are possible. Retrouvaille is a Catholic-based program that helps couples through difficult times in their marriages, some even after separation or divorce. It is not counseling or group therapy. The next program begins with a weekend on February 16-18, 2024 in the Wausau area. Call 1-877-922-HOPE (4673). Fully Confidential. More at www.HelpOurMarriage.org.



I haven't personally helped with a Retrouvaille weekend, but after first hearing about it back in seminary from one of my trusted moral theology professors I've been sold. Since then, I've received testimony from several couples to highly recommend the program as a powerful tool that helped them (that is to say, saved their relationship) when they were in a particularly difficult place in their marriage. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask – I'll try my best to answer them (or more likely to help you find the answers), of course with confidentiality.

And in case you're reading this after 3:59:59 on Sunday, Merry Christmas! My last few weeks have been filled up with the beautiful grace of hearing numerous confessions around here and up in La Crosse – for me it is one of the greatest graces as we approach this Moment of Christ's light breaking into the world's and our own darkness to accompany people through their own process of owning the "here's where it hurts" and inviting the Lord to do His healing work. Thank you for your own Advent work these last few weeks – now let's tip over into Christmas with renewed joy and hope!

God bless you, Fr. Joe



Parish Announcements



Christmas Choir—All Welcome!

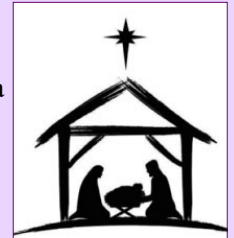
All singers are invited to join the choir for Christmas. Please arrive 30 minutes early to prepare and start singing a few songs before Mass. Hark The Herald, St. Mary's Angels Sing!! Thank you Everyone.

2024 Contribution Envelopes and Calendars

Both are now available in the back of church. Envelopes are in alphabetical order for ease of pickup. Thank you for your continued support. 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

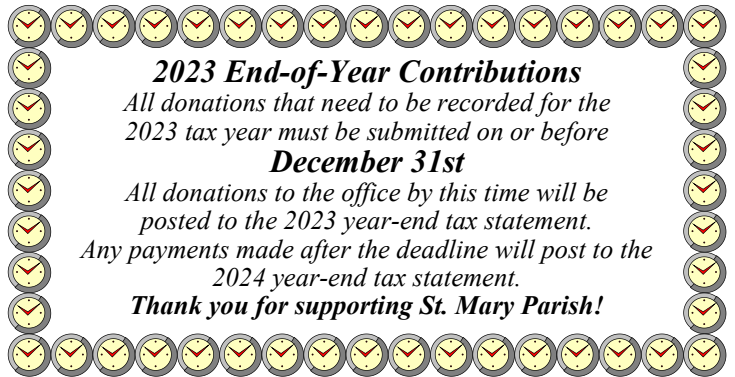
Christmas Mass Times

- * December 24-Vigil Mass in Coon Valley at 4:00 PM
- * December 24-Vigil Mass in Viroqua at 6:30 PM
- * December 25-Midnight Mass in Coon Valley at 12:00 AM
- * December 25-Mass in Viroqua at 10:30 AM



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!



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.

Christmas Flower Offering

Thank you to all who have donated thus far. These donations will help make our church beautiful this Christmas season. The names of those donated in memory/honor of will be published in the bulletin on December 31st. Envelopes for Christmas Flower donations are available at the entrances of Church and can be dropped in the collection baskets at Mass. This is a lovely way to acknowledge someone special this Christmas!



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/>

Bishop Callahan Advent Remarks

“As the year draws to a close and the hopes for 2024 dawn, I am grateful to have the opportunity to pass along my own Advent greetings to you...” Please view Bishop Callahan’s Advent remarks by visiting <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e0cKXO0q9t8> or by using your smartphone’s camera to scan the QR code to the right



“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/>



Post-Abortion Healing Retreats - Rachel’s Vineyard - Encounter God’s Mercy

Rachel’s Vineyard is a weekend retreat to help anyone who has struggled with the aftermath of abortion to begin healing through a supportive, trauma-sensitive approach. Each weekend is run by a team of trained volunteers (counselor, priest, and lay people), who care deeply for your needs. All interactions with the Rachel’s Vineyard retreat team are completely confidential. These retreats will be offered in the Diocese of Madison on March 15-17, 2024, and Nov. 8-10 2024. For more information, visit madisondiocese.org/rachel

A Minute with Jesus

Jesus came into the world to save us.



Jesus was born in Bethlehem, which means “house of bread.” Because there was no room in the inn (motel) Jesus was born in a stable and laid in a manger, which is significant because it is a feeding trough for animals. This was all part of God’s plan for His birth on earth, to point to the fact that Jesus came to save us. This is really the whole meaning of Christmas. Jesus came to give us Himself as food – He literally is the Bread of Life – supernatural bread (this is Jesus Himself) that saves us, that spiritually nourishes and strengthens us with His grace.

- Let’s pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, thank You for coming into the world as our Savior.
- This week, read how the birth of Jesus took place in Luke 2: 1-7

Activity Corner



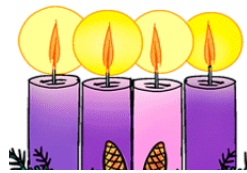
Who did What?

Write the number of the person beside what they did in the Christmas Story.

1. Saint Joseph —Announced the joyful news of the Saviour’s birth
2. Our Lady —Commanded that everyone register in their hometown
3. The Shepherds —Did not have room for the man and his wife
4. The Angels —Took his wife to Bethlehem
5. The Innkeeper —Pondered all these things in her heart
6. Baby Jesus —Went to find the newborn Saviour
7. The Emperor —Came to save the people from their sins



Answers: 4, 7, 5, 1, 2, 3, 6



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