



St. Mary Parish

900 Central Ave, Coon Valley, WI 54623

Fr. Joe Richards, Pastor | Dcn. Tony Shay

March 01, 2025 | Second Sunday of Lent | Reading 505A

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

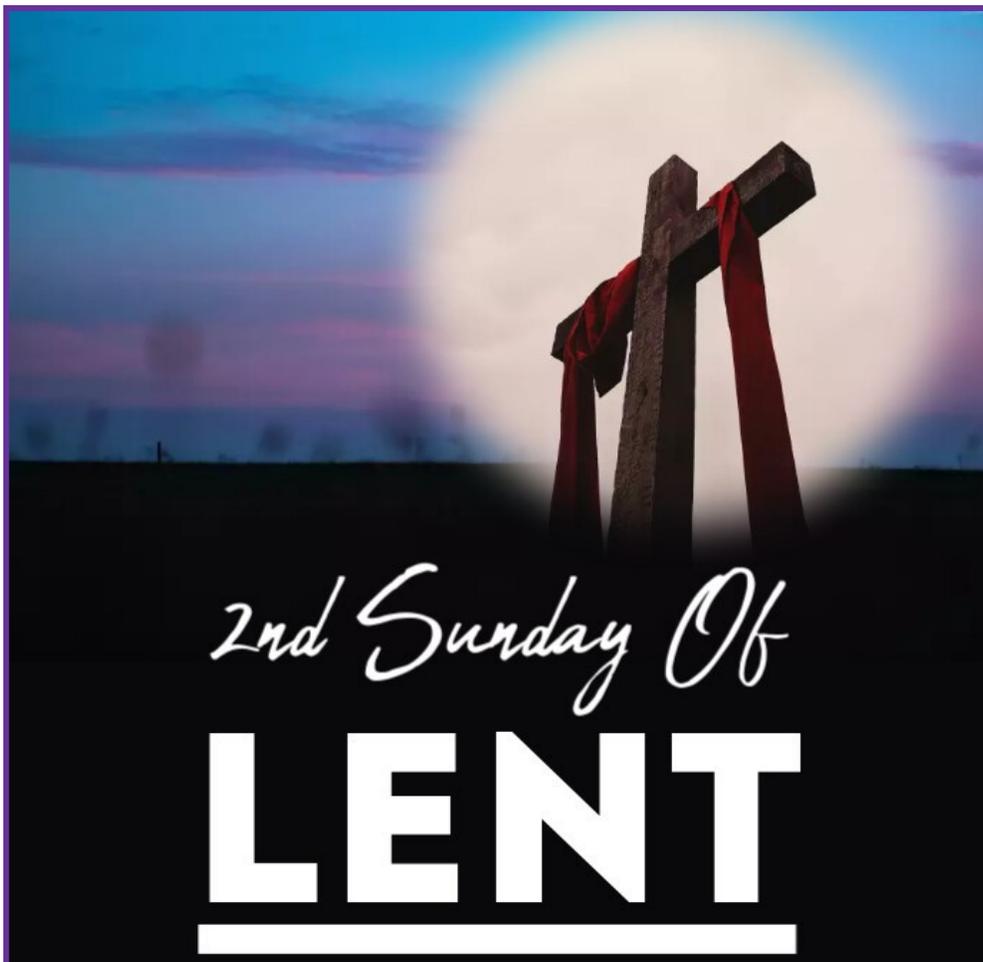
Thursday | 8:00am

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



March 01, 2026
 1) Genesis 12:1-4
 2) Timothy 1:8b-10
 3) Matthew 17:1-9

Intentions / Schedule

SATURDAY, February 28

Second Sunday of Lent

- 4:00pm Mass - † Edwin and Anna Sedevie
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Jeana LeJeune

SUNDAY, March 01

Second Sunday of Lent

-8:00am Mass - George Fleming and Families
 (living and deceased)
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Volunteer

Money Counters: Steve Grabowski and Bernie Roesler

TUESDAY, March 03

St Katharine Drexel

- 4:30pm Adoration
 - 5:15pm Stations of the Cross followed by Mass
 - Mass - † Manfred Werner

THURSDAY, March 05

Lent Weekday

- 8:00am Mass - † Ursula Werner

SATURDAY, March 07

Third Sunday of Lent

- 4:00pm Mass - † Edward and Anna Kerska
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Robert Kerska

SUNDAY, March 08

Third Sunday of Lent

-8:00am Mass - † Kylie Von Ruden
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Ryan Goodwin

Money Counters: Loree Nickelotti, Rodney and Kathy Berg

Upcoming Events/Calendar

- **Mar 1** ~ Rel. Ed (FoF) after 10:30 AM Mass in Viroqua
 ~ Discussion of Fratelli Tutti 11:45AM-1PM in Viroqua
 ~ 1st Communion class 11:45AM-12:45PM in Viroqua
- **Mar 3** ~ Adoration at 4:30 PM, *Stations of the Cross* at 5:15 PM followed by Mass
 ~ Finance Council Meeting 5:45 PM (after Mass)
- **Mar 5** ~ Discussion of Fratelli Tutti 6:30-8 PM in Viroqua
- **Mar 6** ~ Registration Deadline for Camp Gray Middle School Retreat March 13-15, 2026
- **Mar 8** ~ Daylight Savings begins at 2:00 AM
 ~ Encounter Class (middle school) 9-10:15 in Viroqua
 ~ 1st Communion class 11:45AM-12:45PM in Viroqua
 ~ Discussion of Fratelli Tutti 11:45AM-1PM in Viroqua
- **Mar 10** ~ Adoration at 4:30 PM, *Stations of the Cross* at 5:15 PM followed by Mass
- **Mar 12** ~ Coffee and Fellowship after 8 AM Mass
 ~ Discussion of Fratelli Tutti 6:30-8 PM in Viroqua
- **Mar 13** ~ **John Ritter** visitation at Seland Funeral Home 4-7 PM, with prayer service at 7 PM.
- **Mar 15** ~ Parish Social after Mass by the St. Rose Guild
 ~ 1st Communion class 11:45AM-12:45PM in Viroqua
- **Mar 15-20** ~ Fr. Joe on PTO - No weekday Masses
- **Mar 17** ~ Adoration at 4:30 PM, *Stations of the Cross* at 5:15 PM followed by Mass
- **March FoF Community Volunteer** Activity date TBD
- **Mar 19** ~ Discussion of Fratelli Tutti 6:30-8 PM in Viroqua

Mass Intentions

Below are open dates for the next few months.

Open Sat. and Sun. dates: Apr 26, May 2 or 3, 16, 17, 24, 30 & 31, Jun 21 & 29.

Open Weekdays: Apr 9, 16, 23, & 28, May 5, 7, 12, 19, 26 and 28, Jun 2, 16, 18, 23, 25, & 30.



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 stmarysev@mwt.net or voice message 608-452-3841.



Inspired by the Spirit Campaign

5 Year Goal : \$105,000.00
 As of February 27, 2026
 Pledges received (30): \$109,520.00
Payments received: \$71,203.50
 THANK YOU!

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



Needed last Month	
\$8,000.00	at \$2000 per week
\$8,939.24	Received as of week 4
\$939.24	Difference for the Month

Giving Last Week		2/22/2026	
Adult Env (36)	2,585.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	464.09	Received This Week	\$3,154.09
Memorial	25.00	Total needed	\$16,000.00
Cath Life Mag(3)	80.00	YTD Received	\$14,822.24
Total	\$3,154.09	Difference	(1,177.76)
Ash Wed (for Works of Charity)			
Ash Wed Env(17)	\$345.00	Ash Wed Offertory	\$248.75

Annual Appeal 2025-2026		
As of 2/27/2026	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$17,525.00	\$12,186.69
Target Amount	\$14,565.00	\$14,565.00
Over/Under Target	\$2,960.00	(\$2,378.31)
Percent Pledged: 120.32% , Percent Received: 83.67%		
Number Contributing: 25		
To donate online, visit: https://diolc.org/stewardship/ and in the drop down box choose: 2025(445) St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley		

From the Pastor

Hello friends,

Thank you for following me into this season with the Litany of Humility – given a few spiritual experiences last weekend (and running generally right now), I see the Lord working in a peculiar way right now – I don't know the exact plot points He's drawing out, but I know He's telling a story. Humility is a powerful virtue and a root of all other virtues. It is the counter to first the devil's and then Adam and Eve's sin, pride (turning away from God and turning in on themselves, with sprinklings of anger and envy and shame mixed in). Very importantly, following Philippians 2: 6-11, humility is the hallmark of the Incarnation – of God becoming one of us, suffering, dying, and rising from the dead. I think that's a good angle from which to approach this – humility is not a matter of shame for personal failure, since in that way Jesus had nothing to be ashamed of. To borrow again from C.S. Lewis, humility is "not thinking less of oneself, but thinking of oneself less." Another descriptor I like to employ is that humility is coming to know myself in the same way God knows me – that can entail a lot of purification in my self-knowledge.

Anyhow, I'd like to share the elements of this prayer with you here for your own continued work – I'll keep giving you the prompts, but here it all is in writing. To "O Jesus, meek and humble of heart," the response is "hear me." The response "Deliver me O Jesus" answers the following lines: "From the desire of being esteemed...from the desire of being loved...from the desire of being extolled (that is, glorified)...from the desire of being honored...from the desire of being praised...from the desire of being preferred to others...from the desire of being consulted...from the desire of being approved...from the fear of being humiliated...from the fear of being despised...from the fear of suffering rebukes...from the fear of being calumniated (that is, defamed/spoken about falsely), from the fear of being forgotten, from the fear of being ridiculed...from the fear of being wronged...from the fear of being suspected." The response "Jesus grant me the grace to desire it" answers the following lines: "That others may be loved more than I...that others may be esteemed more than I...that in the opinion of the world others may increase and I may decrease...that others may be chosen and I set aside...that others may be praised and I go unnoticed...that others may be preferred to me in everything...that others may become holier than I, provided that I may become as holy as I should."

Again, this whole prayer and process is about freedom – chipping away at those places where I have grown accustomed to earning love, grappling for position, preempting criticism with perfectionism. It's all about letting go of my controlling these places and letting myself simply receive and (just as importantly) give. Freedom, wholeheartedness, holiness, humility, these are all interrelated in the one Good Lord's good grace.

God bless you all, Fr. Joe

Parish Announcements

Table Together Update

The Table Together meal at Coon Valley Lutheran Church this past Wednesday was a huge success thanks to all our volunteers. We served **102 bowls** of chili and potato soup and even more if we count those who came back for seconds. A **HUGE THANK YOU** needs to go to all the St. Mary Parishioners who donated food and/or worked at this community event. Without you this event could not have happened.

Diocesan Annual Appeal Update – Thank You!

Thanks be to God and to your generosity, we have exceeded our Diocesan Annual Appeal goal through pledges by 20%! We are deeply grateful to everyone who has already made a gift or pledge. A reminder that all funds received at the Diocese **over our parish goal are returned to us in full and untaxed**, meaning they are not included in future diocesan quota calculations or future appeal calculations. **Every dollar received above the goal directly benefits our parish.**

If you have not yet made a gift, there is still time to participate and help increase the amount returned to St. Mary Parish. If you have already pledged, please remember to complete your payments so we can receive the full rebate. Thank you for your continued generosity and commitment to our parish and the wider Church.

The Birthright Baby Bottle Campaign

 Birthright provides love and support to women facing pregnancy, reminding them they are not alone. Please fill a bottle with loose change or cash and return it by Sunday, March 15, 2025. Envelopes are available; make checks payable to Birthright. Thank you for your life-affirming support of mothers, fathers, and babies.

Grief Share - Support Group Begins Mar 10

Grief is a journey. No matter how long it has been since losing a loved one, grief can greatly affect your life. Grief Share is a 13-week support program, that is hosted jointly with Viroqua and Coon Valley Parishes. **For more information about the program and to learn how to register, pick up a flyer from the back of church.** If there is someone you know who may benefit from Grief Share, please invite him or her to attend. **All are welcome!**

When: Tuesdays 5 - 7 pm, Mar 10 to Jun 2, 2026

Where: Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, 400 Congress Ave. Viroqua, WI 54665



Lenten Giving Opportunities CRS Rice Bowl & MCA Mite Boxes



This Lent, help support those in need around the world through CRS Rice Bowl and the Missionary Childhood Association (MCA) Mite Boxes. Rice bowls and mite boxes are available in the back of church. Please collect loose change or cash throughout Lent and return your donations on Easter Sunday. Your generosity will assist impoverished children and families across the globe. To learn more and read this week's Story of Hope, visit crsricebowl.org.

Diocesan/Local Announcements

Looking for a Fish Fry this Friday?

The Fish Frynder is the Diocese of La Crosse's dedicated web tool for finding Lenten meals. Find upcoming fish fry's by date and location across the diocese's 19 counties.

* Official Link: diolc.org/fishfrynder

* Calendar View: diolc.org/calendar/fish-frynder

Check the info for our neighboring parishes of St. Patrick's, Onalaska (see flyer in church) and St. Charles Borromeo, Genoa.

Two Lenten Regulations:

1. Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are to abstain from meat 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.

Pancake Breakfast - Mar 1

At the Coon Valley Lutheran Church on March 1, 2026 serving from 8 AM to noon. Adults \$8, Children 6-12 \$4, and 5 and under free. All are welcome to attend!

Women's Lenten Retreat: Everyday Holiness: Finding Refreshment in Christ Saturday, March 7, 8 am to 2pm at the Cathedral of St. Joseph. This event is free. However, **you do need to RSVP by March 5.** Posters are on the bulletin board in the back of church. Sponsored by DCCW and CDA groups.

Retro Dinner - Mar 8

CV Lutheran Church is sponsoring a "Retro Dinner" from 11AM-1PM on Sun. Mar 8. Adults are \$10, Kids 6-12 are \$5, 5 and under free. All are welcome. If you bring a retro dish to pass, you will receive a \$5 off of one admission. See the flyer in the back of the church for more information.

Evangelization Summit—Mar 10, Registration Today! Our first Evangelization Summit will be this Lent during the day on Tuesday, March 10, at Mary Mother of the Church in La Crosse. <https://diolc.org/rebuildmychurch/updates/>

CV Area Baseball Association Fundraiser & Raffle - Mar 14 Saturday, March 14th at the Coon Valley American Legion Hall. Doors open at noon. Burt Ekern Memorial Euchre Tournament at 1:00. Ticket is \$20 and gets you all the Burgers, Brats and Dogs you can eat! Large Silent Auction and other games of chance. All proceeds go to support the ballfields at "The Park" in Coon Valley.

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, Women from all over the diocese are welcome to attend .

CV Lutheran Church Men's Club Fish Fry Fundraiser

Wednesday March 25 from 4:30-6:30pm the CVLC Men's Club will be holding a fish fry! The menu includes: 2 pieces of cod, broiled or batter fried, baked potato, baked beans, coleslaw and dessert. **Tickets will be presale only, they will not accept walk ins. Presale tickets end on March 14.** The cost of a ticket is \$15.00. Tickets will be sold before and after worship services or

Diocesan/Local Announcements

by contacting their church office 608-452-3772 or email: office@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org. All proceeds will support Coon Valley Lutheran Church!

A Retreat for a Parish on Mission Monsignor David Kunz will be leading a Lenten Mission at St. Teresa of Kolkata Parish, located at 210 W. Hamlin St. in West Salem, Sunday, **March 15th, through Friday, March 20th.** The times are: Sunday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m.; Monday, March 16, at 2:00 p.m.; Tuesday, March 17, at 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, March 18, at 2:00 p.m.; Thursday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m.; and Friday, March 20, at 2:00 p.m. The daytime sessions repeat the previous evening session. All are welcome. Together we can grow closer to Christ during Lent.

18th Annual La Crosse Lenten Luncheon – Mar 18

Bishop Gerard Battersby and Catholic Charities cordially invite you to the 18th Annual La Crosse Lenten Luncheon on Wednesday, March 18, 2026! Gourmet soup, salad and bread will be served. We are excited to announce that we will be honoring, Jason Larsen and Chuck and Mary Kulas. 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 Friday, March 13** as seating is limited.

Project Seed Sales Coming in the Spring

Farmers, mark your calendars for a Forage & Seed Corn sale that will be coming to several locations in spring of 2026, supported by the Diocesan Rural Life Committee, offering high-quality, low-cost seed. Seed corn is offered in both conventional and glyphosate tolerant varieties. There will be alfalfa and clover ready for sale and non-GMO seed can be ordered. Comparable yields make this seed an attractive alternative.

Sale dates and locations:

- March 14 - 10 AM-1 PM at St. Mary's Church in Richland Center
- March 21 - 10 AM-2 PM in Holy Family Hall in Stanley
- March 28 - 10:30 AM-1 PM at Fourments Farm Home Store in Colby
- April 11 - 11 AM-1 PM at Sacred Heart Church in Cassel

For more information, call Scott Mohr at 608-769-2764, or Steve Mohr at 608-780-5460.

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: Please use the registration form at: www.stmarycv.org/sacraments. Then mail or email it to stmaryscv@mwt.net and jrichards@diolclergy.org You will be contacted by the parish office to finalize your requested date.

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.

Lenten Mission Appeal: Uganda 2026

“Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.” — Matthew 25:40

Saint Francis Xavier — a missionary who crossed oceans to bring Christ's love to those in need.

This summer, **16 missionaries from our diocese — including two from our own parish** — will travel to Uganda through the Diocesan Mission Office. They will visit the village where St. Francis helped provide a well for clean water — and we have the opportunity to bless that same community during our Jubilee year.



Food Bags \$2 per family We assemble and distribute essential food bags containing: Rice, Flour, Sugar, Salt, Cooking oil and soap. Each \$2 bag feeds a family for 2-4 weeks. Any amount helps — just \$100 can feed an entire village

Mattresses \$50 sponsorship Most families sleep on the floor. A gift of \$50 sponsors one mattress, providing comfort, warmth, and dignity for a family.

Rosary Collection: We are also collecting rosaries to give to children. A rosary is a true treasure for them—often cherished for a lifetime. (New or gently used rosaries welcome.)

Donations can be placed in the designated basket or sent to the parish office.

- Checks payable to the parish with memo: Uganda Mission
- The parish will then send one check to the Mission Office.



If you prefer to purchase items for the mission team to bring, scan the QR Code for our Amazon Wish List.

Thank you for walking with us this Lent and helping bring hope, nourishment, rest, and faith to families in Uganda.

Please keep our mission team and the people of Uganda in your prayers.

Questions? Contact Julie Studinski-mission organizer

sfxknowl@mtc.net 715-693-3120



(Mission led by Fr. Woody Pace)



The #1 grief recovery program in the world.

Grief is a journey. No matter how long it has been since losing a loved one, grief can greatly affect your life, (spiritually, emotionally, physically, socially, mentally and financially).

Grief Share is a 13-week support program, that is being hosted jointly by the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Mary's Parishes. Through videos and discussions, participants will receive insight from grief experts to help navigate their grief, and meet others who share similar thoughts, feelings and experiences. Group members can share as much or little as they are comfortable with. Topics to be discussed include anger, regret, loneliness, sadness, friendships, questions for God, feeling overwhelmed, selfcare and more.

Please join us for Grief Share, where you can find comfort, strength, and hope! If there is someone you know who may benefit from Grief Share, please invite him or her to attend. All are welcome!

When: Tuesdays 5:00 - 7:00 pm
March 10th through June 2nd, 2026

Where: Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church
400 Congress Ave.
Viroqua, WI 54665

Facilitators: Janet Olmstead, AAGC Certified Grief Counselor
(608) 790-4543
Deacon Anthony Shay, Ed. D, LPC, CRC

Registration Fee: \$20.00
Financial assistance available as needed

To Register, contact the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Viroqua office at 608-637-7711, email them at: stmaryparish@mwt.net, or go to the website at www.griefshare.org