



St. Mary Parish

900 Central Ave, Coon Valley, WI 54623

Fr. Joe Richards, Pastor | Dcn. Tony Shay

January 11, 2025 | The Baptism of the Lord | Reading 498A

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

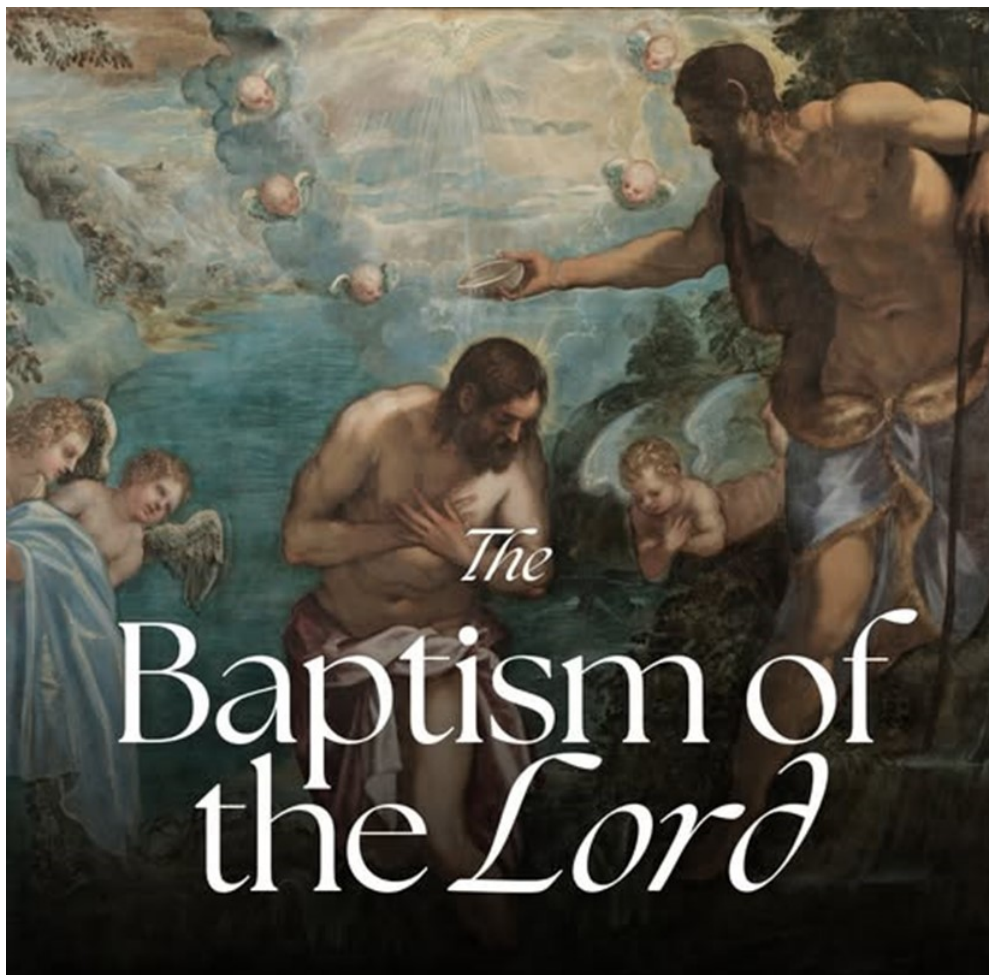
Thursday | 8:00am

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

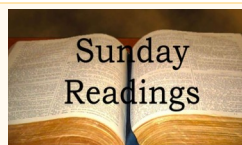
Fr. Joe also serving:

**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 11, 2025
 1) Isaiah 42 1-4
 2) Act of the Apostles 10:34-38
 3) Matthew 3:13-17

Intentions / Schedule

SATURDAY, January 10

The Baptism of the Lord

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

SUNDAY, January 11

The Baptism of the Lord

- 8:00am Mass - † Eric "Rick" Logemann
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Ryan Goodwin

Money Counters: Loree Nickelotti, Rodney and Kathy Berg

TUESDAY, January 13

St. Hillary

- 4:30pm Adoration
 - 5:15pm Mass - For the Souls in Purgatory

THURSDAY, January 15

Weekday

- 8:00am Mass - Fr. Levi Schmitt

SATURDAY, January 17

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 4:00pm Mass - † Tom Milnamow
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Nancy Peters

SUNDAY, January 18

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00am Mass - † Eric "Rick" Logemann
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Volunteer

Money Counters: Mike Kammel and Mark Boland

Upcoming Events/Calendar

- **Jan 10/11** ~ Welcome Msgr. Roger Scheckel
- **Jan 12** ~ PCCW Meeting at 5:30 PM
- **Jan 13** ~ Finance Council Meeting 5:45 PM
- **Jan 18** ~ Rel Ed (FoF) Activity after 8 AM Mass
 ~Parish Social after Mass by the St. Catherine Guild
- **Jan 25** ~ Encounter Class (middle school) 9-10:15 in Viroqua
- **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

Mass Intentions

Below are open dates for the next few months.

Open Sat. and Sun. dates: Jan 31. Mar 8, 14, 28 & 29. Apr 11

Open Weekdays: Jan 29. Feb 10, 12, 17, 18, 19, 24, & 26. Mar 3, 5, 12, 17, 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@mwat.net or voice message 608-452-3841.



The Lord was Baptized, not to be cleansed Himself, but to cleanse the waters, so that those waters, cleansed by the flesh of Christ which knew no sin, might have the power of Baptism.

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.



Inspired by the Spirit Campaign

5 Year Goal : \$105,000.00
 As of January 9, 2026
 Pledges received (30): \$109,520.00
 Payments received: \$69,861.50
THANK YOU!

Annual Appeal 2025-2026		
As of 1/9/2026	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$11,325.00	\$8,866.69
Target Amount	<u>\$14,565.00</u>	<u>\$14,565.00</u>
Under Target	(\$3,240.00)	(\$5,698.31)
Percent Pledged: 77.75% , Percent Received: 60.88%		
Number Contributing: 23		
To donate online, visit: https://diolc.org/stewardship/ and in the drop down box choose: 2025(445) St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley		

Giving Last Week		1/4/2026	
Adult Env (28)	\$1,145.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	129.00	Received This Week	\$1,421.00
Xmas Env (2)	65.00	Total needed	\$2,000.00
Sol of Mary	50.00	YTD Received	\$1,421.00
Votives	32.00	Difference	(579.00)
Total	\$1,421.00	Works of Ch.	1/1/2026
		Envelopes	\$330.00
		Offertory	<u>137.25</u>
		Total	\$467.25.

From the Pastor

Hello friends,

In case you found yourself elsewhere last weekend, here's a note about what's going on priest-wise this weekend. We've got Monsignor Scheckel stepping in to cover in Coon Valley and Viroqua, while I strangely step in to cover Masses out in Cazenovia and Keyesville and Lone Rock – Fr. Aro's (and formerly Fr. Nathan's) cluster. This rides along with one of my Dean duties, to make occasional visits to the other parishes in the Deanery – we've got a smaller number of parishes in our Deanery with Fr. Bauer and Fr. Kuhn filling in the other two spots in Richland Center and the Hillsboro area. Anyhow, I'm looking forward to getting down to warmer Southeast climates, to seeing a few new-to-me spots and meeting some more of the Good Lord's Good People. In the meantime, please welcome Monsignor Scheckel and thank him for stepping out of retirement for a bit!

In other news, this weekend we're closing out the Christmas season with one final feast – the Baptism of the Lord. For a month and a half our liturgical life (which at least for me flavors the rest of my life) has been marked by this movement from the invitation of Advent into the welcome of Christmas and finally through the Epiphany and Baptism into carrying Christ out with us. The Baptism of the Lord is an important day, including the 30-year time jump between last weekend and this. That weeklong time jump mirrors the anonymity of Jesus' 30 years at home before He follows the last and greatest prophet, His cousin John, into the wilderness to be baptized in the Jordan and begin His public ministry.

One of the big shifts that comes with Christianity is following Christ through life into death into resurrection – His Baptism is what opens the door up for us to do that. A few weeks ago we had a funeral out in Viroqua for Barb Vesbach. One of the artifacts we use to pray the funeral liturgy is the very Easter candle we light for the first time at the Easter Vigil Mass – the high moment of Christ's resurrection. Outside of the Easter season we also light that candle for baptisms, and on Barb's funeral day it struck me that the last time we had lit that candle was at her great grandson's baptism just a week or two before, a sacrament for which she was present too. I see some elegance in this link between the baptism and funeral rites; all tied to Easter. You and I are baptized into Christ's life and His death and His resurrection. He invites us through our own baptism to follow Him – to let our lives be different because of His life, to let ourselves die differently by following Him, to recognize that death is not the end for us because He draws us into resurrection too. Anyhow, baptism. Starting Monday, we follow Jesus into what comes after His baptism. For today, we simply rest with Jesus in this one moment.

God bless you,

Fr. Joe

Parish Announcements



A Table Together – Free Community Dinner - Jan 21

You are invited to **A Table Together**, a free community meal where neighbors come together to share good food and warm fellowship. All are welcome!

Join us on **Wednesday, January 21, from 5:00–7:00 PM at Coon Valley Lutheran Church**, 1005 Central Ave., Coon Valley.

Dinner will include spaghetti with meat sauce, French bread, salad, dessert, and a beverage. **Vegetarian and gluten-free options available.** Questions, please contact meals@coonvalleylutheranchurch.org. See the flyer posted in the back of the church.

2025 Contribution Statements

Statements will be available for pickup next weekend, January 17/18, 2026. Please make an effort to collect your statement to save on the mailing expense. Thank you for your continued support of St. Mary Parish.

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 heart-felt thank you is extended to Father Joe and the parishioners at St. Mary's, Coon Valley, for the Christmas wishes and gift. We also thank all of you for singing so beautifully during the Christmas season. It is truly an honor to serve this parish with our musical talents, given to us from our heavenly Father. We wish you all a very Happy, Healthy New Year.

With grateful hearts, Mary Beth and Linda

Dear St. Mary Parish,

Thank you so much for your recent donation to Bethel Butikk food pantry. We are truly appreciative of your support in our mission to help others in our community.

Have a blessed holiday season,

Bethel Buttik Volunteers and Staff



Diocesan/Community Announcements

Celebrating Growth:

The 156 parishes of our diocese have been taking Mass counts for over two decades. Average Mass attendance in 2025 was 42,952 - an increase of 1.5% from 2024. Even with a large number of deaths, our Mass attendance has increased each year for five straight years. Praise God!



National Religious Freedom Day: Jan 16
Observed annually since 1993, to celebrate the right of religious diversity, freedom of conscience, and the right to practice faith without coercion.

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 uscbb.org/offices/migration-refugee-services/human-trafficking

Grief Circle

This six-part, in-person supportive gathering starts Wednesday, January 21 (10 a.m.-noon). All who are grieving and in need of compassionate listening and a path toward healing are encouraged to join us. www.FSCenter.org | 608-791-5295

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). At SEEK we will come together as a church to worship in Mass and adoration. 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 by using the QR Code.



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

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

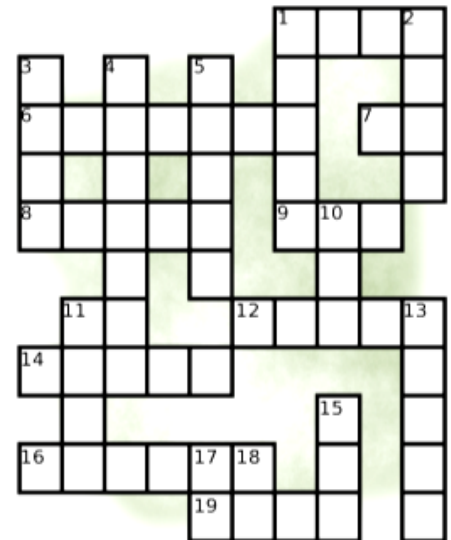
Looking for a way to rekindle the love and romance in your marriage? This powerful experience of discovery helps you renew your commitment, deepen your intimacy and reignite the passion that brought you together. Space is limited apply for the weekend by visiting: <https://wwme.org/> to save your spot!



Activity Corner

Jesus' Baptism Cross-Word Puzzle

See if you can find all these words relating to Jesus' baptism and fit them into the puzzle:

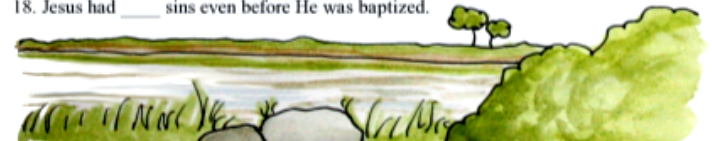


Across:

1. What was the name of the man who baptized Jesus?
6. The _____ opened and the Holy Spirit came down.
7. John said to Jesus, "You should baptize _____!"
8. John baptized with _____.
9. "This is my beloved _____ with whom I am well pleased."
11. "This _____ my beloved Son..."
12. _____ Jesus was baptized He came out of the river.
14. Once John had said about Jesus, "I am not worthy to _____ His sandal!"
16. What was the name of the river where Jesus was baptized?
19. Jesus _____ John that it was fitting for Him to be baptized.

Down:

1. Who had never done a sin but was baptized anyway?
2. John said, "I _____ to be baptized by you!"
3. Jesus did this to _____ us how important baptism is.
4. The John in this story is called John the _____.
5. They _____ a voice from Heaven.
10. John came _____ of the desert to preach and baptize.
11. When we are baptized, the Holy Spirit comes _____ our soul.
13. Jesus was baptized in a _____.
15. The Heavens opened and the Spirit of _____ appeared.
17. Jesus came from Galilee to John _____ the Jordan.
18. Jesus had _____ sins even before He was baptized.



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: 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.