

St. Mary Parish

Fr. Joe Richards, Pastor
Dcn. Tony Shay

Church Address:

900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, WI 54623

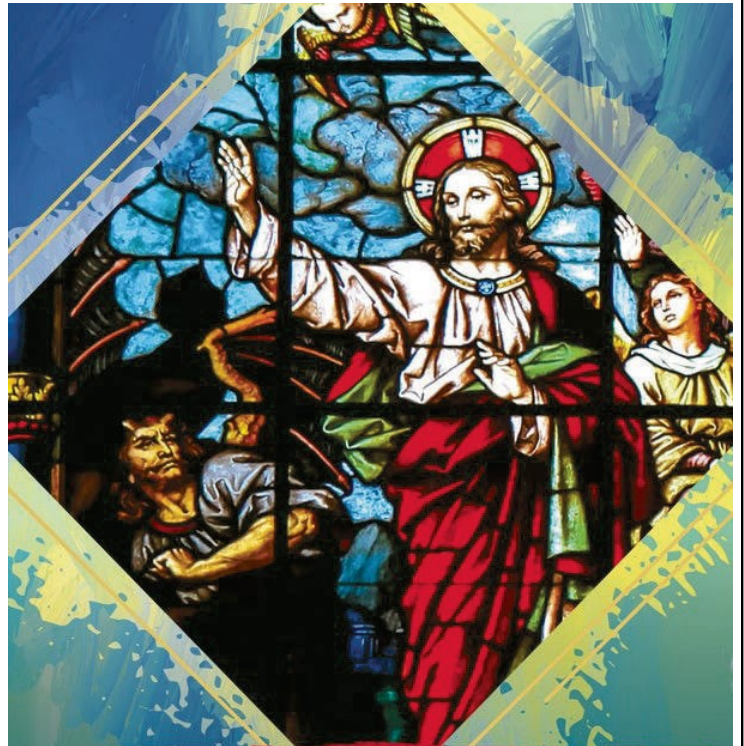
Parish Phone: 608-452-3841

Website: www.stmarycv.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley

February 4, 2024

Readings: 591B



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee. - Mk 1:39

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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Readings

February 04, 2024

- 1) Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 2) 1 Corinthians 9:16-19;
3) Mark 1:29-39

Intentions / Schedule

SATURDAY, February 3

Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

-4:00pm Mass - † Jerry Roesler
Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
Lector: Nancy Peters

SUNDAY, February 4

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Money Counters: Steve Grabowski and Bernie Roesler

TUESDAY, February 6

-5:15pm - † Bob Welsh

THURSDAY, February 8

-8:00am - † Edward and Anna Kerska

SATURDAY, February 10

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

SUNDAY, February 11

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

-8:00am Mass - † Carol Cade
Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
Lector: Ryan Goodwin

Money Counters: Loree Nickelotti & Rodney & Kathy Berg



CONFESSIONS

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



Sunday Mass streaming Live on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley>

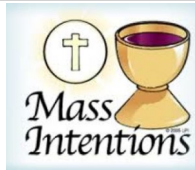
Annual Appeal 2023-24

As of 02/02/2024	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$9,290.38	\$8,140.38
Target Amount	\$14,515.00	\$14,515.00
Under Target	(\$5,224.62)	(\$6,374.62)
Percent Pledged: 64.01%, Percent Received: 56.08%		
Number Contributing: 22		

To donate online visit: <https://diolc.org/stewardship/> then choose either "single gift, recurring gift, or pledge" and in the parish dropdown, choose; 2023 (445) St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley.

Upcoming Events/Calendar

- **Feb 03/04** ~ Four Chaplains Sunday
- **Feb 04** ~ RE in Viroqua after the 10:30 AM Mass for both Coon Valley and Viroqua students.
- **Feb 09** ~ Women's Charcuterie Board Party in Viroqua starting at 6 PM
- **Feb 14** ~ *Ash Wednesday*
7:00 AM Communion service in Viroqua
12:10 PM Mass in Viroqua
5:15 PM Mass in Coon Valley
- **Feb 15** ~ Coffee and fellowship after Mass
- **Feb 18** ~ Coffee and refreshments after Mass sponsored by the PCCW - St. Catherine Guild
- **Feb 18** ~ RE monthly activity after the 8 AM Mass in Coon Valley
- **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 11** - PCCW Meeting 5:30PM



Open Sat. and Sun. dates: Mar 23 & 31; Jun 1 or 2, 8, 9, 22, 23, 29, 30

Open Weekdays: Feb. 13, 15, 29; Mar. 5, 12, 14, 21; Apr. 4, 11, 16, 30; May 2, 7, 14, 23.

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 02, 2024
Pledges received (30): \$109,020.00
Payments received: \$36,354.50

THANK YOU!



Needed last Month	
\$8,000.00	at \$2000 per week
\$8,139.50	Received as of week 4
\$139.50	Over for the Month

Giving Last Week		1/28/2024	
Adult Env(34)	\$1081.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	\$101.00	Received This Week	\$2,021.00
BEET Grant	\$839.00	Running total needed	\$8,000.00
Total	\$2,021.00	YTD Received	\$8,139.50
		Difference	139.50

From the Pastor

Hello friends!

We just celebrated the *Feast of the Presentation of the Lord* on Friday – this moment has, at different points in history and in different rites, marked the end of the Christmas season. Nowadays we culturally have the Christmas schedule skewed a bit, starting celebrations before Advent is over (and with stores putting out decorations before Thanksgiving is even on the horizon) and ending our festivities prematurely. That's a shame, because Christmas is such a big day that we should keep riding the wave of celebration all the way to the Baptism of the Lord. Incidentally, Lent and Easter are similar – there are just over a long six full weeks of Lent to get ready for Jesus' Passion, Death, and Resurrection (aka the Paschal Mystery), while there are a full seven weeks after Easter Sunday to ride out that wave of feasting celebration. The Church knows what she's doing when it comes to fasting and feasting.

Anyway, *the Presentation*. This is the day when Mary and Joseph brought the tiny baby Jesus to the Temple and encountered Simeon and Anna – really the culmination of the God-revealing work of Christmas, with Jesus' first entry into the temple and revelation to the Jewish people. Again, the whole labor of Advent is a preparation for Christ's light to break into the darkness in our own hearts and the world, followed by the work of Christmas where Christ's light shines into our own hearts, and through us shines into the world.

Lent has a similar flavor but a distinct character from Advent. During this upcoming season we're preparing for Christ's death (which we need to remember is followed by His resurrection) by acknowledging those places of real spiritual (I don't use that word lightly) death in our own lives. Some relevant questions for us to prepare for the season: where am I bound by sin and unfree to love God and the people He gives me? Where do I need to invite Christ's resurrection into my life? Where am I too turned in on myself to turn outward? Lent is all about softening our hearts, much like kneading dough before letting it rise, all for the sake of making room for Christ's resurrection to mean something. Again take some time over the next week and a half to prepare yourself for this very important season before it starts. In the meantime, I'll leave you with a few possible recommendations according to the **Big Three Lenten traditions** – don't try to do all, but maybe one listed or unlisted thing out of each category:

- **Prayer** (relationship building): Daily Gospel reading (perhaps a chapter of Mark each day, followed by a chapter of Acts), Stations of the Cross, adoration, a daily Mass each week, join our Eucharistic Revival small group study.
- **Fasting** (self-sacrifice): Skip snacks between meals, don't drink alcohol for the season, give up streaming/television, jump off social media, get to confession.
- **Almsgiving** (self-gift): Give an extra 1-5% of your income to the charity of your choice, volunteer at the food pantry, spend an intentional half hour each day playing with your kids.



There's a very non-exhaustive list. The point is, take some time before the fact to pray with how you can let the Lord lead you to greater depths with Him over Lent.

God bless you, and happy preparation! Fr. Joe

Parish Announcements

Birthright Baby Bottle Campaign - Jan 20 to Feb 25

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. Pick up a bottle today and fill with loose change or cash and return to the parish by February 25th.

Quilter Needed

The PCCW always raffles off a quilt at the craft show in December. We currently have a quilt top that needs to be finished. Are there any talented quilters in the church who could do this? Please contact Clarice Kammel if you're interested in finishing the quilt or know of someone who could do it.

Basement Cleaning—Volunteer Opportunity

We are looking for volunteers to help clean out the side room in the basement in addition to cleaning the entire basement. If you are able and willing to help, a group of ladies will be meeting on **March 6th at 1:00PM**. The more helpers we have the faster this job will be done. Please consider volunteering.

Women's Charcuterie Board Party – Feb 9

Hey Girls! How do you charcuterie? All the ladies of St. Mary's are invited to a charcuterie board party Feb. 9th at 6 p.m. in Marian Hall in Viroqua. This is your opportunity to show off your creative culinary self with others. Your mission is to produce a board that is appealing, delicious and shareable. You can also bring along your favorite bottle of wine or another beverage of your choice. We look forward to your creation!

Catholic Campaign for Human Development Collection

Thank you for your generous support last week for the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! As a parish, your support helps those on the margins who live in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! We will continue to accept your envelopes for the next few weeks or you may visit www.usccb.org/cchd

Lenten Magnificat Companion booklets are now available for pickup in the back of church.

Parish Announcements continued

CV Legion Four Chaplains Sunday Pancake Breakfast- Feb 4
Come on down to the Legion Hall from 8 AM (*correction from last publication) to Noon next Sunday, Feb 4 for some pancakes, sausages, scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, milk, juice and coffee. Meal for adults is \$10 and children 5-12 year olds only \$5, under 5 are free.

World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life will be celebrated on the weekend of Feb. 3-4. Please pray for all those who have answered the call to consecrated life, aspiring towards joy-filled 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.

Healthy Living with Chronic Pain Workshop

Where: Virtually When: Wednesdays, February 7 - March 13, 8:30 to 11:00 Cost: \$30, includes textbook Pre-register by calling (608) 775-6870 or visit gundersenhealth.org/living-well. After registering, you will be sent an email with a link to join the class and a book which you can keep.

Heritage Bake Sale - Feb 10

Please join us on Saturday, February 10th from 9am - Noon for Blessed Sacrament Parish Women's Club Heritage Bake Sale, held in the parish hall. Featuring Polish Pierogis, Norwegian Lefse, Bohemian Kolotchkys, St Wenceslaus' Hot Lunch Fudge Bars, and other ethnic sweets! Plus, a live Lefse demonstration! Location: Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall - 130 Losey Blvd S, La Crosse WI 54601.

Feast of St. José Sánchez del Río – Feb 10

Join the celebration of the feast of St. José Sánchez del Río, February 10th, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, in La Crosse, WI. Children and families are especially invited! The day include talks, veneration of many young saints' relics, opportunities to ask questions, and more. GuadalupeShrine.org/events!

Lenten reflections with John McHugh

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS ON THE CROSS

Feb. 27; Mar. 5, 12, 19; Tuesday, 5:30-6:30 p.m.; Presenter: John McHugh; Investment: \$10 per session. **Register by Feb. 19th**
For hundreds of years, it has been a tradition in Christian churches to reflect on Jesus' final words from the cross on Good Friday and during the season of Lent. Join biblical scholar John McHugh as he explores those words of Jesus and how they were mirrored in Jesus' public ministry, and what they mean for us today. Although the program is meant to be experienced over all four weeks, participants may attend individual sessions. Register at: <https://fsc.retreatportal.com/calendar/event?programcode=24SDY07966>

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 . <https://diolc.org/the-answer/>



Activity Corner

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 4th, 2024



At the end of today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells Simon that they will go to the nearby villages to preach. Can you find your way through the maze to the nearby village?

JESUS THE HEALER



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

Four Chaplains Sunday

On February 1st 1943, the USS Dorchester crowded to capacity, carrying 902 servicemen, left Newfoundland heading toward an American base in Greenland. Three Coast Guard Cutters, the Tampa, the Escanaba, and the Comanche escorted her. Hans Danielson, the ship's Captain was concerned and cautious on this trip because he knew they were in dangerous waters as some German U-boat's were sited earlier in the area.

At night the Captain ordered the troops to sleep in their cloths and keep their life jackets on. Many soldiers sleeping deep in the ship's belly disregarded the orders because of the engine's heat. Others ignored it because the life jackets were uncomfortable.

Early on the morning of Feb. 3, 1943 (12:55AM) the USS Dorchester was sailing through icy seas only 150 miles from Greenland, their destination. Most of the 900 troops on board were asleep when a torpedo from a German submarine slammed into the starboard side of the ship. The hit was decisive and deadly. Frantically pounding up the ladders, the troops milled around in confusion and darkness on the decks.

In the dark moments of panic, the coolest men aboard were four US Army Chaplains First Lieutenants Clark V Poling (Reformed Church of America), Alexander D Goode (Jewish), John P. Washington (Catholic), George L. Fox (Methodist). The four chaplains led the men to boxes of life jackets, passed them out to the soldiers with boat drill precision. When the boxes were empty and many life jackets were left behind in the bottom of the ship, the four Chaplains quietly slipped off their own precious life preservers, put them on four young GI 's and told them to jump overboard.

The Dorchester went down 20 minutes later in a rumble of steam. Some 60 men were lost at sea, but the heroic Chaplains had helped save over 200 men that night that were picked up by two of the other ships. The last anyone saw of the four Chaplains, they were standing on the slanting deck of the Dorchester, their arms linked in prayer, to one God they all served.

Remembering the Four Chaplains:

Each year, American Legion posts nationwide commemorate the selfless acts of the Four Chaplains on or near Feb 3, designated Four Chaplains Day by Congress in 1948. Below are the individual biographies of the Chaplains from Legion.org.

Our local Coon Valley Legion Post 116 honors and remembers the 4 Chaplains this weekend, February 3/4, 2024. They donated the beautiful floral arrangement in the front of the church, submitted the story on the other side of this insert, and are hosting a pancake breakfast at the Legion Hall on Sunday, serving from 8:00 AM* to Noon (*correction from last publication).

For more information about Post 116, visit: <http://www.coonvalleywialpost116.org/> or on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/coonvalleyamericanlegionpost116/>



Lt. George L. Fox

As a medical corps assistant during World War I, Fox was highly decorated for bravery and awarded the Silver Star, Purple Heart and the French Croix de Guerre.

Fox studied at Moody Institute, Illinois Wesleyan and Boston University School of Theology. He and his wife, Isadore, had two children. While serving as a pastor in Gilman, Vt., he joined Walter G. Moore American Legion Post 41. He also served as the Legion's state chaplain and historian.

Fox went on active duty Aug. 8, 1942, the same day his son Wyatt enlisted in the Marine Corps. He was assigned to the Chaplains School at Harvard and reported to the 411th Coast Artillery Battalion at Camp Davis in Holly Ridge, N.C.



Lt. Alexander D. Goode

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., in 1911, Goode became a rabbi like his father. He applied to become a Navy chaplain in early 1941, but was not accepted. After Pearl Harbor, he tried again, this time with the Army, and received an appointment on July 21, 1942. He went on active duty on Aug. 9, 1942, and was selected for the Chaplains School at Harvard. He was assigned to the 333rd Airbase Squadron in Goldsboro, N.C. In October 1942, he was transferred to Camp Myles Standish in Taunton, Mass. He and his wife, Theresa, had one daughter.



Lt. Clark V. Poling

Clark attended high school in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., where he was student body president and a football halfback. He was ordained in the Reformed Church in America and served as pastor of First Reformed Church in Schenectady, N.Y. He and his wife, Betty, had a son, Clark Jr. When America entered World War II, he decided to become a chaplain. Talking with his father, who served as a chaplain in World War I, he learned that chaplains in that war had the highest mortality rate of all military personnel. On June 10, 1942, Poling was appointed a chaplain with the 131st Quartermaster Truck Regiment and reported to Camp Shelby in Mississippi. Two months after *Dorchester's* sinking, Betty gave birth to their daughter.



Lt. John P. Washington

Born into a poor immigrant family, Washington took a newspaper route to help support his family. He loved music and sang in the church choir. In seventh grade, he sensed a call to the priesthood.

Washington attended Immaculate Conception Seminary in Darlington, N.J., where he was ordained a priest in 1935. Shortly after the Pearl Harbor attack, he received his appointment as an Army chaplain. In June 1942, he was assigned to the 76th Infantry Division at Fort Meade, Md. In November 1942, he reported to Camp Myles Standish in Taunton, Mass., where he was reunited with Fox, Goode and Poling – his classmates at Chaplains School at Harvard.