

# St. Mary's Parish

900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, WI 54623



*Fr. Matt Marshall*

*Pastor*

*The Fourth Sunday of Lent - March 22, 2020*

**Fr. Matthew Marshall**

**Residence: St. Mary's Rectory**

904 Central Ave

Coon Valley, WI 54623

Rectory Phone: 608-452-3841

Cell Phone: 608-738-6806

E-mail: [fmattmarshall@gmail.com](mailto:fmattmarshall@gmail.com)

**Amy Staflien**, Admin. Assistant

**Office:** 608-452-3841

**Website:** [stmarycv.org](http://stmarycv.org)

**E-mail:** [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net)

**St. Mary's, Coon Valley**

**Weekend Masses:**

Cancelled until further notice

**Weekday Mass:**

Cancelled until further notice

**Local Parishes—Mass Times**

**Annunciation of the BVM, Viroqua**

Cancelled until further notice

**St. Joseph, St. Joseph Ridge**

Cancelled until further notice

**St. Peter, Middle Ridge**

Cancelled until further notice

**Holy Day Mass:** Please check the bulletin for times.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Before Mass on Saturday; other times as announced or by appointment, request appointment by calling Fr. Matt or via our website under the Sacraments tab.

**New Parishioners:** Welcome to our parish! Please introduce yourself to Fr. Matt and contact the parish office for registration and information.

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Please submit a Baptism registration by mail, or e-mail to both [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net) AND [fmattmarshall@gmail.com](mailto:fmattmarshall@gmail.com). You will be contacted by the parish office to finalize your requested date. The registration form can be found here: <https://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments>.

**Sacrament of Anointing / Visitation of the Sick:** Please contact the parish office when someone you know is in need of either the sacrament or a pastoral visit, or call Fr. Matt. Requests may also be made from our website under the Sacraments tab.

**Mass Intentions:** Please use the Mass Intention envelopes available in the back of church and at the side door.

**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 Mass intercessions.

*St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley, WI*  
*The Fourth Sunday of Lent*

**SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020**

1) 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a  
2) Ephesians 5:8-14  
3) John 9:1-41  
    or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

**FOCUS:** The Lord of all gives sight to the blind.

Jesus' power and claims divide those who encounter him. He is the long-awaited one, and he heals all wounds, even giving sight to the blind. We can trust that Jesus can heal all the wounds of our lives, giving us sight to see and a light to follow in the darkness of sin.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**


In the first reading, the Lord sends Samuel to Jesse of Bethlehem because the Lord has chosen the new king from among Jesse's sons. Samuel goes, and anoints David *in the presence of his brothers*. In Saint Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, he exhorts them to *live as children of light*. In the Gospel, Jesus encounters a man blind from birth. After Jesus gives the man sight, the Pharisees become divided over the account. The man defends Jesus, explaining that he must be from God.

**Upcoming Events/Calendar**

**All Scheduled Events/ Religious Education /Mass are Cancelled until further notice**

- Church will be open for private prayer during daylight hours.
- The Eucharist is available upon request for Communion at home.
- Home visits are available upon request.
- If you are currently homebound or under quarantine and need assistance, please call Fr. Matt at 608-738-6806 or 452-3841. We have people ready and willing to help.

**Amazon Smile** is the charitable arm of Amazon.com. If you order on Amazon, use Amazon Smile the same as you would as regular Amazon, and choose St. Mary's Parish as your charitable organization.



Log in to: [amazon.com/smile](https://amazon.com/smile) and click the word "supporting" under the search bar. You can search for St. Mary's by typing, "St. Mary Parish Coon Valley" or simply click the link on our parish website: [stmarvcv.org](http://stmarvcv.org)

Giving Last Week		Week 10	3/15/2020
Adult Envelopes	\$968.00	Needed Weekly	\$1,900.00
Offertory	\$230.00	Received This Week	\$1,198.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,198.00</b>	YTD Needed	\$20,900.00
29 Env. Received		YTD Received	\$20,743.00
		Difference	(157.00)

Thank you for continuing to support our parish, during these unprecedented times. Your contributions received by dropping off at the parish or through the mail and by bill pay are sincerely appreciated. Do not mail cash, checks only please.

**Intentions**

Intentions will be prayed for privately by Father Matt on the day scheduled, please add these intentions to your own, in your prayers from home.

Mar. 21 ~ Alex and Rose Roningen
Mar. 22 ~ †Deceased members of the .....Fleming and Ollendick Families
Mar. 24 ~ †Lucile Kumm
Mar. 25 ~ for the healing of the world
Mar. 27 ~ †Brenden Kidikas
Mar. 28 ~ †James Freit
Mar. 29 ~ †Don Kammel

**Annual Appeal 2019-2020**

As of 03/20/2020	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$15,447.00	\$14,887.00
Target Amount	<u>\$11,755.00</u>	<u>\$11,755.00</u>
Under Target	\$3,692.00	\$3,132.00
Percent Pledged: 131.41%, Percent Received: 126.65%		
Number Contributing:	40	

**WE HAVE REACHED OUR TARGET!!! ALL DONATIONS FROM THIS POINT FORWARD WILL BE RETURNED TO THE PARISH!**

Thank you all who have donated! Extra cards and envelopes are located at the church doors, or you may give online at: <https://diolc.org/donate-online>, under Designation, choose: 2019 (445) St. Mary Parish. Keep in mind that any money donated beyond the goal is returned to the parish untaxed by the Diocese.

## Parish Announcements

### NO MASS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

From Bishop William Callahan: In light of the continued concern surrounding spreading the coronavirus COVID-19, and the advice of medical experts across the country and especially in our State, all public Masses in the Diocese of La Crosse will be canceled beginning 17 March 2020 at 5:00 p.m. until further notice. All fish fries, parish gatherings, etc. are also canceled.

### Your Continued Support is much appreciated!

If you are able, please continue to support the parish financially. Our parish will continue to have financial obligations such as utilities, repairs, maintenance, supplies, payroll, education and obligations to the Diocese of La Crosse for Catholic Schools.

We are accepting **donations through the mail** and if you use online banking, please consider adding St. Mary's Parish to your **Bill Pay** by setting up St. Mary's Parish as payment and it will be mailed directly to the parish office (if possible, use your envelope number as the account number).

### At Home Prayer Service

Each week in our Bulletin the bulletin will include a prayer service you might consider for home on Sunday or even during the week. It will include readings, petitions, a reflection, and something to put into practice. Fr. Matt hopes it is a help while we are all stuck at home and distant from each other. Let's keep all our hearts close through prayer!

### Easter Flower Donations

All funds received thus far will be applied to future flower and decoration purchases.

### Spring Luncheon

On hold until further notice

### Sacrament of Anointing

If you would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing please call Fr. Matt directly at 608-738-6806 or 452-3841.

### CRS Rice Bowl

Will accept the Rice Bowl donations once Mass has resumed.

### Student Mite Boxes

Will accept the Mite Boxes donations once Mass has resumed.

### Synagogue Trip has been Canceled!

### Lenten Disciplines-Fasting & Abstinence

The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 26th. Lenten regulations are as follows:

1. Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, 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.

### Bulletins—lets stay connected!

- The parish bulletin will continue to be available on our Website—[www.stmarycv.org](http://www.stmarycv.org)
- We are mailing the bulletin to those over the age of 80 (if their age is recorded in our database)
- Copies of the bulletin will also be available in the church for pickup during private prayer times.
- If you know of someone who does not have internet and could benefit from having the bulletin mailed to their home, please contact the parish office with the person(s) name(s).

### Televised Masses:

WXOW CH 19 La Crosse – Sunday: 9:30 AM  
EWTN (cable/sat.) – Sunday: 7 AM & 11 AM Daily: 7 AM & 6 PM or **online at [stmarycv.org](http://stmarycv.org)** or at <https://diolc.org/sacredworship/televised-mass/>.

### Catholic Broadcasting:

EWTN Catholic Cable Television Vernon Telephone  
Cable – Chan. 143  
MediaCom Chan 15 – Coon Valley  
Chan 74 – La Crosse also available via satellite

## Diocesan/Local Announcements

All events have been cancelled or postponed per the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services. In part, the order reads as follows:

**Emergency Order #5** (dated March 17, 2020)

**Prohibiting Mass Gatherings of 10 People or More**

1. Under the authority of Wis. Stat. 252.02(3) and at the direction of Governor Tony Evers...order a statewide moratorium on mass gatherings of 10 people or more to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

### TV Masses Offered by MMOC

The Eucharist will be recorded at Mary Mother of the Church, LaCrosse, WI – in private

Tuesday-Friday Masses will be posted at 7:30 AM on the corresponding day.

Sunday Masses will be posted at 4 PM on Saturdays.

These Masses will be on their website at [www.mmoclacrosse.org](http://www.mmoclacrosse.org) and on their app via smartphone or tablet, which can be downloaded at our mobile website: [mmoc.mobi](http://mmoc.mobi). Also, Sunday Masses will be broadcast on KQEG-TV on Saturdays at 4 PM and Sundays at 10 AM.

Over-the-air antennae: Channel 23.1

Charter: Channel 5

CenturyLink: Channel 4

AcenTek (La Crescent): Channel 12

Midwest Tel Net (Stoddard/Chaseburg area)

## At Home Sunday Prayers

### Gathering

We take a moment to gather up our thoughts and feelings, our experiences and memories. We gather ourselves, and even from a distance we gather with others. We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible...

### PAUSE

We confess our need for healing. We ask God to help us to see, to help us believe that there is a lot more to learn and see:

I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done  
and in what I have failed to do,  
through my fault,  
through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

And may the Lord Jesus, the Healer of the Nations,  
bring healing and light to all our hearts, in the name of  
the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

### Let us pray:

God our Father,  
Your Word, Jesus Christ,  
spoke peace to a sinful world  
and brought us the gift of reconciliation  
by the suffering and death he willingly embraced.  
Teach us, the people who bear his name,  
to follow the example he gave us:  
may our faith, hope, and charity  
turn hatred to love, conflict to peace,  
and death to life that never ends.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to John:

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him. We have to do the works of the one who sent me

while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" —which means Sent. So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am." So they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He replied, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went there and washed and was able to see." And they said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I don't know."

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." So some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said to the blind man again, "What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."

Now the Jews did not believe that he had been blind and gained his sight until they summoned the parents of the one who had gained his sight. They asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How does he now see?" His parents answered and said, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. We do not know how he sees now, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him, he is of age; he can speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone acknowledged him as the Christ, he would be expelled from the synagogue. For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; question him."

So, a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give God the praise! We know that this man is a sinner." He replied, "If he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see." So they said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" They ridiculed him and said, "You are that man's disciple; we are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Mo-

## At Home Sunday Prayers Continued

ses, but we do not know where this one is from.” The man answered and said to them, “This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where he is from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything.” They answered and said to him, “You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?” Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered and said, “Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “I do believe, Lord,” and he worshiped him. Then Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind.”

Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not also blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you are saying, ‘We see,’ so your sin remains.

The Gospel of the Lord.

### Reflection

This Sunday our readings look at what we can't. Our readings reflect on the fact that each of us has a lot we don't see. I have been thinking about this during the house arrest I am sharing with you all, indeed with the whole world. So many people and places I don't see this week. But they're still there. COVID-19 has taken all kinds of people, and places, and things from our sight. But perhaps if we're open to it, it is also revealing a lot. For me, I've been thinking more about places in the world that rarely get my attention. I've been thinking about the people who made my world go 'round. I've been thinking about how I miss them. I've been thinking about restaurant staff, and my haircut place, and movie theaters. I've been thinking about things I used to see and now can't. I've been seeing there's a lot I don't see. I don't see viruses. And I don't see the millions of people affected by this time of illness. I don't see their stories. Their hurts. Their joys. Just like Jesus opens that man's eyes this Sunday I find myself praying that I will be able to see more after this whole ordeal than I can now. But that only happens one way. The only way its ever happened. By admitting we don't see plenty...and inviting someone

else to fill in the rest. Today we ask God to help us see, hear, and feel more deeply the whole world around us. All that we already see. All that we don't.

### Petitions

For the Church, that in this season we would still do what Jesus calls us to do, spread the Good News...we pray to the Lord.

For local and national leadership to have the wisdom and peacefulness needed in this time...we pray to the Lord.

For all those suffering from the coronavirus: those are ill, those without work, those who are isolated and alone...we pray to the Lord.

For all intentions of our parish community. We lift up one another in this moment of quiet...PAUSE...we pray to the Lord.

And for what do you want to offer prayer...[list personal intentions]...we pray to the Lord.

### Sending

We are always in God's care. We are God's children now. And so we pray:

### **Our Father...**

Father of the world, we pray that your healing wash over us all. Calm our spirits, give rest to our minds, bring healing to our bodies. Help us to rely on you and one another, and to be willing to share with all in need. Your Son, Jesus our brother, teaches us in the Eucharist that only by giving generously and receiving graciously does do we find life. Help us in this time to receive all you offer. Help in this time to give from our hearts. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

-----

**Here is a prayer exercise that I hope will be helpful throughout the week. Give it a try! May it be a blessing to you and your family!**

This week spent some moments each day with your eyes closed for a number of minutes. Wait long enough so that you forget what is present around you. With your eyes still closed, take note of what it is hard for you to perceive. Take note of what you miss. Listen. What is going on around you? Remember even in that darkness, that life is going on all around. Bless the Lord for what you can't see in yourself, others, and the world. Bless the Lord for the darkness, then open your eyes and bless God for the light.

## Daily Readings

### Monday 24 March:

*Isaiah 65:17-21*

Exultant optimism is perhaps not the mood of the times, but it is the mood of this passage from Isaiah. One-line anticipates the Gospel: no more will be found the infant living a few days only. Even the exaggerations are delightful.

*John 4:43-54*

John's Gospel tells this familiar story with an intriguing twist: the parent is first called a "court official," then a "man" and only towards the end, "the father." Roles can dictate who we are!

### Tuesday 24 March

*Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12*

"Awash with life" might be a good description of Ezekiel's "vision" of the Temple. Exuberance is everywhere: And their fruit will be good to eat and the leaves medicinal. The Gospel takes up the water image in a remarkable vision of healing.

*John 5:1-3, 5-16*

As you listen to this story, you might bear in mind the corresponding one about the man born blind in John 9. Under that pressure, the man born blind becomes stronger; in this Gospel, the man crumbles and betrays Jesus. What does being under pressure for the faith do to me?

### Wednesday 25 March

*The Annunciation to the BVM Isaiah 7:10-14, 8:10*

The birth of a child—as in this reading—is always a sign of hope.

*Hebrews 10:4-10*

Our reading today reflects on the death of Jesus, in the light of the incarnation.

*Luke 1:26-38*

In the Bible, there are stories of couples who cannot have children. An annunciation resolves the situation. Our annunciation is similar, yet significantly different on account of the child to be born — son of the Most High, descendant of Jacob and David, Jesus the Messiah.

### Thursday 30 March

*Exodus 32:7-14*

In this disconcerting story, God is furious that the people have so quickly abandoned him. Moses reminds God of who God is and so God relents, thanks be to God.

*John 5:31-47*

This compact reading can upset us today because of the robust comments of Jesus. In reality, we are eavesdropping on the later conversation between Christian and Jews. The evangelist parades before us five "witnesses" to Jesus: the Father, John the Baptist, his own deeds, the Scriptures and, finally, Moses himself. As in all the discourses of this Gospel, we are not hearing the actual words of the historical Jesus. Instead, after decades of reflection, we hear the deep spirituality of the great evangelist.

### Friday 27 March

*Wisdom 2:1, 12-22*

There is a contemporary ring to this reading from the book of Wisdom: the godless resent the faith of the believers. Such resentment foreshadows the reaction to Jesus in today's gospel.

*John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30*

Jesus certainly disconcerted those who met him, as we hear in this reading. Who is he really? Where is he from? Who sent him?

### Saturday 28 March

*Jeremiah 11:18-20*

Jeremiah, always in difficulty because of his calling, places his full and total trust in God. The psalm captures it well: Lord God, I take refuge in you.

*John 7:40-52*

Again, there is a contemporary ring about the range of opinions and the discord triggered by the person and presence of Jesus. What do I believe? What difference does it make?

# Two Kinds of BLINDNESS

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus cured a blind man. Then he showed that the Pharisees had another kind of blindness- they didn't see the truth that curing someone was more important than not working on the Sabbath day.

What do you think it would be like to be blind? Have you ever tried to walk around with a blindfold on? It's hard to tell where you're going, and you miss out on a lot of things going on around you. When you are blind on the inside, then you can't see where your soul is- or whether it's clean or stained from sin.

Next time that you see a fault in someone else, before you say anything about it think about yourself. Do you ever do wrong things? How do you want to be treated when you know you did something wrong? If you want to be able to see spiritually, you need to first look at your own faults.



Answer to From: If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything. Answers to cross-word: Across: 2.no 5.coverage 8.fable 9.shepherd 11.in 13.soul 14.want 16.waiters 18.Lord 19.me 20.of 21.see 22.he Down: 1.paths 3.oil 4.before 6.overflows 7.amount 10.postures 12.valley 15.staff 17.sake

[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com)

# The Kids' Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Lent  
March 22, 2020

*What did the man that Jesus cured say to the people who thought Jesus was a sinner?  
Use the code at the bottom to find out!*

▷ ▲ ◁ ● ▷ X U O ▽ || □ Δ □

▽ ■ ◁ ▲ Δ ■ U + ■ -

● □ || ■ ▽ | - ▽ ■ ◁ ▽ □

○ ▽ | □ ◁ ■ - ■

○ ▽ • ◁ ● ▷ ▽ +



○ ▽ - □ ▲ + ● ▷ | U ▽ ■ Δ X ◁ ▽ •  
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

# THE ANNUNCIATION

MARCH 25



THE ANNUNCIATION IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DAYS OF THE YEAR BECAUSE IT IS WHEN JESUS FIRST CAME TO EARTH, EVEN THOUGH HE WAS STILL HIDDEN. GOD DEPENDED ON MARY TO SAY 'YES' TO HIS WILL EVEN THOUGH IT WAS VERY HARD. WE SHOULD BE ALWAYS READY TO DO GOD'S WILL TOO!

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

# The Lord is my Shepherd...



OVERFLOWS IN  
SHEPHERD OF  
WATERS HE  
BEFORE OIL  
TABLE SAKE  
SOUL  
STAFF  
WANT PATHS  
LORD VALLEY  
SET ANOINT  
ME COURAGE  
NO PASTURES

The \_\_\_\_ (18A) is my \_\_\_\_, (9A)

I shall not \_\_\_\_, (14A)

In verdant \_\_\_\_ (10D) he gives me repose;

beside restful \_\_\_\_ (16A) he leads me;

he refreshes my \_\_\_\_, (13A)

\_\_\_\_ (22A) guides \_\_\_\_ (19A) in right \_\_\_\_ (1D)

for his name's \_\_\_\_, (17D)

Even though I walk in the dark \_\_\_\_ (12D)

I fear \_\_\_\_ (2A) evil; for you are at my side

with your rod and your \_\_\_\_ (15D)

that give me \_\_\_\_, (5A)

You \_\_\_\_ (21A) the \_\_\_\_ (8A)

(4D) me

\_\_\_\_ (11A) the sight \_\_\_\_ (20A) my foes;

you \_\_\_\_ (7D) my head with \_\_\_\_ (3D)

my cup \_\_\_\_ (6D)