

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR

Fr. Joseph Richards (Fr. Joe)

Rectory: 400 Congress Ave, Viroqua, WI 54665

Cell Phone: 608-606-9787

Email: fatherjoerichards@gmail.com

Office Hours in Coon Valley Sacristy:

Tues. 1:00 PM until Mass time

Thurs. after Mass until noon and by appt

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday.....4:00pm

Sunday.....8:00am

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday..... 6:30pm

Thursday.....8:00am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday.....3:15pm to 3:45pm

Sunday.....7:15am to 7:45am

PARISH OFFICE

Amy Stafshien, Admin. Assist.....608-452-3841

Bulletin deadline: Wednesday noon

E-mail: stmaryscv@mwt.net

Open most Wednesdays and Thursdays

COORDINATOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Vacant

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Nancy Peters (Secretary), John Mislivecek, Bryan

Berg and John Roesler (Buildings and Grounds)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Ryan Goodwin, Marlene Humfeld, Sue Humfeld,

Lori Pedretti and Steve Schulte. (1 appointed

vacancies)

PCCW - Parish Council of Catholic Women

Clarice Kammel (President), Nancy Peters

(Treasurer), Linda Berg (Secretary)

ORGANISTS

Mary Beth Smith, Linda Schulte, and Chris

Carskadon.

Fr. Joe also serving:

Annunciation of the BVM Parish, Viroqua

Mass Times: Weekend.....Saturday.....6:30 PM

Sunday10:30 AM

Weekday: Wednesdays - 6:30 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.stmaryscv.org/visit-us

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Call or email Fr. Joe. You can also use our website under the Sacraments tab: <http://www.stmaryscv.org/sacraments>

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.stmaryscv.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.stmaryscv.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

900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, WI 54623

Phone: 608-452-3841

Website: stmarycv.org

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley)

StMarysCoonValley



6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors,
Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all
that you vow." - Mt 5:33

Fr. Joe Richards

February 12, 2023

Readings: 593A

St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley, WI

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Readings

February 12, 2023

- 1) Sirach 15:15-20 / 76; 2) 1 Corinthians 2:6-10;
3) Matthew 5:17-37

Intentions

Feb 11 ~ 4:00 PM - † Deceased members of the Roskos and Roningen Families
Feb 12 ~ 8:00 AM - † Ted and Hilda Ollendick
Feb 14 ~ 6:30 PM - † Jerry Roesler
Feb 16 ~ 8:00 AM - † Bob Stevenson
Feb 18 ~ 4:00 PM - † Joan Urbanek
Feb 19 ~ 8:00 AM - † Ed Gorman

Mass Intentions

If there is a special weekend date you would like, please get your request(s) in early.

Open Sat. and Sun. dates: Apr 2, Jun 4, 10, 17, 24, & 25

Weekdays open: Mar 2, 7, 14, & 21. If you have questions feel free to email the parish office at stmaryscv@mwt.net or leave a message at 608-452-3841.



Next Week in Service — Feb 18/19

If you are not able to serve as scheduled below, please find a substitute. Thank you!

Readers:	Sat. – Jeana LeJeune Sun. – Marlene Humfeld
Ushers:	Sat. – Volunteers Sun. – Volunteers
Money Counters:	Loree Nickelotti and Rodney and Kathy Berg

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.

Sign in using **AmazonSmile** and select St. Mary Parish as your preferred charity at smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1218730. Remember to shop for deals at **smile.amazon.com**, or with Amazon Smile ON in the Amazon app, and AmazonSmile will donate to us at no cost to you."



Upcoming Events/Calendar

- **February 8-24** ~ Amy on PTO, for administrative needs please contact Fr. Joe
- **February 12** ~ Confirmation Class in Viroqua following the 10:30 AM Mass
- **February 20** ~ **Men's Club Meeting** at 6:30 PM
- **February 22** ~ **Ash Wednesday** Mass at 12:10 PM
- **February 23** ~ PCCW Book Discussion Group 8:30 AM
- **February 26** ~ Parish Breakfast Social, after Mass, sign up in back of church
- **February 28** ~ Stations of the Cross at 5:15 PM followed by Mass
- **March 7** ~ Stations of the Cross at 5:15 PM followed by Mass

Sunday Mass streaming Live on Facebook is back:
<https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley>

Fr. Joe's Office Hours:

Tuesdays from 1:00-6:30 PM (Mass time) and on **Thursdays from Mass until noon.**



Wednesdays and Fridays in Viroqua, and Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons will be flex options. **Note that some of this time will also include home and nursing facility visits**, so, please *call or text beforehand* (608-606-9787) or look for the Terrain under the maple tree out back in the parking lot.

CONFESSIONS

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



Donations:

Here are some ways to support your parish:

- *Attend Mass and drop* your contribution envelope at either church, Coon Valley or Viroqua and the funds will be directed to St. Mary's
- *US Postal Service:* mail directly to the parish office, your Contribution envelope is postal ready!
- *Bill Pay* through online banking, add St. Mary's as contact (if possible, use your envelope number as the account number).
- Use our *online service* at: diolc.org/st-mary-coon-valley (a processing fee will be deducted from your contribution, which averages 3% for debit/credit cards and \$.75 for EFT/ACH. Your contribution will be recorded for the full amount).

Giving Last Week		Week 06	
Adult Env.(31)	\$1,845.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	\$178.00	Received This Week	\$2,168.00
Bequests & Mem.	145.00	Running total needed	\$10,000.00
Total	\$2,168.00	YTD Received	?
Food Pantry	\$10.00	Difference	?

From the Parochial Administrator



Hello friends, Just a few weeks ago I shared a few bits about our transition from Advent/Christmas to Ordinary Time. We're already coming up on another transition with Ash Wednesday landing on February 22. Unless something dramatically changes I plan to share a bit about this at Mass too, but bear with me while I put in writing a few thoughts on Lent.

First, let's try and answer the question "what are we doing with this season?" Just like Advent is a season of preparation for Christ's birth and just like we prepare ourselves for his light breaking into our darkness by first acknowledging the dark places in our own hearts where we need his light, Lent is a season of preparation for Christ's death. Perhaps my favorite piece of Catholic imagery is that we keep Christ's body on the cross. We're not afraid to acknowledge the fact that Jesus did die for us and that his death still has an impact on us – that the way his suffering and death lead to his resurrection gives us a pathway for our own suffering and death to open us up to resurrection too. All that's to say that Lent is a beautiful season to ask the question, "what in my heart do I need to let die so it can be drawn into Christ's resurrection?" The resurrection will come and we'll celebrate it even longer than we work through Lent, but this part comes first.

Second, allow me to give you a specific recommendation on how to approach the Lenten season. If at 32 years old I am still doing the same thing I did for Lent when I was 14 years old – giving up sweets – I've got a big problem. The spiritual practices that work for a 14-year-old work for a 14-year-old with 14-year-old problems. They probably won't work for a 32-year-old with 32-year-old problems. Don't take this as an authoritative mandate so much as a spiritual recommendation, but if it's time for a shakeup, try breaking up your Lenten preparation into three categories: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Don't feel like you have to do everything – adding in just one concrete element from each of these categories can make for a very helpful Lent.

- Prayer: how can I spend concrete extracurricular time with the Lord this season? Use this as a chance to develop your relationship with the Lord.
 - ⇒ Recommendations: join us for Stations of the Cross on Wednesdays at 5:15; come to one or more of our daily Masses; wake up thirty minutes earlier, make a cup of coffee, and pray with the readings for the next weekend's Masses.
- Fasting: how do I need to get over myself, or how can I give up something good for something better? Use this as a chance to weed out things that are getting in the way of your relationship with the Lord.
 - ⇒ Recommendations: give up streaming (Youtube, Netflix, etc.) for the season; turn off social media; make Wednesdays and Fridays intentional fasting days (two small meals and one regular meal, without snacking in between); stop complaining, and when you do complain make a note of it and bring it to confession.
- Almsgiving: how do I use something good in my life to help someone who needs it more? Use this as a chance to let yourself be uncomfortable and help someone else out.
 - ⇒ Recommendations: Volunteer weekly at the food pantry; volunteer to help the PCCW with funeral luncheons; double your regular tithing (whether here or somewhere else – I'm not trying to sucker more money out of you); have a weekly date night with your spouse.

So there you go – a few things to think about. Lent doesn't last forever – it's a very self-contained 47 days to zero in on where we need to grow. In a very undramatic way, let's make Lent a life-changing season this year! God bless you, Fr. Joe

Parish Announcements

Men's Club Active Again

The Men's Club is back. We will host a meeting on Monday, **February 20th at 6:30 PM** in the church basement. All men of the parish are invited to attend!

Capital Improvement Donation Received

Last week we received an anonymous donation of \$1,000.00 to be used to help cover last fall's expense to carpet the front steps. We thank you and are grateful for your generosity.

2022 Contributions to Bethel Butikk Food Pantry

Last year St. Mary's donated a total of \$661.88 to the Food Pantry. The Butikk sends their appreciation for your contributions and appreciate your continued support to help the needy in our community.

AmazonSmile to end Feb 20, 2023

Please place your orders by February 20th to help St. Mary's. Amazon has decided to end the program and will wind down its operation on February 20th. Until this date, customer purchases made via AmazonSmile will continue to accrue funds for St. Mary's as normal. If you haven't used AmazonSmile please do so now before the program ends. Sign up at: smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1218730. Thank you!

Birthright Baby Bottle Campaign



The annual fundraiser for Birthright of La Crosse is here. Grab a baby bottle from the back of church, take it home and fill it with your spare change. Birthright is an international volunteer organization with a La Crosse chapter since 1976. Birthright is available to those with an unintended pregnancy to provide information, a listening space, and love, along with referrals and emotional and spiritual support when needed. Please read the insert and return at your earliest convenience (by dropping in the collection plate) before or on Sunday February 26, 2023. Thank you and know your pro-life support will be appreciated by moms, dads, and babies to be.

PCCW Announcements

The Holiday Craft show in December was a success with a profit of \$2,331. Thank you to everyone who helped make it a success.

Book Discussion Group - Would you be interested in learning more about your Catholic faith? Those interested will study the **Catechism of the Catholic Church** by using a book written by Christopher Ruff called **Unlocking the Beauty of the Catechism: The Creed**. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, February 23 at 8:30AM. Future meeting dates/time will be scheduled at that time as well as format of the discuss. Please join us on February 23 to learn more.

Parish Social - There will be a parish social after mass on **Sunday, February 26**. If you would like to donate food for the event please sign up in the bake of church.

Roasters for Sale - The PCCW as purchased new roasters for the church kitchen. Now they would like to dispose of the old ones by allowing parishioners to purchase them for \$5 each. If you are interested in purchasing a roaster contact Clarice Kammel at 608-792-2198.

Next PCCW Meeting will be held on March 16th at 5:30PM. We will be making final plans for Fr. Joe's installation as our new pastor. Please attend if you are able.

Diocesan/Local Announcements

Chicken Que & Bake Sale - Sunday, Feb. 12 11 AM - gone.
Tippy Toe Inn, Chaseburg. \$12, eat in or drive thru, includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato, cole slaw & bread. Proceeds to the American Cancer Society.

St. Joseph Ridge Family Fun Night - Friday, Feb. 17
All are welcome to attend. 6:00—9:30 PM. \$10.00 gets you food and drink and entry for door prizes. Games, cash raffle, and fun.

Fat Tuesday Party - Feb. 21

Fat Tuesday party on February 21 at the La Crosse Bierhaus. For more Mardi Gras information, Visit: www.lacrossemaidigras.com/ All are invited to these events in support Aquinas Catholic Schools with funds raised going toward classroom needs, tuition assistance, technology, and fine arts programs.

Euchre Tournament and Luncheon - Feb 26

St. Peter Parish in Middle Ridge will be holding their Annual Cabin Fever Fest on Fe 26th. Doors open at noon, cards start at 1 PM. 1st-4th place prizes awarded. Soup, snacks and beverages included in the price. Questions conatce, 608-486-2180 or email: stpetersrectory@centurytel.net.

Do you have a need for healing - spiritual, physical, psychological, emotional? - Feb 27

Join us for Mass and a Healing Service on Monday, February 27th at Sacred Heart Church in Cashton, WI (1205 Front Street) Schedule of Evening. 5:30 pm - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available throughout the evening beginning at 5:30 pm. 6:30 pm - Holy Mass After Mass - Adoration continues with Prayers of Healing & Deliverance Our clergy and prayer teams will pray over those who desire it.

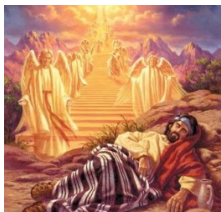
Join St. Joseph Ridge Parish for the Eucharist Lectio Series with Brant Pitre. Starting Feb. 28th at 6:15 in the school hall. Please call Stacy Burns at 608-769-8828 to express interest or to ask questions. This 10 session series explores Scripture, history and Church teaching to illuminate the wonder and the MIRACLE OF THE EUCHARIST.

A Minute with Jesus

~**A Minute with Jesus** ~ Jesus wants us to know He is continually with us. Often times, our mind begins to wander at Mass because we only see bread and wine. What contributes to our distractions is the bombardment of noise and images in our mind that come through our physical senses (hearing, seeing). Therefore, we are much less attuned to the world of the spirit and the much deeper spiritual realities that are right here, all around us. Let's pray this right now and every day this week:

Jesus, help me to learn to be quiet and reveal to my heart the truth the Eucharist is really You present under the appearance of bread and wine.

This week, read about Jacob in the desert, who was very much afraid, and came to realize that God was present right there with him. As with Jacob, we can say as we pray before the Blessed Sacrament, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it." (Genesis 28:10-17)



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- Those suffering from the Coronavirus and those who are working tirelessly to help the ill recover.
- The military men and women who are supporting our freedom.
- Our political leaders, may their decisions be made for the good of all citizens.
- 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.
- Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

To add a request call 608-452-3841 or email stmaryscv@mwt.net

Activity Corner

Psalm 119 Word-Find



See if you can find all the words in CAPITALS. Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end.

Y D S C O F G O O D U
W I T O L O R D B I L
B L A M E L E S S L B
L I T M E L A W E B C
E G U A P O F I R M O
S E T N R W L I V E N
S N E D E C R E E S S
E T S E C M A Y L S I
D L E D E O P E N E D
S Y K E P T S E D E E
M I G H T H W A L K R
W O R D S E R V A N T

Blessed are they who FOLLOW the law of the LORD.

Blessed are they whose way is BLAMELESS, who WALK in the LAW of the Lord.
BLESSED are they who OBSERVE his DECREES, who SEEK him with all their heart.

You have COMMANDED that your PRECEPTS be DILIGENTLY KEPT.

Oh, that I MIGHT be FIRM in the ways of keeping your STATUTES!

Be GOOD to your SERVANT, that I MAY LIVE and keep your WORDS.

OPEN my EYES, that I may CONSIDER THE wonders of your law.

If you obey God's law, _____