

**Diocesan and Community News**

**Message for the week of September 8: A Minute with Jesus: We Respond with Thanksgiving after Receiving Jesus in Holy Communion** Through the power of the Holy Spirit and the words of Jesus repeated by the priest, a miracle happens at every Mass. The substance of the bread and wine becomes the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus, even though the bread and wine still look the same. When we receive Jesus, we want to thank Him for this incredible Gift. Then we can speak with Him about anything that is on our hearts. We also want to listen to what He might say to us in the quiet of our hearts. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, I believe in you. Jesus, I hope in You. Jesus, I want to love You with all my heart. Jesus, I thank You for having come to dwell in me as I receive You in Holy Communion. I welcome You into my heart, embracing Your presence and asking You to "crowd out" whatever might be there that is not of You. And I desire to give You full reign as my Lord, my Savior and my King. Thank You for giving Your life for me on the Cross, loving me this much and allowing me to receive You into my heart in this present moment. And now that You are so close to me, please help me love You more and more and serve You by loving the people around me. Amen. Visit [diolc.org/deeper](http://diolc.org/deeper) for a downloadable Prayer Card with this prayer.

**Walking with Women, Praying with Scripture!** All women are welcome! This is NOT a physical exercise of the body. We practice the ancient exercise of lectio divina, engaging our five senses while reading the Gospels. This practice has been passed down through the church for ages, aiding the faithful to experience a deeper encounter with Jesus in His Living Word. As a group, we desire to offer Christian community for women of all ages. We will be gathering in the Undercroft at **St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral beginning on Thursday, September 19, at 6 p.m.** Please contact Mari Erickson or Amy Mulhern at [walking9praying8@gmail.com](mailto:walking9praying8@gmail.com) for more information.

**Job Opportunity:** The Diocese of La Crosse is in search of an Accounting Services Professional for the Shared Services department. Please go to Indeed.com and search for Diocese of La Crosse.

**Pro-Life Witness – Join 40 Days for Life campaign in La Crosse:** From Sept. 25 to Nov. 3, you are invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – to stand and peacefully pray at a particular hour during a 40-day vigil on the sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood at 1201 Caledonia St., La Crosse. For more information and to sign up, please get in touch with Marie Allen by visiting [40daysforlife.com/en/lacrosse](http://40daysforlife.com/en/lacrosse). The 40 Days for Life opening rally will be held at 4 pm on Sunday, Sept. 15, at Northside Community Church, 1300 Caledonia St., La Crosse. Topic: Post-abortion ministries in our area. All are welcome!

**Kids Korner**

*Jesus Gives the Gift of Hearing*



Being able to hear is a wonderful gift from God. Imagine what it would be like if you couldn't hear anything! In today's Gospel reading, the people begged Jesus to heal a deaf man. What do you think it was like for that man when suddenly he could hear everything that was going on around him?

God has given us the gift of hearing to be able to talk with and listen to other people, and to appreciate the sounds of creation. We use this gift to hear God's Word at Mass and when we are being taught.



Think of all the things that we can do because we can hear: we can listen to and play music, we can sing and talk with people, we can hear birds and wind in the trees, and we can also be warned of things like barking dogs, or cars coming. Did you ever thank God for the gift of hearing? Thank Him today!



Answer to front page: He has done all things well!  
Happy Birthday, Mary!  
Answer to Our Lady's Birthday Word-Find:

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

*Our Lady's Birthday*

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

See if you can find all the words in CAPITALS in the puzzle.

Use the left over letters to fill in the blanks at the end.



On September 8th we celebrate Mary's BIRTHDAY. She was CHOSEN by God to be the MOTHER of JESUS before she was even BORN. To PREPARE Mary to receive His SON, God made her PURE and WITHOUT SIN right from the first moment of her life.

JOACHIM and ANN were HOLY JEWS who were WAITING for the MESSIAH to come. God chose them to be the FATHER and mother of MARY, who would become the mother of CHRIST.



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**PASTOR**

Fr. Biju Chennala Kunjukutty, MSFS

Cell: (715) 495-2338

Email: [bchennala@diolclergy.org](mailto:bchennala@diolclergy.org)

**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday.....8:00 PM

Sunday.....10:00 AM

**WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

Wednesday and Friday.....8:00 AM

**ADORATION**

Wednesday.....7:30 PM to 8:30 PM

**CONFESSIONS**

Wednesdays during Adoration & By Appointment

**PARISH OFFICE (located in the church Sacristy)**

Hours: Wednesday 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Friday 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Melissa Schaub.....Secretary/Bookkeeper

Office Phone: (608) 452-4680

Home Phone: (608) 486-4012

Bulletin deadline: .....Wednesday

Email: [parishoffice@stpmr.diolcparish.org](mailto:parishoffice@stpmr.diolcparish.org)

**PARISH WEBMASTER** Christopher Pundzak

**SACRISTANS** Richard Korish & Austin Menn

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Fr. Biju

**PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL**

Mark Nicolai (Chairman), Rachel Persson,  
Brandon Flock & Louisa Peterson  
(Committee liaisons: Peter Benzing & Leo Leis)

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Tom Schaub, Mark Stephenson, Rob Slattery,  
Peter Benzing, Kathy Flock, Sarah Gronemus

**PCCW - Parish Council of Catholic Women**

Pam Benzing, Mary Bach-Filla

**CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

Leo Leis (Chairman), Mark Gronemus,  
Pat Lucey, Don Halderson, David Scharping

**CEMETERY SEXTON**

Tom Schaub...(608) 486-4012

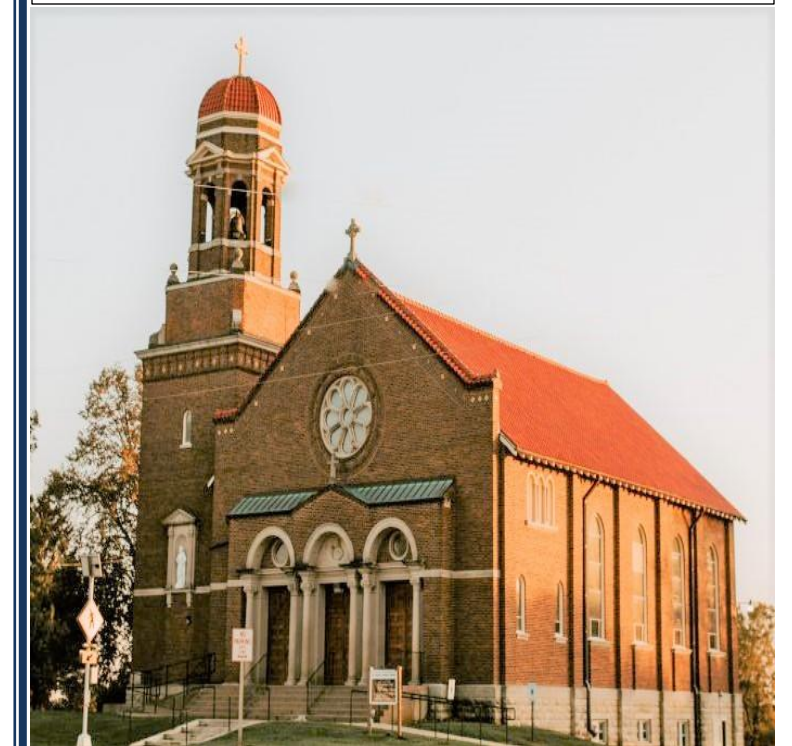
**FUNERAL COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Debra Leis.....(608) 632-7830

**MUSIC**

Terese Slattery, Coordinator.....(608) 452-4605  
Leland Gregorich, Organist

**St. Peters Catholic Church**  
**Middle Ridge, WI**  
**W697 State Hwy 33**  
**Rockland, WI 54653**



Parish website: [www.saintpetersparish.net](http://www.saintpetersparish.net)  
**TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**  
**SEPTEMBER 8, 2024**



“ He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak. ”

Mark 7:37

**CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR:**

- Joining the Parish • Weddings • Baptisms
- Anointing of the sick (Please call Father Biju's cell phone)
- If you are home-bound & would like to be visited

Parish Intentions

9/11 Wednesday 8:00 AM –  
**No Mass**

9/13 Friday 8:00 AM –

**† Chester, Lucille & Rick Schermerhorn (RPS)**

9/14 Saturday 8:00 PM –

**James & (+)Kelly Klumpp (RJK)**

9/15 Sunday 10:00 AM –

**St. Peters Parish Family**



**Annual Sauerkraut Supper**

**Eat-In or Carry-out**

**St. Peter's Church**

Middle Ridge, Wisconsin  
(W697 Highway 33, Rockland, WI)

**Wednesday October 9, 2024**

**Serving 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm**

Church-made Kraut & Pork, Polish Sausage, Glazed carrots, Mashed potatoes and Gravy, Home-made pie

Cost of Dinner **\$15.00**  
Raw Kraut (2.5 lb)  
available for **\$5.00**

**Beverage Tent  
Bake Sale  
Raffles**



Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,870.00
Last Week's Total -	<u>\$1,178.11</u>
	-\$691.89
Year to Date Target -	\$16,830.00
Year to Date Total -	<u>\$10,091.86</u>
	-\$6,738.14

Readings for September 15, 2024

**First Reading:** Isaiah 50:4-9

**Second Reading:** James 2:14-18

**Gospel Reading:** Mark 8:27-35

Ministry Servers

**Saturday September 14 – 8:00 PM**

Servers: Andrew & Matthew Schaub

Ushers: Ron Hurtz & Phil Gronemus

Lector: Lynda Hurtz

**Sunday September 15 – 10:00 AM**

Servers: Arnie & Adeline Nicolai

Ushers: Peter Benzing & Leo Leis

Lector: Kathy Flock

**\*Reminder\*** We understand everybody's schedules get busy. If you are not able to make it on a day you are scheduled PLEASE make the effort to find a replacement or at least let somebody know ahead of time!!

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday @ 7:30 until 8:30 PM

Come spend some quiet time with Jesus.

Confessions available.

8 Ways to Pray During Eucharistic Adoration ~

- Read Spiritual Books - Ask for Intercession - Meditate
- Offer a Holy Hour - Write a Prayer Journal - Read the
- Pray Spontaneously - Ask the Saints for help Scriptures

Parish Calendar of Events

Sun. Sept. 8 - Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM

Wed. Sept. 11 - Safe Environment training at St. Joseph Ridge School hall @ 6:30 PM

Sat. Sept. 14 - Basement cleaning & Supper Prep @ 9 AM

Sun. Sept. 15 - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 - 9:45 AM

Wed. Sept. 18 - Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 - 8:15 PM

Sat. Sept. 21 - Garage clean up & Coffeecake baking @8AM

Fri. Oct. 4 - Anointing of the Sick Sacrament available; contact Fr. Biju to schedule



**\*NOTE\*:** When sending money for flowers, mass intentions, church support or special collections PLEASE make out separate checks or cash as these things go into different accounts and it is easier for bookkeeping purposes.

St. Joseph's Ridge Mass Times

Saturday 4:00 p.m. and Sunday 8:30 a.m.

First Saturday Mass.....8:30am

Confession time available after Mass

Monday .....5:30pm

Tuesday..... 5:30pm

(Adoration before Mass beginning at 5:00 pm)

Thursday.....8:30am

From the Pastor's Pen

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

This weekend we find Jesus in the district of Decapolis which was largely a gentile territory. Jesus' ministry was open to all, not just to the Jews. We read about a deaf man brought to Jesus for healing. Jesus took him aside, away from the crowd, touched him and healed him, using the words "Ephphatha!".

Hearing is an important activity in life. It links us with the outside world just as sight. Hearing loss is frustrating for those who have it and for their loved ones. It contributes to social isolation. One can also become Spiritually hard of hearing. That is when one become deaf to voices that cries out to us. The voice of God, conscience and other. Sometimes we conveniently stop listening. There is a danger in it. The ability to hear God speaking to you is essential to Christian life. We all have times when the Lord should come to us and say "ephphatha" – be opened. We need the Lord to whisper ephphatha into our souls. The need for healing, for ephphatha never really stops. Jesus came to "open" to liberate, to enable us to fully live our relationship with God and with others. This word, "Ephphatha – Be opened," sums up Christ's entire mission. May our ears and heart be opened that we may discern his voice.

Thanks to the visiting fathers for helping us with this weekend Frs. Hilderbrand, Gerald (from the Shrine) and Eugene Wolf.

Live Jesus, Fr Biju MSFS

Parish News

CCD News:

-There will be a Safe Environment training on Wednesday September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at the St. Joseph Ridge school hall. All CCD teachers & other volunteers (sacristans & paid employees included) that work with the youth are required to go through the training.

-Registrations have been emailed out. This can be printed out & brought in on the first day of class or dropped off in the church office before then. Classes will start on Sunday September 15<sup>th</sup> for grades 1 - 6 and Wednesday September 18<sup>th</sup> for grades 7 – 10.

-We are still in need of a Director of Religious Education at St. Peter's. Carol Gronemus is willing to help out as a "co-director". We need someone who is computer savvy and has a desire to shape our young Catholics. This is a great opportunity for a parent who has their child/children in the program and are bringing them to church for class anyway OR a retired person looking to support our youth. This person should be available to oversee at least the Sunday morning classes as Carol will be teaching. Please contact Fr. Biju with questions and/or send your resume to him or the parish office.

**Sauerkraut Supper:** Please mark your calendars for the upcoming supper related activities. We need parishioner HELP on these dates leading up to the supper:

Saturday September 14 at 9:00 AM – Basement cleaning & preparations

Saturday September 21 at 8:00 AM – Garage clean up & Coffeecake baking

Tuesday October 8 & Wednesday October 9 **ALL DAY** – Preparations for dinner

Wednesday October 9 from 4 PM – 7:30 – Serving dinner. Help needed afterwards for clean up.

**The sign-up board can now be found in the back of church. Sign up today!!!**

**First Sunday Rosary:** We pray the rosary on the first Sunday of each month in church at 7:30 PM. **The next one will be September 8<sup>th</sup>.** Please plan to attend to pray as our Holy Mother has called us to do.

**Victory of the Light Conference:** Learn how to grow our DCCW council and make our leaders be the best they can be. Saturday September 21<sup>st</sup> from 10 AM – 4 PM at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Richland Center. See flier in the back of church for more information or email the parish office. RSVP by September 14<sup>th</sup>. A \$10 fee will be collected.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Fr. Biju will be available to perform this Sacrament on the first Friday of the month after daily mass. Please contact him directly if you or a family member would like to receive. **This is available October 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**Fundraising Help Needed:** If you would like to help brainstorm and execute a new fundraiser for the parish, please contact Rachel Persson: 608-386-9543. We are looking for alternative ways to help financially support our parish due to today's financial climate.