

Diocesan and Community News

Need Hope? Take A Minute to Get to Know the “God of All Hope”

God our Heavenly Father is a promise keeper! God made a promise to Abraham that He would give him land for the Chosen People. This promise was made in the first book of the Bible, Genesis 12:1. This promise was kept through Moses as the Israelites were led by God into the “Promised Land” under the leadership of Joshua. (Deut 34:4) It is important that we know how God has kept every promise as this helps to deepen our hope in God, leading to greater trust in Him.

St. Joseph Parish PCCW Chicken Q - Saturday, September 13th:

Please mark your calendars to pick up chicken dinners on Saturday, September 13th at the St. Joseph Church parking lot (St. Joseph Ridge). Dinners will include chicken (prepared by Pogy's catering), potato salad, beans, and roll for \$12.00. Serving will start at 11:00 and will serve until gone. Hope we can see there!

Jubilee 2025 - “Pilgrims of Hope”: A meaningful way to participate in the Jubilee Year of Hope is by making a pilgrimage, which is different from a vacation. A pilgrimage is to a sacred place and involves stepping out of the normal routine with the goal of coming closer to God. Making a pilgrimage reminds us that in our everyday lives we are pilgrims on a journey to heaven, and therefore, our desire is to grow in our relationship with Jesus Christ with whom we hope to spend eternity. Take this opportunity to receive an abundance of God’s grace by making a pilgrimage. The following locations have been set aside as places of pilgrimage: The Cathedral of Saint Joseph the Workman - La Crosse, The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe - La Crosse, Sacred Heart of Jesus Church - Eau Claire, Church of the Resurrection Catholic Church – Wausau & Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church – Nekoosa. *If planning a pilgrimage outside of normal open hours, call ahead to ensure that the church will be unlocked. For more information on Jubilee 2025 visit: diolc.org/jubilee-2025-pilgrims-of-hope*

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Dubuque, IA. Married couples, Give your marriage a well-deserved vacation. Plan to go on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience and come back with a marriage that is refreshed and full of energy! Our next weekend is September 12-14 in Dubuque. For more information call Greg and Denise at (563) 920-9419 or drubner9419@gmail.com.

Diocesan Rural Life Day Mass at Van Wychen Farm: Join us for the 44th annual Rural Life Day at the Van Wychen Family Farm in Warrens on Monday, Sept. 22! Mass with Bishop Battersby at 10:00 AM will be followed by awards, the blessing of farm animals, crops, and machinery and a delightful lunch. The Van Wychen Farm is located at 3365 Auger Road, Warrens, WI 54666. This is a day to celebrate rural life and to rejoice in the way its values contribute to the Church.

Pilgrimage to Mexico with Fr. Tim – Marian Messengers: Join us February 8-13, 2026. Come and visit Our Lady of Guadalupe with Fr. Tim Oudenhoven. We will be walking the actual steps of St. Juan Diego and learning firsthand of the incredible message and mission that Mary has for us! See the flier in the back of church for more information!

Kids Korner

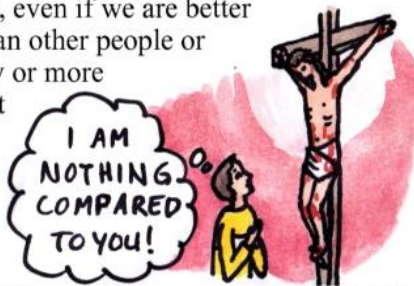
Taking the Lowest Place



In today's Gospel reading, Jesus was watching to see where the people sat when they were guests at a dinner. Some people thought they were important so they sat in the more important places. Jesus saw that they were proud, so He taught them about being humble.

When we are proud we think that we are more important than other people, and that we deserve to have better things. We start to look down on everyone else, and pretty soon we start thinking that God isn't so great either!

Being humble means knowing that we really are not all that important, even if we are better at some things than other people or have more money or more important jobs. It means we know that God gave us these things to help others, not so that we could be proud about them. *Luke 14:1,7-14*



PARISH PRIEST

Rev. Sengole Vethanayagam
(Fr. Sen) (715) 615-1774
frsengolevema@gmail.com

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

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

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday.....8:00 PM

Sunday.....10:00 AM

ADORATION

Wednesday....7:00 PM with Benediction at 8:00 PM

CONFESSIONS

Before Saturday mass & 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

PARISH WEBMASTER

Christopher Pundzak

SACRISTANS

Richard Korish & Austin Menn

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Miranda Flock & Carol Gronemus (assistant)

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

FUNERAL COMMITTEE CHAIR

Deborah Leis

MUSIC

Terese Slattery, Coordinator
Leland Gregorich, Organist

St. Peters Catholic Church Middle Ridge, WI W697 State Hwy 33 Rockland, WI 54653 608-452-4680

Parish website: www.saintpetersparish.net



TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 31, 2025



CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR:

- Joining the Parish • Weddings • Baptisms
- Anointing of the sick
- If you are home-bound & would like to be visited

Parish Intentions

9/3 Wednesday 8:00 AM –
The Souls in Purgatory (RK)
9/5 Friday 8:00 AM –
The living & deceased members
of the Joseph & Marie Kaiser
family (KF)
9/6 Saturday 8:00 PM –
† Valerie Kirchner (RK)
9/7 Sunday 10:00 AM –
St. Peter’s Parish Family

A HUGE



TO ALL WHO HELPED MOVE
FURNITURE, ETC AND CLEAN IN THE
BASEMENT! MAY GOD BLESS YOU
RICHLY FOR YOUR EFFORTS!

Pray Often & Daily!!!

Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,900.00
Last Week’s Total -	<u>\$1,158.00</u>
	\$742.00
Year to Date Target -	\$15,200.00
Year to Date Total -	<u>\$14,635.05</u>
	-\$564.95

Looking Ahead: Readings for September 7, 2025
First Reading: Wisdom 9:13-18
Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11
Gospel Reading: Luke 13:13-17

Ministry Servers

Saturday September 6 – 8:00 PM
Servers: Matthew Schaub & Mason Leis
Ushers: Tom Schaub & Tim Leis
Lector: Melissa Schaub
Sunday September 7 – 10:00 AM
Servers: Marlayna O’Heron, Arnie & Adeline Nicolai
Ushers: Leo Leis & Peter Benzing
Lector: John Hundt
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

Wednesdays: Rosary @ 7:00 PM - Benediction @ 8:00 PM
Come spend some quiet time with Jesus.
8 Ways to Pray During Eucharistic Adoration ~
- Read Spiritual Books - Ask for Intercession - Meditate
- Offer a Holy Hour - Write a Prayer Journal -
Pray Spontaneously - Ask the Saints for help - Read the Scriptures

Parish Calendar of Events

Sun. Aug. 31 – CCD Registrations Due
Sun. Sept. 7 – Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM
Wed. Sept. 10 - Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM
Sun. Sept. 14 - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM
Sun. Sept. 14 – Knights of Columbus will host doughnuts & coffee after mass along with Fellowship
Tues. Sept. 16 – Joint Council meeting @ 7:00 PM
Wed. Oct. 8 – SAUERKRAUT SUPPER

Bishop Battersby is inviting all of us to begin a serious process of renewal and conversion, personally and institutionally, throughout the Diocese of La Crosse. You are invited to attend a 90-minute session. A team will travel to facilitate 40 of these, inviting all of us to share in the first steps of what will be an extended process of strategic and pastoral planning. Please signup on this website: www.dioc.org/rebuildmychurch

The first listening session in our area is at the Virgin Blessed Mary Catholic Church, Viroqua September 7 Noon.

Brochures explaining 'Rebuild My Church' and a full list of listening sessions will be available next weekend.

St. Joseph’s Ridge Mass Times

Saturday 4:00 p.m. and Sunday 8:30 a.m.
Tuesday 5:30 p.m.
(Adoration before Mass beginning at 5:00 p.m.)
Thursday..... 8:30 a.m.
First Saturday Mass..... 8:30am

Stewardship Reflection

Today’s readings remind us of a chief virtue that characterizes the Christian steward: humility. This virtue is often mistaken for self-abasement. However, that view misses the mark. Humility is simply the awareness of who (and Whose) we truly are. It's about acknowledging our dependence on God and recognizing that all we have is a gift from Him. With this understanding, we should reflect this in our daily interactions, decisions, and service to others.

On one hand, we are children of the Most High God who loved us into existence and who, by virtue of our Baptism, has the Holy Trinity dwelling within us. This divine origin of our being should fill us with awe and gratitude. On the other hand, we are children who are utterly dependent on God for our existence and every breath we take.

Our Lord discusses true humility in our Gospel passage from Luke, sharing the parable of guests invited to a wedding banquet and advising us not to seek the most honored place at the table, lest a more distinguished guest arrive and we are asked to move to a lower spot. Jesus has much more in mind here than an etiquette lesson. He is reminding us that all glory belongs to God. The visual image He offers, of having to slide down to a lower seat at the table, shows how foolish we are when we forget to give God the credit for our blessings and talents.

On the other hand, when we live in humility — recognizing that all we have is a gift from God and using those gifts to serve Him and others — then God “exalts” us by filling us with even more of Himself and His grace. It's His grace that enables us to serve and share with humility, and it's through our humble service that we receive more of His grace, creating a beautiful cycle of divine love and human service. Jesus continues to encourage us to serve and share our blessings with people facing circumstances that would make it impossible for them to offer us any worldly advantage or prestige — “the poor, the crippled, the lame.”

Our attitude, along with how we serve and share, should be rooted in genuine humility — recognizing that we are all “little” ones in God's eyes. This sense of equality in God's view helps everyone feel included and appreciated. We are all His children, brothers and sisters, invited to our Father’s heavenly banquet.

Parish News

Basement Project: As you know, the basement floor has been renewed, but you should also check out the new lights that brighten up our space! We still need to move a few more things in before we delve into Sauerkraut Supper preparations. Please plan to help on Thursday September 4th from 6 to 8 PM and Friday September 5th from 10 AM to Noon. Many hands make light work!

CCD News: Parents and Families, please check your email for the CCD registration form and important documents for the 2025-26 school year. Registration is due by **August 31st**. Classes begin on either Wednesday, September 10 or Sunday, September 14. We still need two teachers for Sunday mornings! Please see Miranda Flock with any questions.

Reasons To Celebrate! Wedding Anniversary Blessings: At the first weekend masses in September (6th & 7th), Father Sen will bless all of the Wedding Anniversaries for the month of September. This Wedding Anniversary Blessing will continue for each subsequent month at the first weekend masses. **Birthday Blessings:** At the second weekend masses in September (13th & 14th), Father Sen will bless the September Birthdays. The Birthday Blessing will continue each subsequent month at the second weekend masses.

Sauerkraut Supper: Mark your calendars for Wednesday October 8th! Help will be needed all day the Tuesday before and the day of the supper. Raffle tickets and donation slips are in the back of church. PLEASE PICK YOURS UP TODAY along with any family members or neighbors you could deliver to. There are also fliers to take around to places you frequent.

Eucharistic Adoration: Please note the time change to 7:00 PM. Come to pray the rosary. Benediction will be at 8:00 PM.

Children’s Choir: There will be a 45 minute practice every last Saturday of each month at 3:00 throughout the school year. We will learn some new songs to praise the Lord and His & our Mother Mary. The more the merrier!

Council Openings: There is currently an opening on the Parish Finance and Advisory councils. If you would like to be more active in the decisions at St. Peters, please contact the parish office or Fr. Sen.

Knights of Columbus: The KC’s will be here on Sunday September 14th. They will host coffee & doughnuts after mass along with fellowship. There will be a short meeting. Anyone interested in joining the Knights is encouraged to attend the meeting.

Special Collection for Gaza Relief: “At the request of the President of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Bishop Battersby has authorized a special collection to bring relief to the terrible suffering of Christians and other innocent victims of violence in Gaza and surrounding areas. All funds collected will be divided between the Catholic Near East Welfare Association and Catholic Relief Services, both of which are providing vital humanitarian and medical relief.” If interested, please make your check payable to the St. Peter Parish and we will send one check to the Diocese for Gaza Relief. Please make your donation by September 15th.

Mass of Hope and Healing at Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman: Bishop Gerard Battersby will celebrate a Mass of Hope and Healing on Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 6:30 pm at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman, 530 Main St, La Crosse. This Mass will be offered for anyone grieving the loss of children through miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, abortion, stillbirth, accident or infant death. A book of remembrance will be available before and after Mass for those who would like to inscribe the name(s) of their child(ren). Votive candles will be given to families before Mass in remembrance of each child. Candles will be lit and carried forward by family members, just before the entrance procession, and placed before the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. After Mass, refreshments will be served along with a display of resources and books in the Gathering Space. Volunteers will be present to offer assistance, support, and comfort.