

Diocesan and Community News

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

Another promise that God made to Abraham was that He would make his name great. (Gen 12:2) This promise was kept through King David who was a man after God’s own heart. David faithfully submitted to the will of God, was fervent in his prayer, including the writing of the psalms and humbly repented when his sin was pointed out to Him. His prayer was a faithful adherence to the divine promise and expressed a loving and joyful trust in God, the only King and Lord. God fulfilled His promise as He blessed David’s efforts to unite the Holy Land to be a great nation while making David’s name great. Let us ask Jesus to deepen our loving and joyful trust in God – the promise keeper – during this Jubilee Year of Hope 2025.

**St. Joseph Parish PCCW Chicken Q - Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>:** 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](http://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](mailto: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

Family and Friends or God?



his own life, he cannot be my disciple."

You probably thought that God doesn't want us to hate anyone, right? Well He doesn't! What Jesus was saying was that we should love God more than we love the people closest to us. He means that we should be ready to do what God wants even if that means losing our family or best friends.

Normally God wants us to stay close to the people we love, but what if you had to choose between doing the right thing or keeping your friends? Are you ready to give up anything or anyone that would stop you from loving God?

Answer to Word-Find:  
We ask God for His mercy.



Psalm 90 Word-Find

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

A THOUSAND YEARS in thy sight are but as YESTERDAY when it is past, or as a WATCH in the NIGHT.

Thou dost SWEEP men AWAY; they are like a DREAM, like GRASS which is RENEWED in the morning: in the MORNING it flourishes and is renewed; in the EVENING it FADES and withers.

So teach us to number our DAYS that we may get a HEART of WISDOM. Return, O LORD! How long? Have PITY on thy SERVANTS!

SATISFY us in the morning with thy steadfast LOVE, that we may REJOICE and be GLAD all our days.

See if you can find all the words from today's Psalm that are written in CAPITALS. The leftover letters tell what we are doing when we pray this Psalm.



PARISH PRIEST

Rev. Sengole Vethanayagam  
(Fr. Sen) (715) 615-1774  
[frsengolevema@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.saintpetersparish.net)



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

“...whoever does not  
carry their cross and  
follow me cannot be  
my disciple.”  
~ Luke 14:27



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

9/10 Wednesday 8:00 AM –

† Ione Hauser (TMN)

9/12 Friday 8:00 AM –

The living & deceased members  
of the Korish family (RK)

9/13 Saturday 8:00 PM –

† Leo Bouska (AB)

9/14 Sunday 10:00 AM –

† Leonard, Alberta & Andy Kick  
and Judy (Kick) Murphy (AMS)

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>\$1,353.60</u>
	\$546.40
Year to Date Target -	\$17,100.00
Year to Date Total -	<u>\$15,988.65</u>
	-\$1,111.35

Looking Ahead: Readings for September 14, 2025

First Reading: Numbers 21:4-9

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel Reading: Luke 13:13-17

Ministry Servers

Saturday September 13 – 8:00 PM

Servers: Matthew Schaub & Mason Leis

Ushers: Ron Hurtz & Don Halderson

Lector: Lynda Hurtz

Sunday September 14 – 10:00 AM

Servers: Jake & Josh Peterson

Ushers: Mark Gronemus & Mark Stephenson

Lector: Joseph Peterson

**\*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. 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](http://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 clearly show the demands placed on those who want to be called disciples of Christ. We must be ready to give our all to Him. But ultimately, the life of discipleship — this stewardship way of living — is the only life that can truly satisfy.

In the Gospel passage from Luke, Christ says, "If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple." Our Lord is not speaking of feelings but rather of priorities. He must come first in every part of our lives. Period.

He continues. "Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." In other words, it's all or nothing. Compromise simply isn't an option. Christ wants us to give all of ourselves—our personal lives, our family, our parish—to Him and to the pursuit of His kingdom.

And just when we think our Lord might soften His message to make it easier to accept, He goes even further! "Anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." Why is our Lord so demanding? Only because He knows us deeply and loves us immensely.

He knows that if we don't prioritize Him above all, we'll be easily overwhelmed by earthly concerns — our material things, our status, and our egos. He understands these things cannot truly satisfy us. He knows this because He is our Creator, and He made us for more.

We are created to be His disciples, to seek after Him and His Kingdom. Embracing stewardship as a way of life helps us to recognize the cost and then pursue Him with all our strength.

Parish News

**CCD News:** CCD classes will begin on Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> for grades 7<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> and Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup> for grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup>. If you have yet to turn in your families registration and fees, please send them with your child on the first day of class.

**Mass Intentions:** We are finally getting caught up on our back log of mass intentions and are seeking more. If you would like to have a mass said for your intention you can place it in a marked envelope in the offertory. The mass intention fee is now \$20.

**Knights of Columbus:** The KC's will be here on Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**Attention Ladies:** There will be an LDCCW Share Shop event on Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup> at Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine in the main church crypt, lower level. **ADMISSION IS FREE!** Registration begins at 9:30 AM, Mass at 12:15 and then a "Wedding Feast" lunch at 1:15 provided by Festiva Mexicana. Afterwards there will be a speaker from the St. Terese Foundation and a holy hour. Come to share what projects have been done throughout the deanery and to enjoy fellowship & prayer with other ladies in our deanery.

**Reasons To Celebrate! Wedding Anniversary Blessings:** At the first weekend masses in September, 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 (13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>), 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 8<sup>th</sup>! 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.

**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 15<sup>th</sup>.

**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.