

## Diocesan and Community News

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

**Jesus is Our Hope (1 Tim 1:1)** There are many reasons why God gives us the supernatural virtue of hope. Here are a few important reasons: Hope leads us to persevere in prayer, even when all reason for hope seems absent. (Romans 14:18-21) Hope offers us joy and courage which sustains us in times of trial. Hope allows us to live, grow and persevere in faith. When we need the gift of hope, the most important thing we can do is ask for it. The Lord will answer our prayer. Let us ask Jesus for an increase of hope during this Jubilee Year of Hope.

**ST. MARY’S ANNUAL CRAFT SHOW Saturday, December 6, 2025:** Join us for St. Mary’s Annual Craft Show and discover unique, one-of-a-kind gifts for the holiday season! Shop from a variety of talented local vendors and crafters. 🕒 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM 📍 Coon Valley Village Hall, 108 Roosevelt St. Enjoy delicious concessions available throughout the day. Admission is free, so bring your family and friends for a fun day of shopping and community spirit! For more information, visit [www.stmarycv.org/craft-show](http://www.stmarycv.org/craft-show) or contact Nancy Peters at 608-790-6034 or [Peters@mwt.net](mailto:Peters@mwt.net).

**MMOC Cookie Walk:** Mary, Mother of the Church parish will be holding their Cookie Walk & Craft Sale on Sat., Dec. 13, in the parish hall located at 2006 Weston St., La Crosse, from 7:30 AM - 1 PM. Homemade cookies, candies, breads, pies, Scandinavian sweets, handcrafted items, Scrip gift cards and raffles are available for sale. Serving breakfast (featuring egg bakes and cinnamon rolls) and lunch (homemade soup and chili). Door Prizes every half hour.

**A Home for the Holidays Gala Benefiting Karuna House:** *Together, we’re creating brighter futures!* Karuna House is thrilled to announce the purchase of our first building on Copeland Avenue. We will add eight new housing units by year’s end, more than a year ahead of schedule! Karuna Inc. provides safe, sustainable housing and 24-hour peer-based support, helping residents find a “life worth living.” We offer stability, warmth, and hope for those facing homelessness, health risks, and life on the streets. Join us for the **2nd Annual “A Home for the Holidays” Gala** as we celebrate this milestone and raise support for our mission.

**Saturday, December 13, 2025 from 5:30 – 11:00 PM**

**Radisson Hotel Ballroom, La Crosse**

Enjoy a fun evening with a cocktail reception, formal dinner, auctions, dancing, and more! Ways to Help:

- Donate auction items (gift baskets, tickets, getaways, experiences)
- Sponsor the event
- Purchase tickets and attend

Visit [karunahousing.org/gala](http://karunahousing.org/gala) or call Kristine at 612-803-3684 to donate or sponsor. Let’s create **A Home for the Holidays** for those who need it most this holiday season.

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter | Feb 13-15, 2026 | Dubuque, IA:

Married couples - would you like to relive the excitement, romance and passion from your honeymoon? Rekindle that spark on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Join us February 13-15, 2026 in Dubuque, Iowa. Sign up soon as space is limited. For more information contact Greg and Denise at [drubner9419@gmail.com](mailto:drubner9419@gmail.com).

**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

### *It's Time to get Ready for Christmas!*

Advent is here! In a few weeks it will be Christmas, so it's time to start getting ready!



During Advent we remember Jesus' first coming, and get ourselves and our homes ready to celebrate His birthday. Lighting the candles on an Advent wreath helps us to remember that Jesus, the light of the world, is coming. We start with one candle, and every week light one more, so that the closer we get to Jesus' coming the brighter it gets.



In Advent we also think about Jesus' second coming. In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the people to be prepared for that time. We must never let ourselves forget that this world and this life are only temporary and that we have something much greater to look forward to: Jesus and Heaven!



Answer to puzzle on front page: Be ready!

## Fill in the Blanks: The Lord is Coming!



Use the words in the list at the bottom to fill in the blanks in today's Gospel reading. Use the letters in the boxes to fill in the blanks at the end.

Matthew 24:37-44 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

In those days  the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah

the ark.

They did not know until the flood came and  them all away.

So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.

Two  will be out in the field; one will be , and one will be left.

Two women will be

at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left.

Therefore,  awake!

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.

!

STAY ENTERED MEN BEFORE  
GRINDING TAKEN CARRIED



## 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 8:05 PM

## CONFESSIONS

Wednesday during Adoration

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

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. Peter's Catholic Church Middle Ridge, WI W697 State Hwy 33 Rockland, WI 54653 608-452-4680

Parish website: [www.saintpetersparish.net](http://www.saintpetersparish.net)



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
NOVEMBER 30, 2025

“At an hour you do not expect,  
the Son of Man will come.”

-Matthew 24:37-44

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

12/3 Wednesday 8:00 AM –  
† Dave & Marcie Hundt (HF)  
12/5 Friday 8:00 AM –  
† Chelsea Mashak (MF)  
12/6 Saturday 8:00 PM –  
† Richard & Marilyn Clements (MLH)  
12/7 Sunday 10:00 AM –  
St. Peter Parish Family  
12/8 Monday 8:00 PM –  
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
† Leo Bouska (AB)

**Attention:** If you would like to have a mass prayed for your intention, you can place it in a marked envelope in the offertory. If you have a certain date you would like, please specify. The mass intention fee is now \$20.

Ministry Servers

**Saturday December 6 – 8:00 PM**  
Servers: Brielle & Brooklyn Lundeen  
Ushers: Bill Korn & Phil Gronemus  
Lector: Julie Lundeen  
**Sunday December 7 – 10:00 AM**  
Servers: Sawyer Tollefson, Jake & Josh Peterson  
Ushers: Leo Leis & Gary Gronemus  
Lector: Joseph Peterson  
**Monday December 8 – 8:00 PM**  
**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
Servers: Matthew Schaub & Arnie Nicolai  
Ushers: Tom Schaub & Duane Leis  
Lector: Melissa Schaub  
  
**\*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 – Eucharistic Exposition @ 7:20 PM – Quiet Prayer/Confession - Benediction @ 8:05 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

**Wed. Dec. 3** – Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM  
**Sat. Dec. 6/Sun. Dec. 7** – PCCW Cookie Sale after masses  
**Sun. Dec. 7** - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM  
**Sun. Dec. 7** – Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM  
**Mon. Dec. 8** – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary mass at St. Peter @ 8:00 PM (St. Joseph @ 6 PM)  
**Tues. Dec. 9** – Parish Finance Council meeting @ 6:30 PM  
**Wed. Dec. 10** – Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM  
**Sun. Dec. 14** - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM  
**Sun. Dec. 21** – Christmas decoration set up after mass



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

First Sunday in Advent

Today, we embark on the profound journey of Advent — a season of profound significance. It is a time of preparation, not just for the celebration of the birth of our Savior, but also for the anticipation of His second coming. These are weighty tasks with eternal consequences. So, let us as Christian stewards make the words of the Prophet Isaiah our motto for the season: “Come, let us climb the Lord’s mountain to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways and we may walk in his paths.” As we approach Christmas, the world seems to demand more from us. It urges us to spend more, do more, and be more, all in the pursuit of a 'perfect' Christmas. However, the Church’s wisdom calls us to a different path, one that leads us to focus on our spiritual lives. This shift in focus can indeed feel like a challenging mountain climb, but it is a climb worth taking. But the intentional and wise use of the gift of time is precisely what the Christian steward is called to do, and with even greater intensity during Advent. How can we use our time to prepare for a holy celebration of Jesus’ birth on Dec. 25 and for his second coming at a date we do not know? Here are some practical tips: set aside time for personal prayer and reflection, attend additional church services, participate in Advent themed Bible studies, and engage in acts of charity and kindness. We can push back against the world’s pressure to have the “perfect Christmas.” Scale back on the material kind of gift-giving, the complicated menus, the unessential trappings of the season, so that we have more time for the spiritual preparations: Confession, weekday Mass, adoration, family prayer time, lighting the Advent wreath, acts of kindness. While the journey may feel like a mountain climb, the rewards are immeasurable. At the end of this spiritual preparation, we will be ready to celebrate a truly meaningful Christmas. We will have grown closer to our Savior and be prepared for His second coming. Let’s embrace this climb up the Lord’s mountain!

Parish News

**Office Hours:** The office hours for Fridays up until Christmas may vary. Wednesdays are best if you need to contact the secretary.

**Sauerkraut Supper:** There is a correction on the report that was sent out a few weeks ago. The price for the milk (\$143.96) was included in the expenses list, but was forgotten to be listed on the report.

**PCCW Cookie Sale Information:** We will be having a Christmas cookie sale after the December 6th and 7th masses with proceeds going to the Warming Center and Cashton Cupboard. We would like to request donations of Christmas cookies or treats from parishioners. Please have donations to church by Dec. 6th at 10:30 AM. There will be a PCCW meeting at 10:30 AM while we repackage cookies and discuss yearly donations. Please plan to help. It goes quickly with many hands!

**The Immaculate Conception of Mary:** On December 8, the Church celebrates one of the most beautiful Truths of our Faith: the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This solemnity honors the moment when Mary, from the first instant of her existence, was preserved free from all stain of original sin. God prepared Mary in a unique way to be the Mother of His Son. There will be mass here at **St. Peter at 8:00 PM** and at St. Joseph at 6:00 PM. The Masses for the Tri-Parishes will be at 10:00 AM at Sacred Heart and at 7:30 PM at St. Mary’s Ridge. This is a Holy Day of Obligation.

**Memorial Mass:** Lou Dolente was our organist for several years here at St. Peter and made many friends during that time. Sadly, Lou lost his battle with Pancreatic cancer on November 9<sup>th</sup>. We will have a mass here for him on Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM. The choir will sing several of his favorite songs. A potluck is planned afterwards in the basement. All are welcome.

**Christmas Flowers & Church Decorating:** Anyone wanting to donate towards the beautiful flowers that adorn our church during the Christmas season you may place your donation in a marked envelope in the offertory. We will set up the Christmas trees and decorate church on Sunday December 21<sup>st</sup> after mass. Please plan to help as many hands makes light work!!

**Advent begins Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>:** Advent is the season of preparation for the birth of Christ that includes a call to purification through personal spiritual renewal, receiving the sacrament of reconciliation (confession), and making simple acts of penance and sacrifice. Purification is a key theme, involving the cleansing of hearts and minds from worldly distractions to focus on Christ's coming, asking for the grace to "purify hope" and preparing for the Lord. The priest’s vestments during Advent are purple, the color of penance and sacrifice. They are a constant reminder of our need to get ready—to be cleansed and purified. Advent is a season for stepping back from our busy lives, taking time in stillness and solitude, to reflect more deeply on the mystery of God’s Incarnation—Jesus taking on human flesh to be among us. This can also include something like not having dessert occasionally, or turning off the TV for one night or setting aside an electronic device for an hour. Or this can include helping someone in need or visiting a person who is lonely. We offer small sacrifices to spend this Advent in true preparation for the real gift of Christmas—Jesus Christ.



Pray Often & Daily!!!

Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,900.00
Last Week's Total -	\$855.00
	-\$1,045.00
Year to Date Target -	\$39,900.00
Year to Date Total -	\$35,889.99
	-\$4,010.01

Looking Ahead: Readings for December 7, 2025

**First Reading:** Isaiah 11:1-10  
**Second Reading:** Romans 15:4-9  
**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 3:1-12