

Diocesan and Community News

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

The New Year 2026: Jesus is Our Hope (1 Tim. 1:1)
Moving forward in this New Year, we are called to be beacons of hope in the world, as called for in Romans 15:13: *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."* Let us continue to ask the Lord to increase our faith and hope in Him so that as beacons, we will help others to encounter Jesus through acts of love and mercy.

Healing Ministry for those Who Have Lost a Baby: Do you know someone who is carrying the grief and sorrow of losing a child through miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirth, or abortion? Rachel Ministries of the Diocese of La Crosse offers a compassionate heart and confidential help. Call 608.860.6698 or email Hope4U@diolc.org. There are also healing retreats offered in the Diocese of Madison. For more information, visit <http://madisondiocese.org/rachel>.

Franciscan Spirituality Center: Winter can be an especially challenging time of year for people who are experiencing grief. The Franciscan Spirituality Center, 920 Market St., La Crosse, WI, offers the following programs, open to anyone seeking support and understanding amid the loss of a loved one.

LISTENING TOGETHER, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Monday, January 12: This free, drop-in gathering on the second Monday of the month is open to anyone who would like peer support and a safe place to share stories and process emotions – after an immediate loss as well as those that surface years later.

GRIEF CIRCLE, 10 a.m.-noon Wednesdays starting January 21: This six-week, in-person gathering is a welcoming space to share thoughts, feelings and concerns with others who understand the depth of your pain. For more information or to register, please visit www.FSCenter.org or call 608-791-5295.

CALIX: A Catholic Substance Abuse Recovery Support Group: Calix is an association of Catholics wanting to live free of addiction to alcohol or drugs, and it is also for affected family members. It is not a substitute for AA or Al-Anon, but provides a Catholic perspective to complement these 12-step programs. "Calix," Latin for "chalice," was founded in Minneapolis in 1947 by a group of five men, all recovering alcoholics, who saw their Catholic faith as a sure path to serenity without alcohol. If you are interested in learning about the Calix group that meets every other Tuesday by Zoom in the Diocese of La Crosse, email Christine at healthandharmonywi@gmail.com. To learn more about Calix <http://www.calixsociety.org/>.

Rebuild My Church: What did people say at the 40 listening sessions this fall? Those comments are now available for viewing, along with a summary of the top trends. You can also check out a brief video from Fr. Derek Sakowski sharing a Christmas story illustrating what it means to "pivot from maintenance to mission" at this link: <https://diolc.org/rebuildmychurch/updates/>.

Kids Korner

The Epiphany

At the beginning of the new year we celebrate both Mary, the Mother of God and the Epiphany, which is when the wise men came from far away to worship baby Jesus.

Imagine that you are living a long time ago in Bethlehem and your parents have invited a poor family to stay at your house: a mother, a father and a new baby.

One day something amazing happens: some rich men from a far away country come to see the baby and bring expensive treasures for him! Do you know who the family is now? Who is the baby?

The baby is Jesus, of course, and the mother is Mary. She holds Jesus on her lap so the wise men can bow down to Him and worship Him. Mary cooperated with God to bring Jesus into the world so that we could all see and love and worship Him.

Can you thank Mary today for bringing Jesus to us?



Octave of Christmas Word-Find

*Can you find all the words in the list in the puzzle below?
Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks at the end.*

ANGELS	GLORY	PRAISE
ANIMALS	GOD	SAVIOUR
BABY	HOLY	SHEEP
BARN	JESUS	SHEPHERDS
BETHLEHEM	JOSEPH	SING
BORN	MANGER	SKY
COLD	MARY	STABLE
FIELDS	MOTHER	WONDER
FOUND	NIGHT	WORSHIP

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

On the eighth
day of
Christmas we
honour in a
special way

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 8:05 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

PARISH WEBMASTER

Christopher Pundzak

SACRISTANS

Richard Korish & Austin Menn

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Miranda Flock & Carol Gronemus (assistant)

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Mark Nicolai (Chairman), Brandon Flock,
Louisa Peterson, James Hundt & Nick Gronemus
(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



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
JANUARY 4, 2026



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

1/7 Wednesday 8:00 AM –
† **Marcie & Dave Hundt (HF)**
1/9 Friday 8:00 AM –
St. Peter’s Parish Family
1/10 Saturday 8:00 PM –
The Augustine Family (ACN)
1/11 Sunday 10:00 AM –
† **Tom O’Heron (MJM)**

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 January 10 – 8:00 PM
Servers: Brielle & Brooklyn Lundeen
Ushers: Don Halderson & Phil Gronemus
Lector: Julie Lundeen
Sunday January 11 – 10:00 AM
Servers: Sawyer Tollefson, 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 – 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

Sun. Jan. 4 - Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM
Wed. Jan. 7 - Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM
Sun. Jan. 11 - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM
Sun. Jan. 11 - Take down Christmas decorations
Wed. Jan. 14 - Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM
Sun. Jan. 18 - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM



**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 8:00 a.m.
Tuesday 5:30 p.m.
(Adoration before Mass beginning at 5:00 p.m.)
Thursday.....8:00 a.m.
First Saturday Mass.....8:00 a.m.
(Please note new mass times)

Stewardship Reflection

The Epiphany of the Lord

As our Christmas celebration continues, today we observe the great feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word “epiphany” comes from Greek and means manifestation or appearance. Recognizing God’s manifestations in our lives helps us feel connected and grateful, inspiring us to live as faithful stewards. Our Gospel passage from Matthew highlights the Magi's example of living as good stewards through their actions and recognition of God's presence. As good stewards, the magi watched for signs of God’s presence in their lives. “We have seen the star at its rising,” they say. Good stewards are keenly aware of the “star” of God’s presence and His gifts in their lives. It is this awareness that fills them with gratitude and the desire to worship God and share His gifts with others. The magi, upon witnessing God’s presence in their lives, "were overjoyed.” When we acknowledge God’s gifts and presence, we can feel a deep, lasting joy that sustains us beyond worldly promises, filling us with hope and spiritual fulfillment. Finally, the magi were so awestricken when they encountered the newborn Jesus that they prostrated themselves before him and “opened their treasures and offered him gifts.” Sharing our material gifts becomes a loving act of worship, deepening our sense of purpose and devotion to God's love. Let us actively seek and rejoice in God’s manifestations in our lives, remaining watchful for new ways to share ourselves and our gifts in gratitude to our King in the year ahead.

Parish News

Thank you to those who donated towards our beautiful Christmas flowers:

- In memory of the deceased members of the Al Antony family
- In memory of Gene Flock, Chad Mlsna & Kylie VonRuden
- In memory of Jacob Gronemus
- In memory of Rick Schermerhorn, Arnold & Theresa Arentz
- Margie Lee, Ann Hundt, Pat & Darla Lucey, Gary & Deb Flock

Christmas Decorations: As beautiful as they are, all good things must come to an end. We will take down our Christmas decorations on Sunday, January 11th after mass. Please plan to help so everything can be packed away safely & swiftly.

Mission Trip: Join Us for a Life-Changing Mission Trip to Casa Hogar! Get ready for an unforgettable adventure! In August 2026, students from our parish are invited to travel to Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II in Peru—a home filled with joy, faith, and hope. You’ll serve alongside incredible families, help with community projects, grow in friendship, and experience the vibrant culture of Peru. This is more than a trip—it’s a chance to make a real impact and let God work through you in amazing ways. Want to learn more? Contact Mike Klinkner or Carol Gronemus. A meeting will be planned soon. Let’s step out in faith together!

Help Catholic Charities Love our Neighbors in Need: Catholic Charities reaches out to our neighbors in need in so many ways, from providing shelter to the homeless in our midst (especially in winter) to giving hope and support to moms before and after birth to working with married couples looking to adopt, to assisting the poor and people with disabilities. Especially in this holy season of Christmas, find out how you can help by visiting cclse.org .

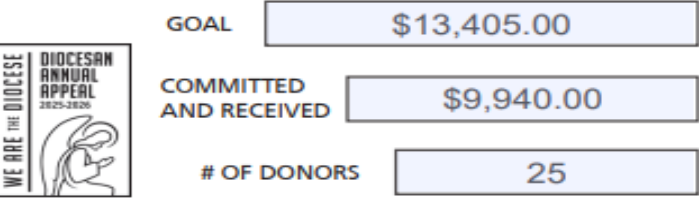
Reasons To Celebrate! Wedding Anniversary Blessings: At the first weekend masses Father Sen will bless all of the Wedding Anniversaries for the month. This Wedding Anniversary Blessing will continue for each subsequent month at the first weekend masses. **Birthday Blessings:** At the second weekend masses, Father Sen will bless the birthdays for the month. The Birthday Blessing will continue each subsequent month at the second weekend masses.

Diocese Of La Crosse Guidelines For Reporting Instances Of Child Abuse: The Diocese of La Crosse, through its policies and procedures, seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local Parish and on the diocesan website. If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679 or tbrown@diolc.org.



AS THE FATHER HAS
SENT ME, SO I SEND YOU.
- JOHN 20:21

DIOLC.ORG/STEWARDSHIP



Pray Often & Daily!!!



Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,900.00
Last Week’s Total -	\$6,187.52
	+\$4,287.52
Year to Date Target -	\$49,400.00
Year to Date Total -	\$50,326.27
	+\$926.27

Looking Ahead: Readings for January 11, 2026

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7
Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38
Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:13-17