

Diocesan and Community News

Lent: Let God Love You...and THEN, Learn to Love Him Back! Remember, as we move through Lent, we always want to start with our focus on God's love for us. So, what is the story of your life this past week? Have you let God love you? Very specifically, how have you recognized one way in which you have experienced God's love for you – concretely, how He has blessed you? Spend a few minutes thinking through that situation and ponder the way in which He loved you in that experience. Sin wounds the relationship we were created for—a life of love and communion with God. The Father's mercy, revealed through the death and resurrection of His Son, reaches its fullness when we approach Him with a humble and contrite heart. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Jesus offers us the opportunity to be restored to friendship with God, the Church, and one another. Instituted by Christ on the evening of His Resurrection, this Sacrament allows us to experience His mercy and healing love in a deeply personal way. Further, in this purification from sin, we experience enlightenment, which is the grace of the Holy Spirit, guiding us in the way of goodness and truth.

Venerate the "Madre Peregrina" - Pilgrim Mother Sculpture: The "Madre Peregrina" - Pilgrim Mother is a life-size sculpture depicting the Virgin Mary in her apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patroness of the Americas. Originating from the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City, this replica is crafted to closely resemble the original miraculous image as a living apparition. The primary purpose of the Madre Peregrina sculpture is to bring the spiritual presence and intercessory power of Our Lady of Guadalupe to communities worldwide, fostering peace, love and hope among Catholic pilgrims. The veneration experience will take place at Christ the King Chapel at Holy Cross Diocesan Center from Friday, March 13 - Sunday, March 15. 3710 East Ave. S. in La Crosse. Venerations will also be held at these parishes: St. Charles Borromeo, Chippewa Falls, March 19 – April 5 and St. Peters, Stevens Point, April 16 – April 22.

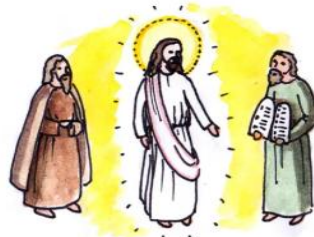
Domestic Church Evangelization Retreat - Put more Joy into your Marriage: Are you a couple wanting to experience a more joy-filled marriage? Take part in the Domestic Church retreat at Franciscan Spirituality Center 920 Market St. in La Crosse on April 25 & 26th. Couples attending the retreat will experience a renewed love as spouses and find themselves united together in Christ. Register today at <https://diolc.org/marriage/marriage-enrichment/>. For more information, email Jeff and Alice Heinzen at LaCrosse@domesticchurchfamilies.com.

- Saturday will begin at 8:00 AM with Mass and check-in.
- The retreat will conclude Sunday at 3:00 PM
- Nursing babies are welcome! We ask toddler+ ages not to attend as it is a distraction for you as parents. The focus of this retreat is you and your spouse with God at the center, and even though we love them, 2+ ages will be a distraction for you.
- Questions about the retreat can be emailed to Jeff and Alice Heinzen: lacrosse@domesticchurchfamilies.com
- A \$200 payment is due at time of registration.

Scholarships are available for this retreat. Please email finances@domesticchurchfamilies.com for a scholarship request form.

Kids Korner

Jesus Shows His Glory



In today's Gospel reading Jesus took three of His apostles up a mountain and gave them a vision of His true glory. He shone as bright as the sun- so bright they could hardly look at Him. But did you know that what they saw was only a tiny bit of the true glory of God?

It was so beautiful that Peter wanted Him to stay that way. He offered to build tents for Jesus and Moses and Elijah, who appeared with Him. But the joy of that moment wasn't meant to last forever. It was just a little taste of Heaven.

Jesus gave this experience to the three apostles just a little while before He went to Jerusalem to suffer and die on the cross. He knew that they would be terrified and very sad when He died so He gave them a preview of the glory He would go back to after He rose from the dead. That way they knew they had a reason to hope even when He was killed.

Sometimes we have awful things to suffer through too. Maybe a friend will move away or one of our grandparents will die. But we never have to give up hope because we know that eventually everyone who loves Jesus will live in total happiness in Heaven.



Word Find

JESUS took Peter, JAMES, and JOHN his brother, and led them up a high MOUNTAIN by THEMSELVES. And he was TRANSFIGURED before them; his FACE SHONE like the SUN and his CLOTHES became WHITE as LIGHT. And behold, Moses and ELIJAH appeared to them, conversing with him. Then PETER said to Jesus in reply, "LORD, it is GOOD that we are here. If you wish, I will make THREE tents here, one for you, one for MOSES and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a bright CLOUD cast a SHADOW OVER them, then from the cloud came a VOICE that said, "This is my beloved SON, with whom I am well PLEASED; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they FELL prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "RISE, and do not be AFRAID." And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus ALONE.

Find all the words in CAPITALS above in the puzzle. Use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks below.

After all this happened, Jesus told the disciples not to tell anyone

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MVOICEWHITEU
 ONPLEASEDRCS
 UJESUSSONALH
 NOTHREETINOO
 THEMSELVESUN
 ANROALONEFDE
 IJISHADOWIGA
 NASELIJAHGOF
 LMESIOVERUOR
 FELLGHELORDA
 HSADHRFACEII
 SCLOTHESEDND

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



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 1, 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

3/4 Wednesday 8:00 AM –
St. Peter Parish Family
3/6 Friday 8:00 AM –
 † **Leo Bouska (AB)**
3/7 Saturday 8:00 PM –
Deceased members of the Clifford & Patricia Wachuta family (THW)
3/8 Sunday 10:00 AM –
 † **Dave & Marcie Hundt (HF)**

Ministry Servers

Saturday March 7 – 8:00 PM
 Servers: Matthew Schaub & Mason Leis
 Ushers: Ron Hurtz & Mike Leis
 Lector: Lynda Hurtz
Sunday March 8 – 10:00 AM
 Servers: Max Slattery & Sawyer Tollefson
 Ushers: Robert Slattery & 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!!

Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays at 7:00 PM
Adoration & Benediction to follow

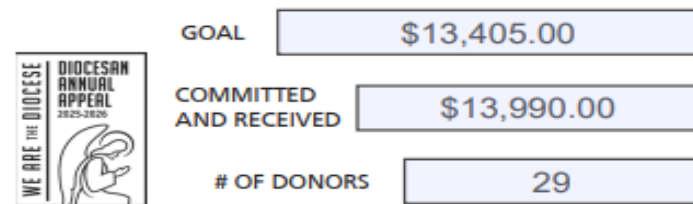
Parish Calendar of Events

Sun. March 1 – St. Peters Annual Cabin Feverfest Euchre Tournament & Luncheon
Sun. March 1 – Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM
Wed. March 4 – Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM
Sun. March 8 – Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM
Sun. March 8 – First Communion Banner mass
Tues. March 10 – Cemetery meeting @ 7:00 PM
Wed. March 11 – Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM
Sun. March 15 – Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM
Tues. March 17 – Parish Advisory Council @ 7:00 PM
Mon. March 30 – All day Confessions at the Cathedral



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

DIOLC.ORG/STEWARDSHIP



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.

Stewardship Reflection

Second Sunday of Lent

Our readings for this second Sunday of Lent remind Christian stewards to stay focused on their 40-day journey toward more profound holiness, encouraging continued engagement and reflection.

The first reading from the book of Genesis recounts God's call to Abram (later called Abraham). God instructs Abram to leave his home and set out for a land God has chosen for him. Abram's response is an ancient example of good stewardship. Instead of clinging to his comfortable home and way of life, he recognizes that all he has is a gift from God, trusts in God, and obeys. God rewards him, saying, "I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing."

To 'be a blessing' is the core goal of a stewardship way of life, inspiring us to live out Lent through sacrifices, disciplines, and acts of service that honor God and uplift others.

Lest we grow weary on this path, our Gospel passage today, from Matthew, offers a powerful image of the great God we serve. It is the story of the Transfiguration of Jesus, when our Lord reveals Himself in His true glory and the Father says, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." The apostles who witnessed this were awestruck. But our loving Savior reassured them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid."

As we reflect on 'Listen to him' and 'Rise, and do not be afraid,' let these words reassure us. Trusting in God's strength can help us face Lent with confidence and hope, deepening our spiritual journey.

Parish News

First Communion Banner Mass: At the Sunday, March 8th mass the students preparing for their First Holy Communion will present their banners depicting what this Sacrament means to them. Please keep in your prayers Bellamy MIsna & Lennox Stephenson. Special thanks to Duane Leis who has helped prepare them for this momentous occasion.

Lenten Gathering: Please join us on Sunday, March 15th at 4:00 PM for a time for prayer, fellowship & refreshments. We will recite the rosary at 4:00 in the church and then move downstairs for refreshments and fellowship. Bring your family and friends, and if you like, some food to share!

Book Drive: This Lenten season, our CCD students are putting their faith into action by collecting new and gently used children's books to share with families in our parish and community. As part of their Lenten journey of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, CCD students will gather and prepare these books to be gifted to families at Easter — a reminder of hope, joy, and new life in Christ.

How you can help:

- Donate new or gently used children's books for ages toddler–12
- Place donations in the collection box at church during Lent

Stations of the Cross: There will be Stations of the Cross at 7:00 PM followed by Adoration & Benediction throughout Lent. If you would like to volunteer to lead the Stations please contact Fr. Sen. "The Stations of the Cross allow us to prayerfully journey with Jesus to Golgotha, the place of His Crucifixion. The Stations of the Cross are also a means to enter into our suffering and experience the hope we have in Christ through the Resurrection. They give us the courage to journey alongside those who are suffering, to provide a helping hand to those who have fallen, to help someone carry their cross, to offer an act of compassion in the midst of humiliation, to simply sit at the foot of the cross and witness suffering and know that as we encounter others who suffer, we encounter Christ, as well."

Honoring our Intentions: If you have requested a mass intention, Fr. Sen would like you to volunteer to bring up the gifts for that mass. This is a way to be more involved in the mass. Parishioners, if you see there isn't a family coming forward, please help out. The masses for our Parish Family are open for ANYONE to help! The younger kids love to be a part of this and it gives them something to watch for & get excited about. Let us all be more present and participate in the Mass.

Men of the Cross: Forged for Mission | March 21, 2026 | Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church: Men of the Diocese! This is your invitation to step away from the noise of daily life and be renewed in faith, brotherhood, and purpose. Join other Catholic men for a powerful day of encouragement and formation as we grow stronger as disciples, husbands, fathers, and leaders forged for mission.

Featured Speaker: Bart Schuchts **Mass Celebrant:** Fr. Sam Martin **Cost:** \$45 (includes breakfast & lunch) **High School Men:** Attend FREE with a parent/guardian. Come be strengthened, challenged, and inspired to live boldly for Christ and bring His mission into your home, parish, and community. Register today at <https://menofthecross.org/> and invite a friend!

"A Retreat for a Parish on Mission": Monsignor David Kunz will be leading a Lenten Mission at St. Teresa of Kolkata Parish, located at 210 W. Hamlin St. in West Salem, Sunday, March 15th, through Friday, March 20th. The times are: Sunday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m.; Monday, March 16, at 2:00 p.m.; Tuesday, March 17, at 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, March 18, at 2:00 p.m.; Thursday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m.; and Friday, March 20, at 2:00 p.m. The daytime sessions repeat the previous evening session. All are welcome. Together we can grow closer to Christ during Lent.

St. Peters Church - Middle Ridge

Cabin Fever Fest

Euchre Tournament & Luncheon

Sunday March 1st, 2026

\$15 per person

Time: Basement Doors open at 12:00 p.m.

Cards start at 1:00 p.m.

1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th place prizes awarded (possibly more placings)

Soups, Snacks and Beverages

Included in the price!



St. Peters Parish Basement
 W697 State Rd 33
 Rockland WI 54653
 608-452-4680
parishoffice@stpmr.diocleparish.org

Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,900.00
Last Week's Total -	\$1,368.00
	-\$532.00
Year to Date Target -	\$64,600.00
Year to Date Total -	\$62,034.84
	-\$2,565.16

Looking Ahead: Readings for March 8, 2026

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7
Second Reading: Romans 5:1-8
Gospel Reading: John 4:5-42