

## Diocesan and Community News

**Lent: The Profound Effects of Healing** Spend some time reviewing the past week and ponder all the ways that God has blessed you. When you know how much Jesus loves you—He delights in you—then you will want to go to Him in the sacrament of penance and give Him your sins. Christ will forgive you and replace the burden of guilt and worry with calm, peace and joy. Further, through this sacrament, your sins are forgiven, your relationship with God is renewed and you receive strength against future temptation. Reconciliation is not only a sacrament of forgiveness but one of conversion; it helps you grow in faithfulness in following Jesus, and to live with humility and compassion.

**Entering a New Springtime:** “Before spring becomes beautiful, it’s plug-ugly, nothing but mud and muck. I’ve walked through early spring fields that will suck the boots off your feet, a world so wet and woeful you yearn for the return of snow and ice. Of course, there’s a miracle inside that muddy mess: those fields are a seedbed for rebirth” (Parker Palmer). We may be entering a “new springtime of evangelization,” but it sure seems messy. What can we do?

**Catholic Infertility Conference | April 10-11, 2026 | Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, La Crosse, WI:** This event will provide a safe space to engage with faith, hope, and community. Attendees will hear from experts in reproductive health, clergy, and fellow Catholics who share their personal experiences and insights. The conference will cover a variety of topics, including the spiritual aspects of infertility, medical and ethical considerations in fertility treatments, and practical advice for coping with the emotional challenges of this journey. With opportunities for prayer, reflection, and healing, this conference aims to help attendees with knowledge and support, reinforcing the belief that they are not alone in their experience. Join us to explore the intersection of faith and fertility, and find encouragement, guidance, and hope as you navigate this path. For more information and registration, please visit <https://catholiclife.org/>.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:lacrosse@domesticchurchfamilies.com)
- A \$200 payment is due at time of registration.

Scholarships are available for this retreat. Please email [finances@domesticchurchfamilies.com](mailto:finances@domesticchurchfamilies.com) for a scholarship request form.

## Kids Korner

### Saint Joseph

This Thursday, March 19th, is the feast day of Saint Joseph. He is one of the greatest saints in the Church. The Bible doesn't tell us very much about him, but we know that he was very obedient and trusted God, and that he must have been a very holy man- God chose him to look after His own Son, Jesus!

Saint Joseph was just a poor Jewish carpenter, but God saw that he was a very good man so He chose him to be the husband and protector of Mary, who would be the Mother of Jesus. Saint Joseph provided for Mary by his hard work.



When Jesus was born Saint Joseph protected Him from the evil King Herod, who wanted to kill Him. He spent his days working to support Jesus and Mary and taught Jesus how to be a carpenter. Saint Joseph was Jesus' teacher, but he also learned from Jesus how to be holy.

Saint Joseph died a holy and peaceful death in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Now he is in Heaven, helping us when we pray to him. We should pray to him because he is a great protector and teacher for us, just like he was for Jesus.



Last week the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class presented their banners in preparation for their First Holy Communion, coming up on May 3, 2026. Please keep in your prayers Bellamy Mlsna, Lennox Stephenson & Blaise Menn as they prepare for this Sacrament.

## 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), 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](http://www.saintpetersparish.net)



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT  
MARCH 15, 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

3/18 Wednesday 8:00 AM –  
 † Leonard, Alberta, Andy Kick & Judy (Kick) Murphy (AS)  
3/20 Friday 8:00 AM –  
 † Alan Clements (MLH)  
3/21 Saturday 8:00 PM –  
 † Otto & Theresa Schaub (SF)  
3/22 Sunday 10:00 AM –  
 † Adeline Clements (AS)

**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 \$20.

Ministry Servers

**Saturday March 21 – 8:00 PM**  
 Servers: Matthew Schaub & Mason Leis  
 Ushers: Tom Schaub & Mike Schaub  
 Lector: Melissa Schaub  
**Sunday March 22 – 10:00 AM**  
 Servers: Madi Gronemus & Evelyn Flock  
 Ushers: Mark Stephenson & Rob Slattery  
 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!!

Stations of the Cross

**Wednesdays at 7:00 PM**  
**Adoration & Benediction to follow**

Parish Calendar of Events

Sun. March 15 – Lenten Gathering & Fellowship @ 4:00 PM  
Tues. March 17 – Parish Advisory Council @ 7:00 PM  
Wed. March 18 – Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM  
Sun. March 22 – Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM  
Wed. March 25 – Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM  
Thurs. March 26 – Confessions available 6 – 8 PM  
Sun. March 29 – Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM  
Mon. March 30 – All day Confessions at the Cathedral  
Sun. April 5 – Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM



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

DIOLC.ORG/STEWARDSHIP



GOAL	\$13,405.00
COMMITTED AND RECEIVED	\$13,990.00
# OF DONORS	29

**\*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.**

Stewardship Reflection

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

Today's readings for the Fourth Sunday of Lent are filled with powerful contrasts — God's vision versus human vision, the light of Christ versus the darkness of sin, and spiritual blindness versus spiritual sight. Embracing a stewardship way of life frees us from spiritual blindness, helps us see as God sees, and enables us to reflect Christ's light in our daily lives.

In our Second Reading from Ephesians, St. Paul reminds us, "... You were once in darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light." Through Baptism, the very life and light of the Blessed Trinity dwell within us. Yet amid the busyness and challenges of daily life, it is easy to forget this truth. We may even struggle to recognize whether our actions truly reflect Christ's light.

A stewardship way of life — marked by the intentional, grateful use of our time, talent, and treasure — provides a daily guide for living as children of the light. It encourages us to make choices that reflect Christ in how we serve, give, and love others.

In today's Gospel from John, Jesus restores sight to a man born blind, and the man testifies that Christ "opened my eyes." During these Lenten days, we too can ask Jesus to open our eyes — to help us see where spiritual blindness may still linger, especially in how we use the gifts entrusted to us.

As we continue our Lenten journey, let us actively renew our efforts wherever our vision has grown dim, so that by Easter we may truly live as children of the light and reflect Christ more fully in our lives.

Parish News

**Lenten Gathering:** Please join us on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 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! All are welcome!!

**Confessions:** Fr. Sen will be available on Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 8 PM for the sacrament of Reconciliation. Keep in mind he is also available Wednesday evenings after Stations of the Cross. There will be several priests available at the Cathedral on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM – 6 PM.

**Easter flowers:** Anyone wishing to donate towards the flowers that will decorate our church during the Easter season please feel free to put your donation in a marked envelope and drop it in the offertory. Thank you!

**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

**Cabin Feverfest:** Thank you to all who donated food, helped serve and attended our 15<sup>th</sup> annual Euchre tournament. We had 15 tables this year and had a profit of \$515.50. This event was created for community camaraderie and was a success in that regard!

**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 15<sup>th</sup>, through Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**Mass intentions:** We are getting low on our mass intentions once again. If you would like to order one, please place your request with \$20 per mass in an envelope and drop it in the offertory basket.

**Be Disciples, Make Disciples:** "We are a church that exists to be disciples who make disciples." This is the Great Commission Jesus gave us in Matthew 28:18-20. It's why any Catholic parish or school exists. When you look at how the parishes and schools in your area spend their money, time, and energy, are they prioritizing this purpose of being disciples who make disciples? We invite you to take this question to Jesus this Lent!



Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,900.00
Last Week's Total -	\$1,129.01
	-\$770.99
Year to Date Target -	\$68,400.00
Year to Date Total -	\$65,485.75
	-\$2,914.25

Looking Ahead: Readings for March 22, 2026

**First Reading:** Ezekiel 37:12-14  
**Second Reading:** Romans 8:8-11  
**Gospel Reading:** John 11:1-45