

Diocesan and Community News

Entering the Holiest Week of the Year: Holy Week is the most sacred time of the Church's year. We remember and walk with Jesus through His triumphant entry into Jerusalem, and His suffering, death and Resurrection. These are the events through which Jesus Christ gave His life for each one of us and rose again in victory over sin and death.

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/>.

Spaghetti Dinner: The St. Mary's Men's Club is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner on Sat., April 11, 2026. Serving from 4-7 PM. Adults \$12, kids under 12 \$5, children under 3 free. Serving spaghetti/pasta (gluten free option available), sauce, meatballs, garlic bread, salad, beverage, and ice cream with toppings. Beer and wine available for purchase. Carry outs available. All are welcome!

Triple Feature Speaker: Ray Guarendi, a Catholic father of 10 adopted children, author, clinical psychologist, professional speaker, and national radio and television host will be at **St. Patrick's Church in Sparta (118 South K Street) on the evenings of April 19, 20, & 21 at 6:30pm** to teach us, in his humorous way on parenting and lifestyles with youngsters. The nightly topics are: "Standing Strong as a Parent and Grandparent," Men, Women, and Marriage," and The Logic of Being Catholic." Come and hear what he can teach us about more effective interactions with our children and grandchildren.

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
- 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

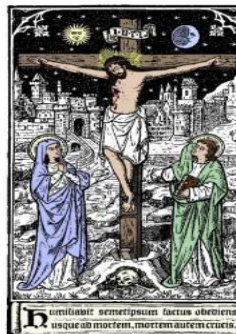
Holy Week

Did you know that this week is the most important one in the whole year? Holy Week has Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. On these days we remember and celebrate the most important things that Jesus did before His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

On Holy Thursday Jesus said the first Mass and made his apostles the first priests. Go to Mass on Thursday if you can, and think about what Jesus did- He made bread and wine into Himself so that He could still be with us after He went back into Heaven.

On Good Friday Jesus suffered terribly and then died on the cross because of our sins. He offered up His life, even though He had never sinned, so that all of us could go to Heaven. That's why we call it "Good" Friday. Can you offer some sacrifice to Jesus in return for what He did for you?

On Holy Saturday Jesus' body was in the tomb. His friends were all shocked by what had happened and were afraid and sad. They did not remember what was going to happen next... Do you remember what happened after Holy Saturday?



Answer to Puzzle on Front: This is my Blood of the New Covenant which will be shed for many. Answer to Word-Find: He died for sinners.



Good Friday Word-Find

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

See if you can find all the words in CAPITALS in the puzzle.

Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks:

What did Jesus do on the cross?

On Good Friday JESUS was taken before King HEROD and the governor, PILATE. Even though He had not committed any crime He was scourged and condemned to die on the CROSS. He CARRIED the cross as far as He could up CALVARY hill, but when He got too weak a man named SIMON of CYRENE was forced to help Him. On the way He met His mother, MARY, who WEPT at seeing her Son in such pain. A woman named VERONICA wiped the blood and sweat from His face with a cloth. At the top of the HILL Jesus was thrown onto the cross and His HANDS and FEET were fastened to it with NAILS. They raised the cross, where Jesus hung for three hours before He DIED. He did all this to SAVE us from Hell. At the cross were JOHN, Mary MAGDALENE, His mother, and some other women. At the moment He died the curtain of the old Temple was TORN in half. When His body was taken down from the cross JOSEPH of Arimathea and NICODEMUS BURIED Him in a new TOMB and rolled a HEAVY STONE in front of the door.

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

Mark Stephenson (Chairman), Rob Slattery, Tom Schaub,
 Peter Benzing, Kathy Flock, Sarah Gronemus (Secretary)

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



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
MARCH 29, 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

4/1 Wednesday 8:00 AM –
Jeremiah (†) & Jean Farrell (RK)
4/2 Holy Thursday 8:00 PM –
St. Peter Parish Family (Adoration following)
4/3 Good Friday
Adoration 12:00 PM
Stations of the Cross 12:30 PM
Service 1:00 PM
4/4 Holy Saturday 8:30 PM –
† Theresa & Otto Schaub (SF)
4/5 Easter Sunday 10:00 AM –
Living & deceased members of the Joseph & Marie Kaiser family (KF)

Ministry Servers

Thursday April 2 – 8:00 PM
Servers: Mathew Schaub & Jacob Peterson
Ushers: Tom Schaub & Volunteer
Lector: Melissa Schaub
Friday April 3 – 1:00 PM
Servers: Madi Gronemus & Evelyn Flock
Ushers: Gary Gronemus & Mark Stephenson
Lector: John Hundt & Joseph Peterson
Saturday April 4 – 8:30 PM
Servers: Brielle & Brooklyn Lundeen, Jacob Peterson
Ushers: Tim Leis & Don Halderson
Lector: Julie Lundeen & Melissa Schaub
Sunday April 5 – 10:00 AM
Servers: Arnie & Adeline Nicolai
Ushers: Peter Benzing & Leo Leis
Lector: Pam Benzing

Stations of the Cross

Wednesday at 7:00 PM
Adoration & Benediction to follow

Parish Calendar of Events

Mon. March 30 – All day Confessions at the Cathedral
Wed. April 1 – Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM
Sun. April 5 – Grades 1-6 NO Class – Easter break
Sun. April 5 – Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM
Sun. April 12 – Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM
Wed. April 15 – Confirmation at Cathedral @ 6:30 PM
Wed. April 15 – Grades 7-9 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM

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.

St. Joseph's Parish Schedule:

April 2nd ~ Holy Thursday 7:00 pm Mass
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:00—Midnight
April 3rd ~ Good Friday
2:00 pm Adoration until Stations
2:30 pm Stations of the Cross
3:00 pm Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord
April 4th ~ Easter Vigil 8:30 pm Mass
April 5th ~ Easter Sunday 8:00 am Mass

Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,900.00
Last Week's Total -	\$2,768.00
	\$868.00
Year to Date Target -	\$72,200.00
Year to Date Total -	\$69,547.06
	-\$2,652.94

Looking Ahead: Readings for April 5, 2026

First Reading: Acts 10:34-43
Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4
Gospel Reading: John 20:1-9

Stewardship Reflection

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

We begin this Holy Week by reading the Lord's Passion from the Gospel of Matthew. It is fitting that during this week we focus our minds and hearts on the steps of our Savior as He laid down His very life for us. But let us also examine the seemingly small acts of stewardship by some who encountered Jesus during this most eventful week.

One occurred when Jesus gave instructions about the room where He would celebrate the Passover. Jesus said, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him..." 'In your house I shall celebrate the Passover with my disciples.'" While we do not know this man's name, we do know he agreed to this request — he offered both the material gift of his home and the gift of hospitality. Because of his good stewardship, his own home became the site of the institution of the Eucharist!

There was also Simon the Cyrenian, who offered the gift of his physical strength, helping the Lord carry His Cross. Consider, too, the actions of Joseph of Arimathea — he generously shared the tomb that was his and gave the gift of service to our Lord by giving Him a proper burial. Then there were the "two Marys" who gave Jesus the gift of their time. Keeping watch in tender vigil after His death, they "remained sitting there, facing the tomb."

Each of these was a simple act of good stewardship, yet God used them in mighty ways. God invites each of us, too, to cooperate with Him in small ways by sharing our time, talent, and material gifts. Small gifts can become mighty deeds when placed in God's service.

Parish News

Holy Thursday Adoration: "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come." *Matthew 24:42*
Please join us in keeping watch through Thursday evening and Friday morning. See the sign-up sheet in the back of church or feel free to stop in from Thursday after mass until 8:00 AM Friday morning.

Mass intentions: We are EXTREMELY low on our mass intentions. 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.

Confessions: There will be several priests available at the Cathedral on Monday, March 30th 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: Thank you to all who donated books towards the CCD book drive. The students will be putting together sets for families after Easter.

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord: The Proof of God the Father's Love for Us Let us recall each day that God's mercy and unconditional love are central to our journey of life on our way to Heaven. The proof that the Father loves each one of us is the crucifixion — the suffering and death of the Son of God so that our sins may be forgiven. Even when we fall, the boundless love of Christ transforms us through the forgiveness of our sin and compassion He offers, drawing us back to Himself. Jesus shows us that He loves the sinner but hates the sin. This merciful love invites us to approach Him confidently, knowing that He is always ready to forgive and heal. Mercy is the primary attribute of God. When we enter the confessional, it is not merely a priest we face, but Christ Himself. The priest acts in the person of Christ—offering absolution in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Every confession is an encounter with Jesus, who lifts our burden of sin and restores the soul to the beauty of its baptismal innocence. Frequent confession brings peace of soul and a clearer vision of God's will. It transforms bitterness into compassion, guilt into freedom, and loneliness into communion. It restores what sin has taken— our joy, our trust, our intimacy with the Father. Let us approach this sacrament often, not with fear, but with gratitude and hope. For in every confession, the Father embraces us, Jesus heals us, and the Holy Spirit fills us anew with His grace.

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.

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. **Birthdays 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.

Celebrating Growth: The 156 parishes of our diocese have been taking Mass counts for over two decades. Even with a large number of deaths, our Mass attendance has increased each year for five straight years. Praise God! See the latest updates here: <https://diolc.org/rebuildmychurch/updates/>