

## Diocesan and Community News

**From the Bishop; Priestly Assignments and Moving from a Culture of Christendom to Apostolic Mission:** As your Bishop, I continue to value stability in priestly assignments, knowing how much it benefits both our priests and the people they serve. At the same time, our diocese is in the midst of an important and prayerful time of pastoral planning. We find ourselves, like much of the Church, moving from a culture of Christendom to one of Apostolic Mission, where we are called to renew our focus on evangelization, discipleship, and accompaniment. This means embracing a shift from a maintenance mindset to a truly mission-oriented way of being the Church. The assignment changes you will see this year are part of this effort to better position our priests and parishes for that mission. They are also meant to support healthier and more sustainable patterns of ministry, including a more balanced celebration of Sunday Mass that allows for stronger relationships and more vibrant parish life. I am grateful for your openness and trust as we take these steps together, always seeking to follow where the Lord is leading us.

With gratitude and prayer,  
Most Reverend Gerard W. Battersby - Bishop of La Crosse

**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.

**Spring Luncheon at St. Mary Parish:** Join us April 25, 11 AM-1 PM. \$10 adults, kids 10 & under free. Guest speaker, John Zak speaking on "Why is There Contention Between Science & Religion" at 11:30 AM. Door prizes. Open to all!

**Join us for the Wisconsin March for Life:** Saturday, April 25, 2026 from 2-4pm Wisconsin State Capitol State Street Steps, 2 E Main Street Madison, WI 53703. The overturning of Roe v. Wade was the beginning of the end of abortion. We must continue to make our voices heard until all women and children are protected from abortion and all families have the support they need to thrive. All Wisconsinites are invited to participate in this joyful and peaceful march to protect every human life. Signs will be provided. The following buses to Madison are available for \$15/person or \$45/family: Wausau-Stevens Point; Onalaska-Sparta-Wisconsin Dells; Chippewa Falls-Mauston. Visit this site for more information: <https://marchforlifewisconsin.org/>

**New Initiative:** Mom Group starting for local parishes! If you are a mom looking to enrich yourself spiritually, join the GroupMe group called "Gathered in Grace -Driftless Region" for more information. We will gain interest from the community and begin meeting once a week in September. If you have any questions or issues joining the group, please contact Sarah Gronemus at 608-386-9546.



## Kids Korner

### Reading the Scriptures

In today's Gospel reading two disciples were walking together and thinking sadly about how Jesus had just been tortured and killed. Then Jesus started walking with them- but they didn't recognize Him. He explained to them what the Scriptures had said about Him suffering and dying. He helped them to understand what God's plan had been.



Every time we go to Mass we hear about Jesus in the Gospel reading. But we don't need to wait until Mass to learn about Jesus. You can read the Bible every day. God wants us to know Him better so we can love Him more. And the more we love Him the happier we will be.

Do you have a children's Bible? Maybe your Mom or Dad can read to you from the big Bible a little every morning or night. Reading saint stories also helps us to know God through His friends. Try to read or listen to some of the Bible or the life of a saint every day!

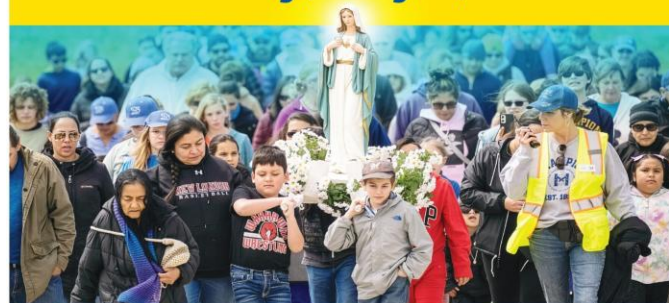


Answer to puzzle on front: In the Breaking of the Bread  
Top-4, 1 middle-2, 6 bottom-3, 5



A 22-mile walking pilgrimage (shorter routes available) starting from the National Shrine of St. Joseph at Old St. Joseph Church on the St. Norbert College campus in De Pere, WI to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion.

## Saturday, May 2, 2026



Shorten the route by joining in at:

Saint Peter and Paul Parish  
14 miles

Holy Cross Parish at Bay Settlement  
7 miles

Walk with the Children National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion  
1.7 miles

Get more information and sign up to walk by scanning the QR code or visiting [www.WalkToMary.com](http://www.WalkToMary.com)



## 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](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

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

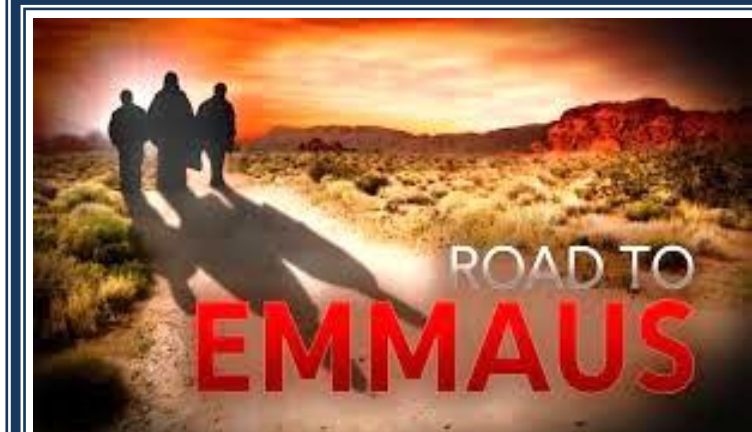
Middle Ridge, WI  
W697 State Hwy 33  
Rockland, WI 54653  
608-452-4680

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



## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 19, 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

4/22 Wednesday 8:00 AM –

† Ione Hauser (TMN)

4/24 Friday 8:00 AM –

† Leo Bouska (AB)

4/25 Saturday 8:00 PM –

† Alvena Leis (GDF)

4/26 Sunday 10:00 AM –

† Adeline Clements (ACF)

**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.

**Congratulations to our 2026 Confirmands!**



**Pray Often & Daily!!!**

Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,900.00
Last Week's Total -	<u>\$1,214.00</u>
	-\$686.00
Year to Date Target -	\$77,900.00
Year to Date Total -	<u>\$76,304.01</u>
	-\$1,595.99

Looking Ahead: Readings for April 26, 2026

**First Reading:** Acts 2:14,36-41

**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 2:20-25

**Gospel Reading:** John 10:1-10

Ministry Servers

**Saturday April 25 – 8:00 PM**

Servers: Matthew Schaub & Mason Leis

Ushers: Mike Schaub & Mike Leis

Lector: Lynda Hurtz

**Sunday April 26 – 10:00 AM**

Servers: Avin & Brynn Stephenson

Ushers: Peter Benzing & Mark Stephenson

Lector: Pam Benzing

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.*

Parish Calendar of Events

Sun. April 19 - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM

Wed. April 22 – Grades 7-9 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM

Sun. April 26 - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM

Wed. April 29 – Grades 7-9 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM

Sun. May 3 – First Holy Communion

Sun. May 3 – May Crowning: All children are welcome to participate in the procession – Meet in the back of church

Sun. May 3 – Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM

Sun. May 10 – Mass to honor 2026 Graduates and Confirmands



This year the Diocese celebrates the Jubilee Year of St. Francis. The Franciscan call to peace, conversion, and joyful discipleship takes on renewed meaning. To receive the graces of this Jubilee year please pray:

**Prayer to Saint Francis**

*Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us before the Lord.*

*You recognized true peace in the Crucifix of San Damiano, teach us to see in Him the source of all reconciliation that breaks down every wall.*

*You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries.*

*In this time afflicted by conflict and division, intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ. Amen.*

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

**Third Sunday of Easter**

Today's readings focus on a theme of "sojourning." As Christian stewards, we understand our lives are a journey toward our ultimate destination of heaven.

Our Gospel passage today describes the journey of two disciples on the road to Emmaus. The two are feeling dejected and hopeless after Jesus' death. They knew Jesus personally. They had heard the Gospel message directly from His lips. They heard the testimony of the women who found our Lord's empty tomb and saw angels that announced He was alive. They had been told by other disciples who went to the tomb that everything was just as the women had reported.

How could the Good News be any clearer?

And yet, sometimes, the reactions of the two disciples reflect our own journey of stewardship, doesn't it? We have the fullness of the Catholic faith, the power of the sacraments, and the support of our parish family. Yet, we often lose our way. We fail to recognize all the gifts we have received. We lack trust in God's perfect goodness and omnipotent power.

But notice what happens to the two men when their eyes are opened once again, and they recognize Jesus in the Eucharist — the "breaking of the bread." They are transformed! Their hearts are set on fire with love for the Lord and their faith. They recall that their hearts began "burning within" as the Lord was explaining the Scriptures to them. When we find we have lost our way, we can turn to the same sources as the two disciples on the road to Emmaus — the Scriptures and the Eucharist.

This Easter season, resolve to feast deeply on these two sources of grace. They are the fuel that will propel us on our journey to heaven.

Parish News

**Birthday Prayers & Wishes:** Please keep in your thoughts and prayers Agnes Bouska, our eldest parishioner, as she celebrates her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on April 24<sup>th</sup>. What a great milestone! May God bless her on her special day!!

**Easter flowers:** Thank you to those who contributed to the beautiful flowers that adorn our church:

- For the deceased members of the Al & Anna Mae Antony family
- In memory of Arnold & Theresa Arentz and Rick Schermerhorn
- From the Lee family
- From the Lucey family
- From Gary & Deb Flock
- In memory of Eugene Flock
- In memory of Stan & Steven Hundt
- In memory of Jacob Gronemus & deceased Gronemus family members

**Confirmation:** Congratulations to the students who received the sacrament of Confirmation at the Cathedral this week. Please keep in your prayers Jacobi Mlsna, Jacob Peterson & Arnie Nicolai. Special thanks to their teacher, Tom Schaub for preparing them.

**HELP NEEDED!!** There is a church yard clean-up day planned for **Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 9:00 AM. Please come to help with this community service as many hands make light work. If there is poor weather, May 2<sup>nd</sup> will be our "rain day".

**Mass Honoring 2026 Graduates & Confirmands:** This mass is planned for May 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. Graduates are asked to wear their graduation caps & gowns. Stoles will be provided for the Confirmands. Please meet in the back of church to process up with Fr. Sen.

**Knights of Columbus:** There will be state charity raffle tickets sold after each Mass on the weekend of April 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> by a member of the KC's. Tickets are \$5.00 each. First prize is \$50,000. Proceeds to go to charity. Please plan ahead.

**Stained Glass Window Tour:** An affiliate group with The Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration is excited to share with you a unique event coming up on Sunday May 3rd, 2026. In partnership with the La Crosse Historical Society, the Franciscan Spirituality Center and Explore La Crosse, this is a first-ever, ecumenical, stained glass tour of 5 historical churches in La Crosse. The 1 day only tour occurs on Sunday, May 3rd from 1pm to 4:30pm. Whether you decide to ride the trolley for a more organized tour or go at your own pace with the self-guided ticket purchase, you will encounter artistic and historic stained glass of renowned beauty. Among the 5 churches are works from Tiffany, Bavarian glass from the FX Zettler Art Institute, and Connaught stained glass. You are invited to join in La Crosse and spend an afternoon viewing breathtaking craftsmanship. All proceeds from ticket sales will benefit WAFER Food Pantry. You can register for the event at: <https://fsc.retreatportal.com/events>. There are only a few trolley tickets left, but there are no limits on self-guided tour tickets. The tour includes Mary of the Angels Chapel, San Damiano Chapel, First Lutheran Church, Christ Episcopal Church and St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral. See flier in the back of church for more information.

**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.