

Diocesan and Community News

The Importance of Praying the Rosary in May: The Rosary is important because it focuses on the pivotal moments in the lives of Jesus and Mary, known as the “mysteries.” In reflecting on these major events of Jesus’ life, you will come to recognize more how much Jesus loves you personally. You will also be guided by the Holy Spirit to make connections between each mystery of Jesus’ life and your own life. And you may ask the Holy Spirit to help you see how this mystery gives guidance to your life right now. Praying the Rosary, with the repetition of the Hail Marys, creates a quiet, contemplative space in a noisy world, allowing the mind and heart to focus on God. Take 5 minutes to pray a decade of the Rosary (one Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, and Glory Be) with your family.

Anger and Astonishment: As we till the soil and tend the flocks, we are reminded that our labor is part of God’s ongoing creation. In the Church’s tradition, we are blessed with heavenly companions who intercede for us in this sacred work. Among them is St. Isidore the Farmer, a humble man of the land whose life of prayer and service reminds us that holiness can be found in the furrows of the field where daily labor becomes an offering to God and every act of care participates in the renewal of creation.

A story often told about St. Isidore was his practice of often coming late to work after attending Mass. Squire de Vergas, his master, decided to observe Isidore at his work. He hid himself in a clump of bushes near the field where his laborers were working. Isidore arrived later than usual, walking slowly behind his team of oxen and plow. The gentleman’s anger soon turned to astonishment. Two angels, one on either side of Isidore and each with a plow, were helping their companion. Maria always kept a pot of stew on the fireplace in their humble rural home. Often Isidore would bring hungry people home to feed them. One day in frustration, Maria told Isidore that there simply was no more stew to give. He insisted that she look one more time and five more people were fed.

The qualities found in the lives of Isidore and Maria-commitment to family, social justice work, love for the land, service to the poor, and a deep spirituality- are qualities that exist in rural America.

We thank God for our rural lives, formed still by the rhythms of nature and church. With you, help us to rejoice in the relationships with God, each other and the land. Isidore and Maria, pray for us. Amen.

Chicken Q: Holy Trinity Parish, 13th and Park Ave., La Crosse will hold a Chicken-Q and Bake Sale on Wednesday, May 20th from 11:00 a.m.- 5:30 p.m. ½ Chicken, Coleslaw, Beans and Bun \$12.00. Carry Out, Drive Through or Delivery. For Delivery call 608-782-2028 Ext. 2

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

Jesus Ascended into Heaven

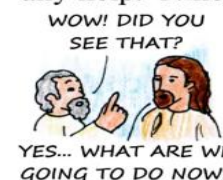


The Ascension is one of the great feasts of the Church. Jesus went up, Body and Soul, into Heaven to be with His Father where He is waiting for all of us. Can you imagine what it was like for the apostles to see their leader and best friend going up to Heaven? It would be pretty amazing, don't you think?



At the same time, doesn't it seem a bit sad that Jesus left? Well, He knew it was time for His disciples to start working on their own. It was kind of like having someone there to help you learn to ride a bike and then they let you go so you can learn to bike on your own.

But Jesus didn't go away and leave us without any help. Nine days after He went into Heaven



WOW! DID YOU SEE THAT?
YES... WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NOW?

He sent the Holy Spirit, who would help and guide His followers.

Answers to puzzle on front page: God mounts His throne to shouts of joy! 1 True 2 False 3 True or False: 4 True 5 True 6 False 7 True

AGBOCDDMEOFUGNHTHSJHK
ILSMTNHORPOQNRSTTOS
VHWOXUYTZSAOBFCJDOEYF



What does today's Psalm say about the Ascension? Use every other letter from the box of letters above to fill in the blanks below.

G _ _ _ _ _
_ _ _ _ _
_ _ _ _ _!

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.... Eucharistic Exposition and Rosary @ 7:00 PM

Quiet Prayer/Confession

Benediction @ 7:55 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@stpmparish.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



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD MAY 17, 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

5/20 Wednesday 8:00 AM –
Wedding anniversary of Tom & Melissa Schaub (TMS)

5/22 Friday 8:00 AM –
† Stan Hundt (AH)

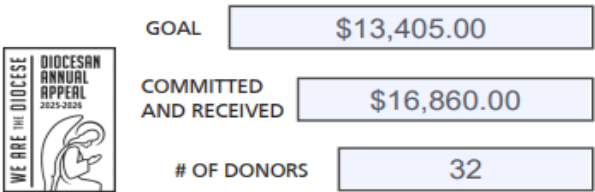
5/23 Saturday 8:00 PM –
† Nick Kramer (THW)

5/24 Sunday 10:00 AM –
† Adeline Clements (ACF)



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

DIOLC.ORG/STEWARDSHIP



Congratulations! We have surpassed our goal and are now receiving our rebates back to the parish to use on projects of our choice. If you would still like to donate toward this appeal, the deadline is 6/30/2026.

Pray Often & Daily!!!

Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,900.00
Last Week's Total -	<u>\$1,436.00</u>
	- \$464.00
Year to Date Target -	\$85,500.00
Year to Date Total -	<u>\$83,968.72</u>
	-\$1,531.28

Looking Ahead: Readings for May 24, 2026

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-13
Gospel Reading: John 20:19-23

Ministry Servers

Saturday May 23 – 8:00 PM
Servers: Matthew Schaub & volunteer
Ushers: Ron Hurtz & Mike Schaub
Lector: Lynda Hurtz

Sunday May 24 – 10:00 AM
Servers: Allis & Sadie Gronemus
Ushers: Gary Gronemus & Mark Gronemus
Lector: John Hundt

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays: Eucharistic Exposition and Rosary @ 7:00 PM
Quiet Prayer/Confession - Benediction @ 7:55 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. June 7 – Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM
Tues. June 16 – Parish Finance council meeting @ 6:30 PM
Tues. June 16 – Parish Pastoral council meeting @ 7:00 PM



Congratulations!

Last weekend we honored our 2026 Graduates & Confirmation students at mass. Pictured above L to R: Matthew Schaub, Jacob Peterson, Arnold Nicolai, Jacobi Mlsna, Parker Mlsna & Violet Hundt. Not pictured were graduates: Drew Butzler, Kate Wall & Audrey Weber.

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

The Ascension of the Lord

Today we celebrate the great feast of the Ascension of our Lord — the moment when, 40 days after His Resurrection, Jesus was lifted up into heaven as the apostles looked on.

It must have been an extraordinary sight. But the first reading tells us they were not meant to remain there for long. “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?”

In other words, do not just stand there. Act.

This message is for us as Christian stewards. We have been given every grace and blessing — through the Mass and the sacraments, the Word of God, and the gifts of our time, talent, and treasure — to inspire gratitude and a desire to serve.

We are not meant merely to receive these gifts. We are meant to use them — in gratitude to the One who gave them.

Like the apostles, we are called “to be [His] witnesses... to the ends of the earth.” We do this not by our own strength but through the power of the Holy Spirit at work within us.

Parish News

St. Isidore the Farmer: On May 15th, the Church celebrates St. Isidore the Farmer, patron saint of farmers, farm workers and rural communities. Here in the Diocese of La Crosse, his feast day is much more than a liturgical note. Across our 19 counties, faith and farming are woven deeply into the life of our parishes. We are, or know, families who rise before dawn, work through uncertainty, pray for rain, pray for dry weather, tend livestock, repair machinery, plant, harvest and carry responsibilities most people never see. St. Isidore reminds us that holiness is not found only in churches, monasteries or great public works. It takes root in fields, barns, gardens, machine sheds, kitchen tables and a long day’s work offered faithfully to God. His life reminds us of a profound truth: ordinary labor, done with prayer, humility and love, can become a path to heaven. On his feast day, we give thanks for the farmers, farm families and agricultural workers of our diocese. They help feed our communities, steward the land entrusted to them and bear witness to the patience, sacrifice and trust that rural life so often requires. **See the insert in this bulletin to bless your own property in the spirit of St. Isidore, the patron saint of farmers.**

Condolences: The parish family extends sympathies to Phyllis Cavadini & family on the passing of Larry. May he rest in peace.
Help Needed: Our housekeeper/cleaner/decorator/master of all things Margie Lee, has expressed wanting to retire soon. If you are interested in doing all or even part of what she does please contact Margie, the parish office or Fr. Sen for more information.

Summertime Adoration: There will be a slight change to the times of our Wednesday night adoration. Please see the block to the left and front page for more information. Please take the opportunity on a quiet summer evening to spend some time with Jesus in prayer.

Attention Sunday Mass Servers: Please note that there are only 2 “teams” to serve on Saturday nights and there is always something going on during the summer where they are not available. Please let us know if you are willing to serve on Saturday’s. In August we will lose our eldest server. If any family is available to commit to 1 or 2 Saturdays per month, it would be greatly appreciated.

St. Peters Youth Gathering/Vacation Bible School: We are planning a Western theme for our first event this year on **Wednesday, June 10th**. Enjoy food, friends, games and a horse & wagon ride while praying the rosary. Watch for more details coming next week!

Veterans Mass: A Mass for the Dead will be celebrated at the altar in the Veterans’ Section at the Catholic Cemetery in La Crosse on Memorial Day, May 25, 2026 beginning at 11:15 a.m. Msgr. Robert Hundt will be the principal celebrant. All are welcome to participate. Let us remember those who gave their lives for our freedom.

Please Help! Our CCD program is seeking catechist teachers for the 2026-2027 school year. Classes begin mid-September. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the parish office or reach out to Miranda Flock with questions. Parents, since you are bringing your children to class anyways, why not take this opportunity to help shape our students lives.

Italy Tour: The St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral is putting together a pilgrimage to Italy to include many Catholic tourism locations. If interested, please see the flier in the back of church or contact the parish office to have information forwarded to you.

250th Anniversary: Consecrating Our Country to the Sacred Heart of Jesus - In a historic moment, the bishops of the United States will consecrate our country to the Sacred Heart of Jesus as part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the birth of our nation. The consecration will take place on June 11th, 2026. Catholics are invited to join in this consecration. Go here for more information (very top of page): <https://diolc.org/catechesis/bulletin-inserts>.

“Legacy of Love: Celebrating Decades of Married Life.” We are pleased to introduce a new way of celebrating wedding anniversaries in our diocese! Couples celebrating milestone anniversaries 10th, 20th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 70th, or 80th will be invited to participate in *Legacy of Love: Celebrating Decades of Married Life*. This free event will begin with Mass and include pictures with Bishop Battersby followed by a simple reception. Each couple is invited to bring two guests with them. Couples can register by going to <https://dioceseoflacrosse.regfox.com/legacy-of-love> or calling Laura Boden at 608.791.2680 or emailing her at lboden@diolc.org.