

## Diocesan and Community News

### A Catholic Phrase to Understand Better - A disciple of Jesus Christ:

Those who believe and live out by imitating Jesus' message and way of life are His disciples (meaning pupil or learner). To His disciples, Jesus reveals the mystery of His Kingdom and gives them a share in His mission, joy, and His sufferings. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, glossary) Jesus wants an intimate communion with His disciples, which He expresses in these words: "Abide in Me, and I in you" (John 15:5). "He who eats My flesh and drinks My Blood abides in Me and I in Him" (John 6:56).

The word disciple relates to the word discipline, specifically regarding a student learning a discipline, which is a process. We are children of God in a life-long learning process. As collaborators, Jesus wants us to learn so we can, by the power of the Holy Spirit, interiorize His teaching and His very Life and become co-laborers to help others encounter Him and become His disciples.

**Family Picnic in Coon Valley:** St. Mary Parish in Coon Valley would like to invite you to join us for our Annual Family Picnic on Saturday, July 25th from 11:00 AM-4:00 PM on our parish lawn (900 Central Ave, Coon Valley, WI). This is a free community event, and everyone is welcome! We will be serving hamburgers, hot dogs, brats, desserts, and ice cream treats. The afternoon will also include live music, games, a bounce house with water slide, parent vs. kids contests, and more fun for all ages. Goodwill donations will be gratefully accepted.

**Come and See!** The Seraphic Adorers of the Child Jesus are hosting a retreat day for young women ages 18-29 on Saturday, August 1. Come meet the sisters and spend time with our Eucharistic Lord. For more information go to <https://seraphicadorers.com/works/blogs/news-and-events/come-and-see-2026>.

**Retrouvaille:** Whether you have drifted apart, or arrived at separation or divorce, there is hope. Retrouvaille [ˈretro- vī]: means rediscovery or joyful reunion. The Retrouvaille® program is a lifeline of hope and healing for marriages of all ages... even couples who are separated or divorced but want to try again. For More Information, frequently asked questions, or to register for the next program, visit <https://helpourmarriage.org/>. Register online or by phone: Fully confidential Central Wisconsin Retrouvaille® toll free local program info: 1-877-922-HOPE (4673).

**Rachel Ministries: Hope and Healing after the Loss of a Child:** Anyone suffering the loss of a child as a result of miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, stillbirth, or abortion knows that the tremendous pain of losing a child, no matter the circumstance, holds a sacred place in a parent's heart. Grief can be stifled by the busyness of our lives, the immensity of the pain, the difficulty of the circumstances, or the feeling of being alone. Volunteers at Rachel Ministries of the Diocese of La Crosse desire to walk alongside those suffering in this way on a journey of healing, offering spiritual accompaniment and connections with needed resources within the Catholic Church. To learn more about Rachel Ministries' pathways to healing, including special Masses and a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat, see the flyer in the back of church or go to <https://diolc.org/rachelministries>.

**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

### God's Word is Like Seed...



In today's Gospel reading, Jesus explains the parable of the sower and the seed to the disciples. Like the seed, the word of God comes to all sorts of people. Some people hear it and the devil takes it away, like the seed that falls on the path and is eaten by the birds. Some people hear God's word and love it for a little while, but they don't let it grow deeply in themselves, like the seed on rocky ground that doesn't grow good roots. Some people hear God's word and it starts to grow in them, but they have so many other things going on in their lives that they forget God.



The people who hear the word of God and let it grow in them are like the good soil. When the sower plants the seed in the good soil it gets deep roots, grows high and produces a good harvest. When we receive the word of God well, it takes root in us so that it is really deep in our hearts. It grows when we feed it by learning more about God and trying to love Him more. It produces a harvest when other people come to love God because of us.



What kind of soil are you like? Do you let God's word be snatched away as soon as you hear it? Do you let it take root in your heart and love it, or is it like the seed sown on rocky ground that is too shallow? Do you let other things in your life crowd out God's life in you, or do you let God's word in deep and feed it and let it grow?



Lord, rain, snow, earth, seed, bread, word, sent.

## Isaiah 55 Unscramble

Unscramble the words to finish today's first reading!

Thus says the \_\_\_\_\_: [DRLO]

Just as from the heavens

the \_\_\_\_\_ [NIRA] and \_\_\_\_\_ [OWNS]

come down

and do not return there

till they have watered the \_\_\_\_\_, [HRATE]

making it fertile and fruitful,

giving \_\_\_\_\_ [EDSE] to the one who sows

and \_\_\_\_\_ [EBDRA] to the one who eats,

so shall my word be

that goes forth from my \_\_\_\_\_; [TOUMH]

my \_\_\_\_\_ [DOWR] shall not return to me void,

but shall do my will,

achieving the end for which I \_\_\_\_\_ [NTSE] it.



## 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@stpmr.diolcparish.org](mailto:parishoffice@stpmr.diolcparish.org)

## PARISH WEBMASTER

Christopher Pundzak

## SACRISTANS

Austin Menn & Andrew Schaub

## 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

# 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)



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME  
JULY 12, 2026

# REPENT

for the  
kingdom  
of heaven  
is at hand.

Matthew 3:2



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

**7/15 Wednesday 8:00 AM –**  
**Vocations to the priesthood & religious life (PTS)**

**7/17 Friday 8:00 AM –**  
**Living & deceased members of the Richard & Janice Korish family (RJK)**

**7/18 Saturday 8:00 PM –**  
**† Adam Anderson (MLH)**

**7/19 Sunday 10:00 AM –**  
**St. Peters Parish Family**

**PROTECT YOUR LOVED ONES AND CREATE YOUR LEGACY**  
**ARE YOUR PLANS UP-TO-DATE?**

A current estate plan is vital to making sure your wishes are carried out and can help you leave a lasting personal legacy. To assist you with making or updating your future plans, we can provide you

**YOUR LOVED ONES NEED YOU, BUT WHAT WOULD THEY DO IF YOU WERE NOT THERE?**

with our **FREE** Estate Planning Guide. Many of our supporters have found this guide useful in helping them think through their goals. To obtain a copy, please contact us or visit our website.



**DIocese of LA CROSSE**

3710 East Avenue South PO Box 4004 | La Crosse, WI 54602

Phone: 608-788-7700 | Fax: 608-788-3854

Jeff Reiter, Director of Stewardship & Development  
jreiter@diolc.org | diolclegacy.org

## Pray Often & Daily!!!

### Parish Finances (Fiscal Year)

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Weekly Target -       | \$1,900.00        |
| Last Week's Total -   | <u>\$1,021.35</u> |
|                       | -\$878.65         |
| Year to Date Target - | \$1,900.00        |
| Year to Date Total -  | <u>\$1,021.35</u> |
|                       | -\$878.65         |

### Looking Ahead: Readings for July 19, 2026

**First Reading:** Wisdom 12:13-19

**Second Reading:** Romans 8:26-27

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 13:24-43

### Ministry Servers

**Saturday July 18 – 8:00 PM**

Servers: Brielle, Brooklyn & Emerson Lundeen

Ushers: Phil Gronemus & Don Halderson

Lector: Julie Lundeen

**Sunday July 19 – 10:00 AM**

Servers: Sawyer Tollefson, Max & Teddy Slattery

Ushers: Rob Slattery & Leo Leis

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!!

### 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. July 12 – Parish Picnic @ ballfield after mass**

**Sun. August 2 – Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM**



**MARYMATHA (MOTHER OF GOD) PROVINCE, INDIA**



### 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

#### **Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

In today's Gospel from Matthew, Jesus shares the familiar Parable of the Sower. It is a powerful image of the stewardship way of life, showing how a life centered on God gradually and transformingly affects us over time.

In the parable, some seed falls on a path where birds quickly carry it away. Other seed falls on rocky ground, where it begins to grow but cannot develop deep roots. Still more seed falls among thorns that eventually choke the young plants.

Finally, some seed falls on rich, fertile soil and produces an abundant harvest. Jesus explains that the seed is the Word of God, generously scattered for all to receive. The question is whether our hearts are prepared to receive it and allow it to take root. When we offer our time, talent, and treasure to God and place Him first in our lives, we help create the "good soil" needed for the Kingdom to flourish within us, inspiring us to grow in faith and purpose.

Stewardship removes the "rocks" of mistrust by helping us feel valued and confident that God will provide for our needs. It clears away the "thorns" of worldly concerns that can distract us from what matters most. Through prayer, the sacraments, and generous service, the soil of our lives is continually nourished and renewed.

Let us deepen our commitment to this way of life, allowing the Divine Sower to do His work within us. In time, He will produce an abundant harvest through our lives, filling us with hope and confidence in God's promises.

### Parish News

**Mission Coop:** We welcome, Fr. Juby Chacko V.C, a Vincentian Missionary Priest from India, to our parish this weekend to participate in our Annual Missionary Cooperation Plan. He will share his missionary experience at all the Masses this weekend and will make an appeal on behalf of the Vincentian Missions. The Vincentian Missionaries need our help to carry out their many missionary, educational and charitable activities in their missions. They also request our special financial support for the training of young men studying for priesthood. There will be a special collection today to help the Missionary work of the Vincentian Missionaries. We urge you to be very generous in your mission offering since these Missionaries need our help. If you did not have an opportunity to make an offering today or would like to make an additional offering, you may make your offering through the general parish collection next weekend in a specially marked envelope. Thank you very much for your prayers and generous financial support. The Vincentian Missionaries keep you and our parish in their prayers and Masses.

**Thank You:** Our servers are now using NEW oil candles for our masses. These will cause less mess of wax on the carpet! Thank you to Tom & Helen Wachuta for donating these in honor of Mary & Chuck McGrath. God bless you!!

**Choir News:** We are in need of an accompanist for St. Peter's masses. Please let Terese Slattery know if you, or someone you know, can play the piano or organ. Perhaps we can work something out to glorify God with music!!

**Summertime Adoration:** Please see the block to the left and front page for the updated schedule. Please take the opportunity on a quiet summer evening to spend some time with Jesus in prayer.

**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.

**Rural Life Day Nominations:** We are seeking nominations for the following recognition awards for Rural Life Day (Sept. 23, 2026 at Creamery Creek Farms in Bangor – **St. Peter Parishioners Justin & Louisa Peterson**):

- "Friend of Rural Life" – Makes a significant contribution to the farming community. Not necessarily direct farmers themselves.
- "Strangers and Guests" – Farm family that exemplifies Catholic life, involvement in parish and community activities, hospitality, generosity.
- "Century Farms" – Families that have maintained 100+ years of continuous family ownership of their farm.

If you have someone in mind, please contact Rural Life Chairperson Anne Marie Elwing with their name and phone number: annemarie.elwing@wallstonellc.com.

**Save the Date for the 45th Annual Rural Life Day Celebration:** Wednesday, September 23, 2026 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Creamery Creek Farms, W1250 County Road U, Bangor. There is something special about gathering on a farm with people who understand the work, the worry, the weather and the faith it takes to keep going. Join us for the Diocese of La Crosse's 45th Annual Rural Life Day Celebration, hosted by the John and Donna Hansen family and the Justin and Louisa Peterson family (**St. Peter's parishioners**).

The day includes:

- Mass at 10 a.m. with Bishop Gerard W. Battersby, joined by priests and deacons from across the diocese
- Recognition of those who support rural life and families whose farms have remained in operation for more than 100 years
- The blessing of crops, animals and farm machinery
- Lunch and fellowship with farm families, neighbors and friends from across the diocese

A freewill offering will benefit Project Milk. No matter how many acres you farm, or whether you farm at all, you are welcome.