

Diocesan and Community News

Characteristics of a Disciple of Jesus Christ: Service

The fifth characteristic is service. A disciple knows that one’s faith is not meant to be lived in isolation. We are part of a family. “We must consider how to rouse one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24). We devote our time, talent, and treasure to our parish, our community, and to those in need, encountering Jesus in “the least of these.” Jesus could not be clearer: he is present in the poor and needy, and we will be judged by how much we loved him through them. St. James wrote, “If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,’ but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it?” (James 2:15-16). A disciple actively serves those in need.

Annual Pancake Breakfast: St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley will hold their annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, October 11, 2026 from 7:30 AM – gone or Noon (whichever comes first). Meal includes: delicious stack of pancakes with local real maple syrup, eggs, sausage, applesauce, milk, orange juice and coffee! Also purchase a tasty treat to take home from the bake sale! \$10 for adults, \$5 children ages 6-12, 5 and under free. Make your pancakes just the way you like them with our topping bar! Your choice of maple syrup, blueberries, strawberries, chocolate syrup, sprinkles, whip cream and peanut butter (while supplies last).

Join us for Oct. 16 Gospel of Life White Mass & Banquet: On Friday, Oct. 16, at 6:00 PM, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman, Bishop Battersby will celebrate the “White Mass,” at which the faithful honor and pray for Catholic healthcare professionals. A banquet will follow, with Fr. Justin Kizewski speaking on the vital topic of “The Art of Dying Well: Spiritual Preparation for Death.” As the end of life draws near, much attention is paid to medical decisions, life insurance, a will, a cemetery plot, etc., but nothing is as important as preparing the soul for passage into eternal life. Fr. Kizewski will shine a light on the beautiful teaching and practice of the Church as she accompanies us, and our loved ones, in the last days and hours of life. All are invited to attend this special evening. Visit here to learn more: <https://diolc.org/social-concerns/gospel-of-life>.

Congratulations to Mabel Irene Geier, daughter of Brandon & Amelia, who was baptized last week. Welcome to St. Peter’s family!



Kids Korner

Tenants of the Vineyard

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells the parable of the vineyard that was leased out to tenants. When the owner's servants came to collect the pay, the tenants beat them. When the owner sent his son, they killed the son because they thought they would be able to take the vineyard if the son was dead.



This story is about God's people. For hundreds of years God cared for His people, leaving leaders in charge. But when He sent His Son Jesus, the leaders did not respect Him. In fact, they killed Him on the cross! God's people were like the vineyard and the leaders were like the tenants who killed the son.

In a way your life is like a vineyard too. God has given it to you and cared for you all your life. When God wants you to do something for Him, you have the choice of doing what He asks or being like the bad tenants and refusing. Whenever we don't do what is right, we are offending Jesus. But you don't want to be like those bad tenants, do you? Make sure that everything you do is for God!



The Evil Tenants Word-Find



Find the words that are in CAPITALS in the puzzle and use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks:

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

Jesus told this PARABLE: There was a landowner who planted a VINEYARD and built a tower and a WINE PRESS. When he went away, he LEASED it to tenants. In time, he sent SERVANTS to get his PRODUCE, but the tenants BEAT one, killed one, and STONED another. The man sent more servants, but the TENANTS did the same thing AGAIN. Finally, he sent his SON, thinking that they would RESPECT him at least. But the tenants saw the son coming and said, "Here comes the HEIR. If we kill him we can get his INHERITANCE!" So they SEIZED him, THREW him out and KILLED him too! Jesus asked, "What will the land OWNER do when he COMES?" The people said, "Put the tenants to DEATH and lease the vineyard to tenants who WILL pay."

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

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



TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
OCTOBER 4, 2026

“The stone that the builders
rejected has become the
cornerstone.”
— Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46 (NRSV)



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

10/7 Wednesday 8:00 AM –

† Larry Cavadini (MCM)

10/9 Friday 8:00 AM –

St. Peter Parish Family

10/10 Saturday 8:00 PM –

† Jeannie Halderson (DDH)

10/11 Sunday 10:00 AM –

In thanksgiving of the 57th wedding anniversary of Richard & Janice Korish

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.

Ministry Servers

Saturday October 10 – 8:00 PM

Servers: Mason Leis & Allis Gronemus

Ushers: Tom Schaub & Gary Gronemus

Lector: Melissa Schaub

Sunday October 11 – 10:00 AM

Servers: Lukas & Abel Slattery

Ushers: Rob Slattery & Leo Leis

Lector: John Hundt

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.

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. Oct. 4 – Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM

Tues, Oct. 6 – Parish Finance meeting @ 6:30 PM

Wed. Oct. 7 - Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM

Sun. Oct. 11 - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM

Sun. Oct. 11 – Donuts w/ Knights of Columbus after mass

Tues. Oct. 13 – Food prep for supper @ 8 AM

Wed. Oct. 14 - Grades 7-10 CCD - NO Class!

Help at Sauerkraut Supper (Report to teacher for check in)

Wed. Oct. 14 – SAUERKRAUT SUPPER – Help needed all day beginning at 8 AM. All hands on deck!

Sat. Oct. 17 & Sun. Oct. 18 – World Mission Sunday

Sun. Oct. 18 - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM

Tues. Oct. 20 – Cemetery Committee meeting @ 7:00 PM

Sat. Oct. 24/Sun. Oct. 25 – Diocesan Annual Appeal Kickoff



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

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

We have been given so many gifts and blessings by our Heavenly Father, not to hoard for ourselves, but to cultivate together for the good of His Kingdom. Yet in our fallen state, it is all too easy to receive them passively. Our readings today call us to intentional, active stewardship: to use our gifts generously and together to glorify God.

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus uses the image of a vineyard to teach that our blessings are entrusted to us for shared, fruitful service rather than for private gain. He tells the story of a landowner who plants a vineyard, leases it to tenants, and then goes on a journey. Instead of tending the vineyard together and returning its fruit, the tenants mistreat the servants and even kill the landowner's son. When the landowner learns what the tenants have done, he puts them to death and entrusts his vineyard to tenants who will faithfully "give him the produce at the proper times."

By Baptism, we have received the gift of salvation and are called to active membership in the Kingdom of God, not as spectators but as co-workers in God's mission. We are "tenants" entrusted with our parish's vineyard, called to labor together and produce fruit for its owner, our Heavenly Father. Jesus makes it clear that if we squander this gift rather than share it in service, we will lose it. It is a sobering truth.

So let us move beyond quiet reflection to active participation, seeking concrete ways to share our time, talent, and treasure in service to our parish, and resolve to use all our gifts together for God's glory.

Parish News

Goodie Gathering: Join the Knights of Columbus after mass on October 11th downstairs for fellowship, donuts and refreshments.

Sauerkraut Supper is Wednesday October 14th!! **Food prep:** Tues. October 13 @ 8 AM, **More food & grounds prep:** Wed. October 14 @ 8 AM. Please plan to help!!! Wednesday night CCD students are required to help at this annual fundraiser in lieu of class time.

Thank You! Rural Life Day 2026 was a true community lift, well beyond any farm event we've hosted at Creamery Creek before, and St. Peter's offered help without end. There were countless pans of dessert bars, help with parking, the tent reset from Mass to meal, serving the food, and the helpers stayed until the last table was folded. Our parish supported the event financially, on par with parishes many times our size. Father Sen brought the altar items so Bishop Battersby could celebrate Mass. Over 500 meals were served, including the Providence Academy school kids, who also had a lesson when they watched a dairy calf being born. Thank you for your time and your generosity. We are very proud and thankful to farm among neighbors like you.

With gratitude, Justin and Louisa Peterson and Family

Respect Life Month: October is Respect Life Month. Catholic Charities offers free, confidential pregnancy and parenting support and adoption services. For pregnancy support, call 1.844.64GRACE (1-844-644-7223) or text 715.600.6391. For adoption information, call 888.212.4357. Remember that you have options and God's way is always the best one!

Queen of the Americas Guild Conference: Join the Queen of the Americas Guild for a 2-day conference examining Our Lady's role as Compassionate Mother to All That Live Together in This Land. Open to all those who wish to enhance their faith and learn more about this important topic. Date: October 16 and 17. Location: Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Cost: \$125. See the flier and brochures on the bulletin board in the back of church for more information.

What Made Archbishop Fulton Sheen a "Blessed" Man of God? Bishop Barron describes Blessed Fulton Sheen as a "Friend of Jesus Christ" and explains a three-stage template by which he lived his life. God blessed his faithfulness as Sheen had a television audience of 30 million people every Tuesday night and he received 25,000 letters each day. This compelling 19-minute homily on YouTube by Bishop Barron is outstanding, describing how Blessed Sheen is a profound model and inspiration for us, as he opened the door to the evangelization of the world. "Anyone who seeks fresh language to bring the Gospel to our culture, preaches the Word with a heart on fire, anyone who dares to use the media of communication available to us today is indebted to Sheen and finds in him a powerful Heavenly friend and intercessor." Search "Bishop Barron Homily for Vespers Fulton Sheen."

The Rosary is a Powerful Prayer: October is the month of the Rosary. In praying the Rosary, we think about one great saving event in the life of Jesus while we pray a decade: one Our Father, ten Hail Mary's and a Glory Be. While we meditate on a mystery of Jesus' life, we come to know Him better and find that the events of Jesus' life guide us in dealing with the challenges we face. Further, we will find greater peace by praying a decade, each day, or even a full Rosary.

Building Brighter Futures: Legacy Guild Dinner Celebrates Casa Hogar's Strong Foundation: Supporters of Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II are invited to the 2026 Annual Legacy Guild Benefit Dinner on Friday, November 6, 2026, at the Holy Cross Diocesan Center in La Crosse. Every strong future starts with a solid foundation - and that's exactly what Casa Hogar provides for the children and young people who call it home. This dinner is a chance for supporters to gather, reconnect, and hear stories from the past year at Casa. Thanks to the generosity of faithful supporters, Casa continues to offer a foundation of faith, family, education, and opportunity for its children - a foundation that stands strong because of you. RSVP by Friday, October 23, 2026. Contact info@frjoesguild.org.

Reasons To Celebrate! Wedding Anniversary Blessings: At the first weekend masses Father Sen will bless all of the Wedding Anniversaries for the month. **Birthday Blessings:** At the second weekend masses, Father Sen will bless the birthdays for the month.

Parish Finances (Fiscal Year)

Weekly Target - \$1,900.00

Last Week's Total - \$1,620.00

-\$280.00

Year to Date Target - \$24,700.00

Year to Date Total - \$19,036.52

-\$5,663.48

Looking Ahead: Readings for October 11, 2026

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-10

Second Reading: Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:1-14