

**Diocesan and Community News**

**Eucharistic Revival - 2022 through 2025:**

Our world is hurting. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from, or lack understanding of, the very source of our strength. Jesus Christ invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith: His Real Presence in the Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival is a three-year movement in the United States, sponsored by the U.S. Bishops, to restore and deepen understanding and devotion to this great mystery. You are encouraged to participate in this important Eucharistic Revival. Visit: [eucharisticrevival.org](http://eucharisticrevival.org).

**Message for week of December 25:** Jesus came into the world to save us. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, which means "house of bread." Because there was no room in the inn, Jesus was born in a stable and laid in a manger, which is significant because it is a feeding trough for animals. This was all part of God's plan for His birth on earth, to point to the fact that Jesus came to save us. This is really the whole meaning of Christmas. Jesus came to give us Himself as food – He literally is the Bread of Life – supernatural bread – that saves us, that spiritually nourishes and strengthens us with His grace. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, thank You for coming into the world as our Savior. This week, read how the birth of Jesus took place in Luke 2:1-7

**Important Cemetery Information**

From the Cemetery Committee: It has come to the attention of the Cemetery Committee that several headstones in our cemetery are in need of repair/maintenance. Following is a list of the names on those headstones. It is the family's responsibility to take care of these headstones. If you are a family member or know of a family member, please consider taking care of the necessary repairs and/or contacting family members. If interested, the Committee does have the name of a person who does this kind of work. If you have questions, please contact one of the Committee members.

**Row 1** Johann & Catharina Brecht, John Bell

**Row 4** Anton Kerska

**Row 5** John & Anna Burbach

**Row 6** Ernest Muenzenberger

**Row 7** Anton & Margarete Lomis

**Row 10** Anna Arentz, John & Katherina Burbach

**Row 11** Nick Fischbach, Nick Antony

**Row 12** Edmund Ott

**Row 13** Vaclav Silha

**Row 15** Mathias & Anna Becker

**Row 16** Walter & Mabel Cavadini

**Row 17** John & Anna Weber

**Row 19** Peter & Margaret Hurtz

**Row 22** Joseph & Mary Korn

**Row 24** Mary Repky, Clarence & Mildred Muenzenberger

**Row 25** Joseph & Wilma Clements

**Row 26** Gasper

**Kids Korner**

**A Little Story for Christmas**



Before Emmanuel was born, his brother and sister felt that they were enough - and they certainly kept things busy at home. There was a lot of noise in the house after school when they were fighting for the couch, the TV, or the favorite snack. One time, even as

Christmas drew near, there were a lot of loud temper tantrums: she had ruined his video game and he had thrown her doll and taken her favorite snack. For these two, it was almost like Emmanuel would never come.

They weren't really expecting him, but Mom and Dad knew that he would arrive. They tried to remind the kids but it wasn't easy. However, on December 25th, all was quiet in the house. And that was the day Emmanuel came too, very quietly. He could have been the centre of attention, but he was the kind of baby that could not be heard unless you were very quiet. His brother and sister began to understand that. Actually it was like that even when he was older. It was because you didn't expect him, they said.



Emmanuel was Jesus, and we are his brothers and sisters. A little noisy at times, a little selfish, and sometimes we just don't expect him. We feel that we are enough. Even today, unless we stop to visit him, and come up quietly to the crib to talk to him in our hearts, we might never realize that God has come.

**Thank you to all who donated towards our beautiful Christmas flowers!!**

- In memory of deceased members of the Lee family (ML)
- From the Halderson family (MJH)
- From the Lucey family (PDL)
- In memory of Paul Hundt, Peggy Arentz & Marcie Hundt (LRH)
- From Lavina Flock (LF)
- From Gary & Debra Flock (GDF)
- In memory of Raymond, Audrey & Janessa Korn, Charles & Elrita Leis
- From the Stephenson family (MJS)



**PASTOR**

Fr. Biju Chennala Kunjukutty, MSFS

Cell: (715) 495-2338

Email: [bchennala@diolclergy.org](mailto:bchennala@diolclergy.org)

**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday.....8:00 PM

Sunday.....10:00 AM

**WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

Wednesday and Friday.....8:00 AM

**ADORATION**

Wednesday.....7:30 PM to 8:30 PM

**CONFESSIONS**

Wednesdays during Adoration & By Appointment

**PARISH OFFICE (located in the church Sacristy)**

Hours: Wednesday 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Friday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Melissa Schaub.....Secretary/Bookkeeper

Office Phone: (608) 486-2180

Home Phone: (608) 486-4012

Bulletin deadline: .....Wednesday

Email: [stpetersrectory@centurytel.net](mailto:stpetersrectory@centurytel.net)

Fax: (608) 486-2181

**PARISH WEBMASTER** Christopher Pundzak

**SACRISTANS** Richard Korish & Austin Menn

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Mary Hundt, Coordinator.....(608) 780-6172

**PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL**

Dan Korn, Gary Flock, Michael Hundt  
(Committee liaisons: Peter Benzing & Leo Leis)

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Tom Schaub, Mark Stephenson, Rob Slattery,  
Peter Benzing, Chris Pundzak, Kathy Flock

**PCCW - Parish Council of Catholic Women**

Pam Benzing, Mary Bach-Filla, LaVonne Hundt

**CEMETERY COMMITTEE**

Leo Leis (Chairman), Mark Gronemus,  
Jared Lucey, Don Halderson, David Scharping

**CEMETERY SEXTON** Tom Schaub...(608) 486-4012

**FUNERAL COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Debra Leis.....(608) 632-7830

**MUSIC**

Terese Slattery, Coordinator.....(608) 452-4605  
Leland Gregorich, Organist

**St. Peters Catholic Church**  
**Middle Ridge, WI**  
**W697 State Hwy 33**  
**Rockland, WI 54653**



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

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**  
**DECEMBER 25, 2022**



CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR:

- Joining the Parish • Weddings • Baptisms
- Anointing of the sick (Please call Father Biju's cell phone)
- If you are home-bound & would like to be visited

Parish Intentions

12/28 Wed. 8:00 AM –

† Rick Schermerhorn (SPF)

12/30 Fri. 8:00 AM –

† Dave & Marcie Hundt (HF)

12/31 Sat. 8:00 PM –

† Donna Leis (LF)

1/1 Sun. 10:00 AM –

† Donna Leis (RF)

Ministry Servers

**Saturday December 31 – 8:00 PM**

Servers: Isabell Korn & Volunteer

Ushers: Tim Leis & Ron Hurtz

Lector: Dan Korn

**Sunday, January 1 – 10:00 AM**

Servers: Kate & Allis Gronemus

Ushers: Gary Gronemus & Mark Gronemus

Lector: Kathy Flock

**\*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

**Wednesday: 7:30 – 8:30 pm (Please note new time)**

Come spend some quiet time with Jesus. Confessions available.

Parish Calendar of Events

Sun. Dec. 25 – No CCD Class for Grades 1-6

Wed. Dec. 28 – No CCD Class for Grades 7-10

Sun. Jan. 1 – Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM

Sun. Jan. 1 – No CCD Class for Grades 1-6

Wed. Jan. 4 – Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM

Fri. Jan. 6 – Anointing of the Sick Sacrament available after mass; contact Fr. Biju to schedule

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

Sun. Jan. 8 – Parish Potluck/Sauerkraut Supper mtg

Mon. Jan. 9 – Inspired by the Spirit mtg @ 6:30 pm



**\*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. Thank you.

St. Joseph's Ridge Mass Times

Saturday 4:00 p.m. and Sunday 8:30 a.m.

First Saturday Mass.....8:30am

Confession time available after Mass

Monday .....5:30pm

Tuesday..... 5:30pm

(Adoration before Mass beginning at 5:00 pm)

Thursday.....8:30am

From the Pastor's Pen

**“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman.” Galatians (4:4)**

Merry Christmas! “The word was made flesh and he made his dwelling among us” these momentous words from the beginning of John’s Gospel describe exactly what we celebrate at Christmas. Jesus the eternal Son of God came among us and became a part of our human family. He transformed our lives and world. It began with Joseph, Mary and the shepherds. The shepherds were watching over sheep and then suddenly their life changed forever. A bright light and a multitude of angels appeared proclaiming that great joy. “And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people”. Luke 2:10. They were frightened. We all know how fear can cripple us and take away our joy and peace. The birth of the savior tells us not to be frightened. No matter where you find yourself this Christmas know that Jesus loves you.

Because there is no Sunday between Christmas and January 1 this year, the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is celebrated on Friday, December 30. The first family to welcome Jesus inspires us to do the same. The feast is celebrated to present the holy family as a model for Christian families. As we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family this weekend, I encourage you to pray for all families.

As the first seconds, minutes and hours of the new year is just around the corner I want to take a moment and thank everyone. Thanks for the many people who help make our parish so special. Thanks to all who put in several hours to decorate the Church for Christmas. Thanks to Ushers, Lectors, Altar servers, extraordinary ministers of Eucharist, Sacristans, CCD teachers, music directors, administrative assistant and members of the different councils. Also thank you to all the volunteers who without being recognized offer their help in their own capacity. Thanks for all the Christmas cards and presents including cookies. I want to let everyone know that you have been in my thoughts and prayers.

Live Jesus, Fr Biju MSFS

Parish News

**Christmas Flowers:** If you would like to donate towards the flowers that will adorn our church at Christmastime please place your donation in an envelope and drop it in the collection basket or mail to the church.

**Donation Envelopes for 2023:** The production for our 2023 envelopes is behind schedule. We will get them out as soon as we can. In the meantime, feel free to use any old envelopes you may have (your number doesn’t change) or place in a regular envelope with your name on it. Thank you for your understanding!

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:** If you are a couple celebrating your 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in 2023 please contact the parish office by December 28th. The Diocese loves to celebrate this beautiful milestone.

**Parish Potluck/Sauerkraut Supper Info:** There will be a potluck meal after mass on Sunday January 8 for fellowship and to talk about the future of the Sauerkraut Supper. **IF YOU WANT A SAY IN OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISER PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND.**

**Inspired by the Spirit Campaign Meeting:** There is going to be a meeting regarding the *Inspired by the Spirit* Campaign on **Monday January 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm** at the School Hall. This meeting will be with Jeff McSweeney who is a representative from the Lynch company and he will be able to clarify any questions about this campaign. We need to put together a committee for this campaign. All are welcome to attend this meeting.

**DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL FOR 2022-2023:** As you know, the fall is traditionally the time of year when we conduct our Diocesan Annual Appeal to support the wonderful ministries of our Diocese. This year will be slightly different. The Annual Appeal for the 2022-2023 year has been incorporated into the *Inspired by the Spirit* Campaign. This comprehensive, all-parish campaign effort began in parishes this past spring and is being conducted throughout this fall and through the first half of 2023. It will not only incorporate and support the ministries through the Diocesan Annual Appeal but will also provide an opportunity for every parish in the Diocese to raise funds for their own parish needs, the Diocesan Center, and the new Catholic Foundation of West Central Wisconsin. Please begin to pray about your commitment to this campaign and know that we will be inviting you to participate after the New Year. While the *Inspired by the Spirit* campaign will include this year’s Diocesan Annual Appeal, it will benefit our own parish and the larger Church of La Crosse for years to come. The Diocese plans to raise \$40,000,000. Our parish goal over a 5 year time period is \$85,000 with \$55,250 coming back to our parish for our own needs and projects.

**First Sunday Rosary:** We pray the rosary on the first Sunday of each month in church at **7:30 PM**. The next one will be **January 1<sup>st</sup>**. Please plan to attend to pray as our Holy Mother has called us to do.



**Pray Often & Daily!!!**

Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,700.00
Last Week’s Total -	<u>\$2,475.00</u>
	\$775.00
Year to Date Target -	\$42,500.00
Year to Date Total -	<u>\$38,478.17</u>
	-\$4,021.83

Readings for January 8, 2023

**First Reading:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Second Reading:** Ephesians 3:2-6

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 2:1-12

**Prayer for Spiritual Communion:** My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire You with all my heart. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already in my heart and unite myself to You completely. Please do not let me ever be separated from You. Amen.