

Diocesan and Community News

Eucharistic Revival - 2022 through 2025:

Visit: eucharisticrevival.org for more information.

Message for the week of January 7:

Wise men came to worship Jesus

Wise men from far away saw an incredibly bright star moving across the sky. They followed the star to see where it would take them. It led them to the Infant Jesus. The wise men gave precious gifts to the Savior, gifts for a king: gold, frankincense and myrrh. They knew that Jesus was a great king, even though He looked like a small Child. Jesus gives us the greatest Gift – the Gift of Himself in the Eucharist again and again in a life-giving encounter. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, the wise man brought You precious gifts. But, thank You for giving us **the most precious Gift** of Yourself in the Eucharist. This week, read how the wise men came to worship Jesus and bring Him gifts in Matthew 2:1-12.

"the ANSWER" Eucharistic Rally | June 7 at the La Crosse Center:

We are very excited to announce "the Answer" Eucharistic Rally that will be held on June 7, 2024 at the La Crosse Center in La Crosse, WI. This event kicks off the first day that the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will be in the Diocese of La Crosse. "the Answer" Eucharistic Rally will begin with a Eucharistic Procession Across the Cameron Street Bridge in La Crosse. It will end at the La Crosse Center where the rest of the rally will take place. The day will include Mass, Adoration, Confession, powerful speakers such as Chris Stefanick, Immaculee Ilibagize, and Josh Rosa, music from Luke Spehar, and plenty of vendors. The cost for this event is only \$15 per person. This rally is for middle and high school youth, young adults, adults, families, etc. Tickets are now on sale! You can find more information about the event by visiting <https://diolc.org/the-answer/>. For such an important event, it would be amazing if every parish brought a bus full of parishioners.

"Behold: God is With Us" Young Adult Retreat - January 27, 2024

The world needs Jesus. Our souls need Jesus. Out of God's abundant love for us, He became man: the Word became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:14). Jesus is the answer to the longings of our heart, and He is our way to eternal life. Knowing He would ascend into heaven, Jesus leaves us Himself- body, blood, soul, and divinity- under the guise of simple bread and simple wine. Why? So that our intimate love and union with Him (flesh to flesh) may continue in this life as we await the perfection of His love and union in the next. "Behold: God is With Us" or "Behold," for short, is an opportunity for you to retreat from the busyness and stresses of this world and find rest and consolation in Jesus and other young adults like you. All 18-35 year olds are welcome to join us for a day of enriching talks, silent prayer/reflection, small group discussion, adoration, confession, and Mass. Most importantly, learn how to remain connected post-retreat to a lively community of young adults striving for Sainthood. This day-long retreat will occur at Blessed Sacrament Parish in La Crosse, WI. Check-ins will begin at 8:30 am, and the retreat will conclude after the 4:30 pm vigil Mass. An optional after party will take place to follow! Breastfeeding babies are welcome! Lunch will be provided! All of this and more for the low cost of \$20. Let us behold the Lord together!

Kids Korner

The Magi Come to Worship Jesus



Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, which is when the Magi, or wise men, of the East came to find and worship Baby Jesus. They travelled for many weeks across harsh country to find the new King, bringing their best treasures to give to Him.

Where did these men find the baby King? Not in Jerusalem in the palace, with riches and servants! They found Him in a little town, in a house with just His mother, Mary. But they still knew Who the Baby was, so they bowed down to Him and gave Him their treasures.

The wise men teach us that we can honour God in all sorts of places. Jesus is there when you help ordinary people and poor people. He is honoured when you pray at a little nativity scene. Like the wise men, we should give our very best to Jesus no matter where He is.



Answers to Cross-Word: Across: 4. myrrh 6. to 8. East 9. star 11. find 14. secretly 15. King 16. gold 18. Bethlehem Down: 1. frankincense 2. Jesus 3. at 4. Mary 5. Herod 7. overjoyed 10. they 12. as 13. His 17. He

EPIPHANY CROSS-WORD

Fill in the blanks in the story to find the words for the puzzle!

Around the time that _____ (2d) was born, some wise men from the _____ (8a) saw in the sky a special _____ (9a) at _____ (13d) rising, and followed it to _____ (11a) the new-born Saviour. First they came to Jerusalem where _____ (10d) went to ask _____ (15a) Herod if he knew where the new King would be born.

_____ (12d) Herod did not know, he called the priests and scribes, who told them that the Baby would be born in _____ (18a). Then Herod told a _____ (17d) and said that he wanted to go and honour the Baby King too, and told the men to return once they had found him and tell him where the Baby was. The men were _____ (7d) when they found Jesus with his mother _____ (4d), and they did him homage, giving their gifts of _____ (16a), _____ (1d) and _____ (4a). But _____ (3d) night an angel appeared _____ (6a) them and told them to _____ (14a) go home by another road, since King _____ (5d) wanted to kill Baby Jesus.



PASTOR

Fr. Biju Chennala Kunjukutty, MSFS

Cell: (715) 495-2338

Email: 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 – 3:00 PM

Melissa Schaub.....Secretary/Bookkeeper

Office Phone: (608) 452-4680

Home Phone: (608) 486-4012

Bulletin deadline:Wednesday

Email: parishoffice@stpmr.diolcparish.org

PARISH WEBMASTER Christopher Pundzak

SACRISTANS Richard Korish & Austin Menn

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Mark Nicolai (Chairman), Rachel Persson, Brandon Flock & Louisa Peterson (Committee liaisons: Peter Benzing & Leo Leis)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Tom Schaub, Mark Stephenson, Rob Slattery, Peter Benzing, Kathy Flock, Sarah Gronemus

PCCW - Parish Council of Catholic Women

Pam Benzing, Mary Bach-Filla

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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 7, 2024



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

1/10 Wed. 8:00 AM – All the Sick & Dying (RJK)

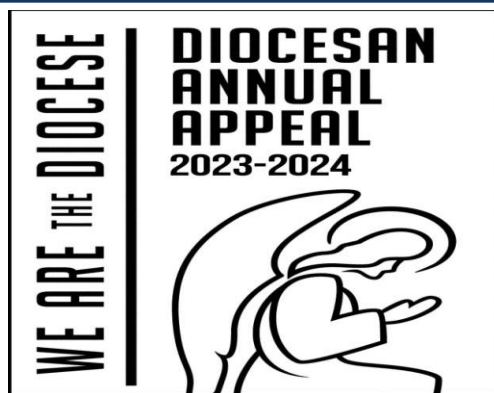
1/12 Fri. 8:00 AM –

† Charles Morgan (MLH)

1/13 Sat. 8:00 PM – † Robert, John & Linda Mashak (JM)

1/14 Sun. 10:00 AM –

† Stanley B Hundt (AH)



Goal: \$11,760.00

Total Pledged: \$6,335.00

Total Received: \$6,335.00

Under Goal: \$5,425.00

Participation: 54%

Pray Often & Daily!!!

Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,870.00
Last Week's Total -	\$3,823.50
	\$1,953.50
Year to Date Target -	\$48,620.00
Year to Date Total -	\$62,149.61
	+\$13,529.61

Readings for January 14, 2024

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:3-19

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:13-20

Gospel Reading: John 1:35-42

Ministry Servers

Saturday January 13 – 8:00 PM

Servers: Isabell Korn, Brielle & Brooklyn Lundeen

Ushers: Tim Leis & Duane Leis

Lector: Dan Korn

Sunday January 14 – 10:00 AM

Servers: Jake & Josh Peterson

Ushers: Mark Stephenson & Rob Slattery

Lector: Joe Peterson

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 until 8:30 PM

Come spend some quiet time with Jesus.

Confessions available.

Parish Calendar of Events

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

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

Sun. Jan. 14 - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM

Wed. Jan. 17 - Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM

Sun. Jan. 21 - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM

Fri. Feb. 2 – Anointing of the Sick Sacrament available; contact Fr. Biju to schedule

Fri. Feb. 9 – 3rd Annual St. Peter's Couples Night

Fr. Biju to Visit Family

Fr. Biju will be going to India to visit his family from Jan. 22 through February 5th. During those days he is away, if anyone wishes to be remembered in his daily Mass or prayed for, let him know.

If you have an intention, place it in an envelope marked "Fr Biju Masses" and drop it in the collection.



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

Monday5:30pm

Tuesday..... 5:30pm

(Adoration before Mass beginning at 5:00 pm)

Thursday.....8:30am

From the Pastor's Pen

The Epiphany: A gift for all of us

On Monday we celebrate Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. It marks the end of the Catholic Church's Christmas Season. The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is a "second epiphany" revealing His divinity and mission of Jesus after The Solemnity of the Epiphany. The Solemnity of the Epiphany is associated with the "visit of the Magi" – "Three Wise Men," sometimes called the "Three Kings" – whom tradition holds followed a star to Bethlehem to worship the newborn Messiah with gifts of "gold, frankincense and myrrh." The Gospel of Matthew 2: 1-12, however, is the only Gospel to mention the "wise men." It does not give their number, does not identify them as "kings," and does not say "when" they visited.

But this "visit" has a significant purpose. It fulfills the promise that a savior is born in Bethlehem. He is the long-awaited Divine Messiah, foretold by the Old Testament prophets, revealed as the Son of God, and recognized as such by those who witnessed His presence on earth as the source of human salvation by God. The Good News of the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord is that Christ comes to save us all, even the Gentiles too.

We read in the gospel the Magi presented their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to Jesus. Gold, a symbol of royalty, represents His kingship; frankincense, used in worship, points to His divinity; and myrrh represents His humanity, particularly in His passion and death. The Magi brought gifts to Jesus. Yet, Jesus gave us the gift of His own very self. Epiphany reaffirms that God is truly with us. Let's offer Him ourselves as a gift with our weaknesses, our poverty of spirit, and our pains along with goodness and blessings that we have received.

Happy New Year!

Live Jesus, Fr Biju MSFS

Parish News

Special Thanks: A huge thank you goes out to **Gary Flock & Michael Hundt** for their work on the Parish Finance Council. Your dedication to St. Peters is most admirable. God bless you!

Mark your calendars: We will plan to take down the Christmas decorations on Sunday January 14th after mass.

Attention Ladies: All Ladies of St. Peters are invited to a social hour at the Hundt residence on January 8 at 6:30 pm. Light snacks and drinks will be provided. We would like to get all ages of the women of our parish together to discuss how we as a group can do more service in our community. We would like input from **all** members. Please call or text LaVonne with an RSVP to 608-317-9541 to let her know who can come and she can give you the address.

3rd Annual St. Peter's Couples Night: Valentine's day is a time to celebrate your love. St. Peter's Couples Night will be **Friday February 9th** from 6:30 - 9 PM in the church basement. There will be an inspirational speaker, intimate multi-course meal with your Sweetheart, romantic music and Christian fellowship. Make your reservations by **February 2nd** by calling the parish office (452-4680) or send an email to parishoffice@stpmr.diolcparish.org or speak to Tom or Melissa Schaub. This event is open to all married or engaged couples.

50th Anniversary Celebration: Are you and your spouse celebrating this impressive milestone this year? If so, the Diocese of La Crosse would like to recognize and celebrate with you at a special mass & reception. If you are celebrating 50 years of love in 2024 please contact the parish office by January 19th.

Anointing of the Sick: Fr. Biju will be available to perform this Sacrament on the first Friday of the month after daily mass. Please contact him directly if you or a family member would like to receive. **This is available February 2nd.**

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 7th.** Please plan to attend to pray as our Holy Mother has called us to do.

***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.

Hearing Assistance: For anyone finding it difficult to hear during mass we now have head-sets available in the sacristy that can be used to help. They are linked into our sound system directly.