

**Diocesan and Community News**

**Message for the week of December 29:**

**A Minute with Jesus: Jesus came into the world as part of a Family** The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph allows us to see the Holy Family of Nazareth as the “true model of life” (cf. Opening Prayer) from which our families can draw inspiration and know where to find help and comfort. The kindness, respect, obedience, unity, charity, and every other Christian virtue that they lived must become the model for Christian living and for family life. The power of God’s grace needed for family life comes to us through receiving Jesus in the Holy Eucharist every Sunday. Let us be faithful during this beautiful season of Christmas and beyond in attending Sunday Mass. Let’s pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, thank You for coming into the world as part of a family, providing a model for families to navigate a culture that rejects God. This week, read about the difficulty that the Holy Family experienced when they were separated from Jesus for three days in Luke 2:41-52.

**The Rosary in a Year Podcast: Renew Your Prayer:** On January 1st, Father Mark-Mary Ames is launching *The Rosary in a Year* podcast with Ascension Press! You are most welcome to join for FREE as an opportunity to deepen your relationship with Christ and the Blessed Virgin as you understand the beauty and significance of the rosary. This will be a 10-minute daily podcast to hear about the basics, what it means to have a relationship with Jesus and Mary, the meaning of the prayers, understand better the different mysteries and how to meditate on the life of Christ to encounter Him. Download the prayer plan at [AscensionPress.com/RosaryinaYear](http://AscensionPress.com/RosaryinaYear).

**Vocations:** Do you know someone in your life that you think would make a good priest? Have you ever told them that? If not, you should! A significant contributing factor to young men discerning the priesthood has been the invitation and encouragement they receive from others, particularly parents, teachers, mentors and role models. Don’t be afraid to tell a young man that they would make a good priest, as that may be just what they have been waiting for. Once you encourage them, don’t hesitate to put them in contact with me to continue that conversation. I can be reached at: Fr. Nate Kuhn, Director of Vocational Recruitment for the Diocese of La Crosse, 3710 East Ave. S. PO Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602; or by phone at: 608.791.2667. God bless you!

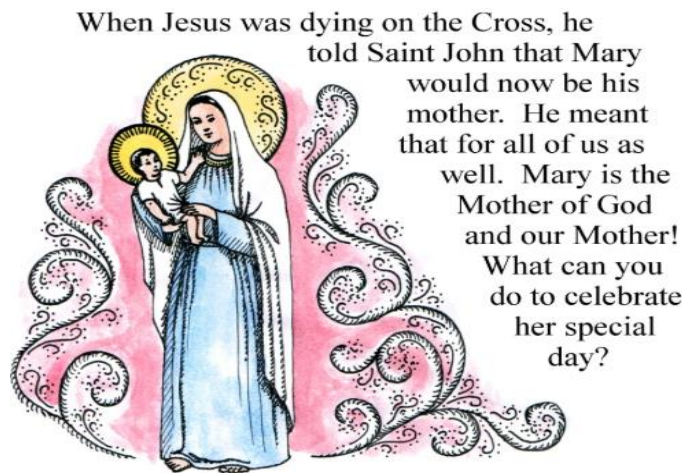
**Amen App:** The Amen app is the free Catholic prayer app that inspires your daily conversation with God through faithful meditations and nourishing Scripture. You are welcome to register for this app from the Augustine Institute by clicking here: [www.augustineinstitute.org/program-and-resources/amen](http://www.augustineinstitute.org/program-and-resources/amen)

**Kids Korner**

*Mary the Mother of God  
January 1*

On the first day of the year we celebrate the feast day of Mary, the Mother of God.

If you didn't have a mother and God let you design your own mother, what would she be like? Well, God did get to make His own Mother! Can you even imagine how perfect she was?



*The feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord is a special part of the Christmas season! What are we celebrating on this feast?*

*Connect the dots to find out!*

**PASTOR**

Fr. Biju Chennala Kunjukutty, MSFS

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

**PARISH WEBMASTER** Christopher Pundzak

**SACRISTANS** Richard Korish & Austin Menn

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Miranda Flock

**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,

Pat Lucey, Don Halderson, David Scharping

**CEMETERY SEXTON**

Tom Schaub...(608) 486-4012

**FUNERAL COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Deborah 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 HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**  
**DECEMBER 29, 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

**1/1 Wednesday 10:00 AM -**  
**† Wilfred & Alice Kotek (SMF)**  
**1/3 Friday 8:00 AM –**  
**Peter Krump Jr (PTS)**  
**1/4 Saturday 8:00 PM –**  
**St. Peter’s Parish Family**  
**1/5 Sunday 10:00 AM –**  
**† Bobby & Arlene Arentz (DKS)**



“For we are co-workers;  
 you are God’s field,  
 God’s building.”

1 Corinthians 3:9

1 CORINTHIANS 3:9

DIOLC.ORG/COWORKER

GOAL

**\$12,520.00**



PLEGDED AND  
 RECEIVED

**\$9,285.00**

# OF DONORS

**30**

**Pray Often & Daily!!!**



Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,870.00
Last Week’s Total -	\$5,734.00
	-\$3,864.00
Year to Date Target -	\$46,750.00
Year to Date Total -	\$40,287.13
	-\$6,462.87

Readings for January 5, 2025

**First Reading:** Isaiah 60:1-6  
**Second Reading:** Ephesians 3:2-6  
**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 2:1-12

Ministry Servers

**Wednesday January 1 – 10:00 AM**  
**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ALL STATIONS**

**Saturday January 4 – 8:00 PM**

Servers: Brielle & Brooklyn Lundeen  
Ushers: Phil Gronemus & Don Halderson  
Lector: Julie Lundeen

**Sunday January 5 – 10:00 AM**

Servers: Arnie & Adeline Nicolai  
Ushers: Peter Benzing & Mark Gronemus  
Lector: Pam Benzing

**\*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!!**



Parish Calendar of Events

**Wed. Jan. 1** - Grades 7-10 NO CCD CLASS  
**Wed. Jan. 1** - Solemnity of Mary mass @ 10:00 AM (HDO)  
**Fri. Jan. 3** - Anointing of the Sick Sacrament available; contact Fr. Biju to schedule  
**Sun. Jan. 5** - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM  
**Sun. Jan. 5** - Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM  
**Wed. Jan. 8** - Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM  
**Sun. Jan. 12** - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM  
**Sun. Jan. 19** - Parish Potluck after mass



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

**Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

The Sunday after Christmas is celebrated as the feast of the Holy Family. Christmas itself is the feast of God entering a family to stay with the humans. The Church has always presented the family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph as a model family for Christians to imitate, calling it to be the Holy Family. Jesus’ family was just too simple and ordinary. It was a family that lived under the threat of the powerful and the influenced. It did not have any financial or social security. It struggled hard to win its daily bread, and it did not receive any privileges from any quarter.

Many of the features that we cherish and long for were absent in the family of Jesus. Still, the Church calls it a model family and a holy family. Do you know why? It is because in this family, Jesus, the Word incarnate, was its center, His bonds of love and respect for the family members were very strong, and the only philosophy of its members was to seek the will of God and to obey it. Any family that follows these principles would be a model family always and everywhere.

Parents must learn to keep Jesus at the center of their married life. It would help them to tackle many problems that might arise in their life. If Jesus is the center of their life, they would learn the art of making the family from Jesus’ perspective. Letting Jesus enter our families and keeping Him at its center is the big challenge the couples of our time face.

What we see in the families around us is the lack of openness to God and one another and the consequent disunity. When we push up our selfish agenda, it will hurt both God and other members of our family. Whereas all the members of the Holy Family sought the will of God wholeheartedly. There was no trace of selfishness and vested interest in their life. Their unwavering faith in the providence of God enabled them to accept the joys and sorrows of life with serenity. They did not complain about anything. They accepted every happening in the family with humility. They were convinced that whatever happened to them was the Lord’s doing. This attitude of theirs increased their love and respect for one another. They trusted each other as they trusted God. So, they stood united in the ups and downs of their life.

Next Sunday our beloved Bishop will visit St Joseph and offer mass.

Happy New Year, also blessings on Jubilee year 2025- ‘Pilgrims of Hope’

Live Jesus, Fr Biju MSFS

Parish News

**Sympathies:** The parish family extends our heartfelt sympathies to the family of Arnold Von Ruden, a past parishioner of St. Peter’s, who passed away last week. May he rest in peace in God’s loving embrace!

**Mass Time Change:** The mass for the Solemnity of Mary on Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup> will be at 10:00 AM. This is a change from the Christmas letters. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. **Volunteers are needed for servers, lector & ushers.**

**Children’s Choir:** All singers are welcome to join us to sing Christmas songs at the Holy Day mass on January 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 AM and at Epiphany on January 5<sup>th</sup>. Let us make a joyful noise!!

**Fr. Biju News:** Happy Anniversary of Ordination to Father on December 31<sup>st</sup>! He will be visiting his home land from January 6 – 22 and will continue to pray a mass each day. If you would like to send any mass intentions for him to pray while he is gone, please place it in an envelope marked “Fr. Biju masses” and drop it in the collection by January 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Christmas Flowers: Thank you to those who have donated towards our Christmas flowers:**

- In memory of Leo & Shirley Servais (S&GF)
- From Margie Lee
- From Gary & Deb Flock
- In memory of Stanley & Steven Hundt
- From Jim & Patty Schermerhorn
- From Lavina Flock
- From Jean Halderson
- In honor of the Al Antony family (AA)
- From Pat & Darla Lucey

**Parish Potluck:** We will gather after mass on Sunday January 19<sup>th</sup> to have food and fellowship with our parish family in the church basement. Please bring a dish to pass.

**NEW FUNDRAISER!** A Beer, Wine and Cheese Tasting evening is being planned at Timmers 10-Mile Pub on February 8, 2025 from 2-5pm. Call 608-796-2270 to reserve your tickets as seating is limited. Tickets are \$25 per person and include the choice of wine or beer tasting with cheese and chocolate pairings, and an artisan pizza buffet. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED:** approximately 8 volunteers are needed for day-of help, and we are asking for items/cash donations to help put together raffle baskets. Please contact Rachel Persson at 608-386-9543 if you have items to donate or wish to help. Thank you in advance!

**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 5<sup>th</sup>.** Please plan to attend to pray as our Holy Mother has called us to do.