

Diocesan and Community News

Message for the week of March 2:

A Minute with Jesus: As Catholics, we believe that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist. We humbly give our assent to what has been handed on to us for the last 2,000 years through the one Church that Jesus founded. This assent (giving our “yes – I choose to believe”) involves our commitment to persistence in prayer and study of Scripture in asking Jesus for deeper understanding regarding His Real Presence in the Eucharist. Let’s pray this right now and every day this week: Lord Jesus, “I believe; please help my unbelief.” (Mark 9:24) This week, read how a father gives his assent to believing that Jesus can heal his son in Mark 9:20-29.

Men of the Cross “Freedom in Forgiveness”: Our relationship with Christ is many things. He is your refuge, someone to celebrate your joys, mourn with you in your sorrows and is the one to break the chains that bind you and set you free. What are the chains that bind you? The world tries to convince you that the baggage you carry is not too heavy and that you probably deserve to carry that burden. But that is a lie. Christ wants you to be set free. There is Freedom in Forgiveness! Maybe you have been carrying around the same burden for a long time. Maybe you really don’t understand forgiveness, how to forgive others, or how to forgive yourself. You may have forgotten what it feels like to be free. Join men from all over the Diocese of La Crosse and beyond, to experience Freedom in Forgiveness through Mass, inspiring talks, honest discussion and fellowship. The Church needs men to live free, allowing them to help other men break the chains that bind them so they may also live the joy-filled life that Christ wants for us.

What: Men of the Cross: “Freedom in Forgiveness”
Who: All men (High School students who attend with a parent or guardian are free.)

When: March 8, 2025

Where: Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, La Crosse, WI
 Cost: \$30 per person (includes lunch!)

Registration: menofthecross.org

Speakers: Bob Kroll and Dominic Carstens. Mass with Bishop Battersby

Look for a flier on the bulletin board in the back of church and cards with more information in the vestibule.

Lenten Mission with Our Lady of Guadalupe:

When: March 22, 2025

Where: St. Patrick Parish, 118 S K St, Sparta, WI

Join us as we explore one of the most amazing events in the history of the Church. Father Tim Oudenhoven will be presenting the vital message of Guadalupe for our troubled times. Let us stand close to Mary as she teaches us how to live for and love Jesus in our daily lives that all may come to believe and follow! Free Will Offering. Snacks & lunch will be provided. Schedule: 8:15 am Mass, 9:30-1:30 program, 1:30-3:30 Adoration & Confession, Mass at 4:30pm

Kids Korner

Ash Wednesday

This Wednesday is the first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday. Lent is a special time when we prepare ourselves for Good Friday and Easter Sunday.



If you go to Mass on Ash Wednesday, the priest will make a little cross on your forehead with ashes. The ashes remind us that people were made from the dust of the ground and that some day we will die and go back into the ground.

It is good for us to remember that we will die one day. It helps us realize that God put us here and that we need Him all the time. If we remember how much we need God then we will think of Him more and love Him more.



What is something you can do this Lent to remind yourself every day that you need God?

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 3** Frank Mashek
- Row 3** Peter & Barb Antony
- Row 4** John Schmit
- Row 4** Karoline Dlask
- Row 5** Peter Bell
- Row 5** Aletta Arentz
- Row 11** Franz Kamperschroer
- Row 11** Peter Ott
- Row 12** Edmund Ott
- Row 13** Vaclav & Marie Silha
- Row 13** Margerate

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

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
 608-452-4680

Parish website: www.saintpetersparish.net



EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
MARCH 2, 2025



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

3/5 Ash Wednesday 8:00 PM –

† Otto & Theresa Schaub (SF)

3/7 Friday 8:00 AM–

† Wilfred & Alice Kotek (SMF)

3/8 Saturday 8:00 PM –

† Gene Hurtz (MCK)

3/9 Sunday 10:00 AM –

† Barbara Peltz (MLH)

Ministry Servers

Ash Wednesday March 5 – 8:00 PM

Servers: Brielle & Brooklyn Lundeen

Ushers: Duane Leis & Phil Gronemus

Lector: Julie Lundeen

Saturday March 8 – 8:00 PM

Servers: Andrew & Matthew Schaub

Ushers: Mike Schaub & Tom Schaub

Lector: Melissa Schaub

Sunday March 9 – 10:00 AM

Servers: Arnie & Adeline Nicolai

Ushers: Leo Leis & Mark Stephenson

Lector: Kathy Flock

Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays during Lent @ 7:30 PM

Adoration to follow

Parish Calendar of Events

Sun. March 2 – Cabin Feverfest @ noon

Sun. March 2 – Mardi Gras “Battle of the Bacons” @ 5:00 PM

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

Mon. March 3 – PCCW meeting @ 7 PM

Wed. March 5 - No CCD – Attend Ash Wednesday Mass

Wed. March 5 – Ash Wednesday mass @ 8:00 PM

Fri. March 7 – Anointing of the Sick Sacrament available; contact Fr. Biju to schedule

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

Tues. March 11 – Cemetery Committee meeting @ 7:30 PM

Wed. March 12 - Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM

Sun. March 16 - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM



***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 8:30 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

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher.”

This weekend’s we find Jesus sharing with his disciples, parables that highlight the importance of discernment and self-awareness in our spiritual journey. Lent is a good time to reflect about it as we begin our Lenten journey on Wednesday. It can be a great journey of self-awareness and surrender to the Lord. One can definitely make use of this season to evaluate our priorities and renew oneself. If we treat Lent no different than any normal day, Easter will just be just eggs and chocolate bunnies!

We can do the simple task of getting ashes on Ash Wednesday. Lent is more than that. We may give up many things, but it should also have some purpose with which I consciously consider change in life. What is the point of giving up something unless it results in a benefit or change in my way of life? Giving up TV or Internet may provide more time to clean, take a nap or talk on the phone, but wouldn’t the time be better used to pray, meditate, or focus on encouraging a spiritual habit? A daily focus to be more in touch with God during the forty days of Lent would result in true joy at Easter. Have a blessed week.

Live Jesus, Fr Biju MSFS

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5. Lenten regulations are as follows:

- Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays in Lent, and Good Friday.

- In addition to abstaining from meat, Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, until they celebrate their 59th birthday, are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to this regulation may eat only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one’s needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Parish News

St. Peter’s Cabin Feverfest: Our annual Euchre Tournament & Luncheon is Sunday March 2nd. The doors will open at Noon with card games beginning at 1:00 PM. The cost will be \$15 per person. **Let’s have a good ST. PETERS PARISHIONER turn out!!**

Battle of the Bacons: A Mardi Gras “Battle of the Bacons” will take place Sunday evening March 2nd beginning at 5:00 PM. A taste test competition will be held featuring the bacons of 6 or more local farmers. Following the testing will be a bacon & scrambled egg supper. Bring a Mardi Gras delectable to pass. All are welcome!

PCCW Meeting: We will meet on Monday March 3rd at 7 PM. All registered women of the parish are members of this group.

Ash Wednesday: We will have mass here on Wednesday, March 5th at 8:00 PM. ALL WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND. There are also masses available at St. Joseph’s at 8:30 AM and 6:00 PM.

BIBLE Study: There will be a Bible study on Tuesday evenings at the St. Joseph school hall beginning March 11th and continuing March 18th, 25th, April 1st, 8th, and 15th called “Prayer: Finding Intimacy with God” with a clear teaching and artistry of the Augustine Institute’s Lectio series, Dr. Tim Gray masterfully uses the discipline of Lectio Divina to show you how to make prayer an effective effort of love and intimacy. In six video sessions Lectio: “Prayer: Finding Intimacy with God” captures the secret to opening our hearts and minds to Scripture as the means to hear from God and then respond in conversation, basking in his presence and resolving to live in and through his love. Please contact Stacy Burns (608-769-8828) to sign up (so study guides can be ordered).

The Bible study includes:

-The Lectio Divina approach of Reading, Reflecting, Responding, and Contemplating

-Penetrating questions and insights for the six video sessions

-Additional resources for a fuller understanding and application

-Daily reflections to deepen the meaning of prayer in your life

Stations of the Cross: On Wednesdays during Lent we will recite the Stations of the Cross beginning at 7:30 pm with Adoration to follow. This is a prayerful biblical meditation of 14 incidents from the Gospel accounts and traditions of the journey of Jesus from Pilate’s house to being placed in the tomb. Please plan to come and prepare for the Easter season.

Penance Services Available: There will be confessions available at St. Peters on April 9th beginning at 6:30 pm until done. As previous years, there will be 2 priests available. This year the sacristy location will have a divider to be able to choose between a private or face-to-face confession. Two priests will be available at St. Josephs on Wednesday, April 2nd, beginning at 6:30 pm until done. There is also an opportunity at the Cathedral on April 14th from 9:00 AM-6:00 PM with about 6 priests available.



Let today be the day you give up who you've been for you who can become.

Blessed Ash Wednesday

Pray Often & Daily!!!



Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target - \$1,870.00

Last Week’s Total - \$1,425.00

-\$445.00

Year to Date Target - \$63,580.00

Year to Date Total - \$57,765.19

-\$5,814.81

Readings for March 9, 2025

First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Second Reading: Romans 10:8-13

Gospel Reading: Luke 4:1-13