

Diocesan and Community News

Message for the week of March 30:

A Minute with Jesus: Our Response is Thanksgiving

When we receive Jesus, we want to thank Him for the total gift of Himself to us. This Gift of the Eucharist empowers us to live our lives with thankful hearts as we follow Him with trust and commitment. Let's read and pray this right now and every day this week: We have a Heavenly Father who loves each one of us, in an absolutely unique way as expressed in Scripture: "Every good and perfect gift comes down from the Father of lights, with Whom there is no variation or shadow caused by change" (James 1:17). In thanksgiving, let us pray the *Our Father* prayer, remembering both our Heavenly Father and our earthly father.

Morning of Reflection: The Founder of W.I.N.E., Women in the New Evangelization, Kelly Wahlquist, is our speaker for this morning get together. It starts at 9 a.m. April 5, 2025, at the Cathedral. She is a dynamic and inspiring speaker that travels the United States with her message to be witnesses of our faith and part of the New Evangelization. This is an opportunity to have a wonderful conclusion to your Lent that will sustain you through the rest of this Jubilee year. All Catholic Women are welcome. There will be a light breakfast served and there is NO COST to anyone. It is sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of America, Court 1183, and the La Crosse Deanery Council of Catholic Women. For more information call or text Kay Kesler at: 608-780-0485. See the flier in the back of church for details.

Mass & Soup Supper: Holy Trinity Parish, 13th St and Park Ave. La Crosse will have Mass at 5:30 p.m. on the five Tuesdays during Lent followed by a Soup Supper in Leo Hall. Free will offering.

Fish Fry at St. Charles, Genoa: Come enjoy a delicious Fish Fry at St. Charles School, 707 Eagle Street, Genoa, WI on April 4th! Eat in or get it to go. Serving from 5 pm - 7 pm or gone, in the cafeteria. Dinner includes: 3 pieces of cod fish, baked potato, coleslaw, baked beans and a bun for \$15. Drinks and desserts sold separately.

This Lent, Pray for an Increase of Hope! Jubilee of Hope 2025 is meant to foster greater spiritual renewal through deepening our relationship with Jesus. Pope Francis entitled the theme of this year "Pilgrims in Hope." Hope is not something that we muster up ourselves. We were given this gift in baptism and we nourish and renew hope by asking Jesus to increase it in us. We can make simple acts of hope by saying, "Jesus, I trust in You." We may also post the following Scripture verses on a mirror, and repeat them each day. "For You O Lord are my hope...my trust is in You" (Ps. 146:5). "I know well the plans I have in mind for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for woe so as to give you a future of hope" (Jer. 29:11). For further details on the Jubilee of Hope, visit diolc.org/jubilee-2025-pilgrims-of-hope

Aquinas Fundraiser: Please plan to attend the annual Aquinas Booster Club Auction on Saturday, April 5 at 5 p.m. at Aquinas High School. The event raises money to support student-athletes and features a silent and live auction, Golden Ticket raffle (your choice of any live auction item), a raffle for \$1,000 off Aquinas tuition, food and beverages. Auction is live and can be found here: events.readysetauction.com/acs/bcauction2025

Kids Korner

The Son who was Sorry



Today's Gospel reading tells us about God's forgiveness. We are like the son who ran away and wasted all his money whenever we don't use our gifts or talents to serve God or others.

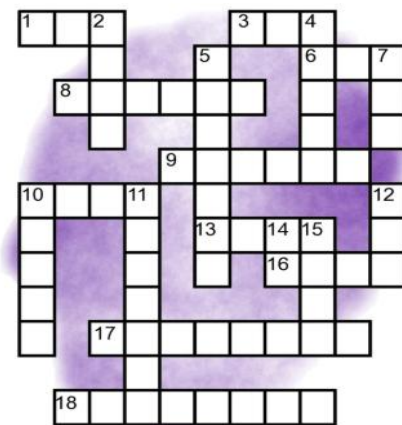
God is like the father in this story. He lets the younger son do whatever he wants, but he loves him even when he chooses to be bad. All he wants is for his son to come home and be sorry. He is ready and waiting to forgive the prodigal son.

God is waiting to forgive us too, in the sacrament of Confession. He wants us to be sorry for our sins and tell Him we are sorry so He can take them away.

Try to make sure you go to confession before Easter so your soul will be clean and ready for the great celebration!



Psalm 34 Cross-Word Puzzle



Use these words to fill in the blanks for the crossword puzzle:

- FROM
- TERRORS
- PRaise
- SET
- GLORIFY
- LET
- HIS
- ANSWERED
- NAME
- ON
- SEE
- TASTE
- THAT
- HUMBLE
- ITS
- TIMES
- SOUL
- MAKE
- TOGETHER

10D and 12D 10A the Lord is good.
I will bless the Lord at all 4D,
His 9A is always 14D my lips;
In the Lord my 2D shall 15D 6A boast.
The 8A shall hear and be glad.



5D the Lord with me.
17A 3A us praise
1A 16A
I sought the Lord
and he 18A me,
13A all my 11D he 7D me free.

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

FUNERAL COMMITTEE CHAIR

Deborah Leis

MUSIC

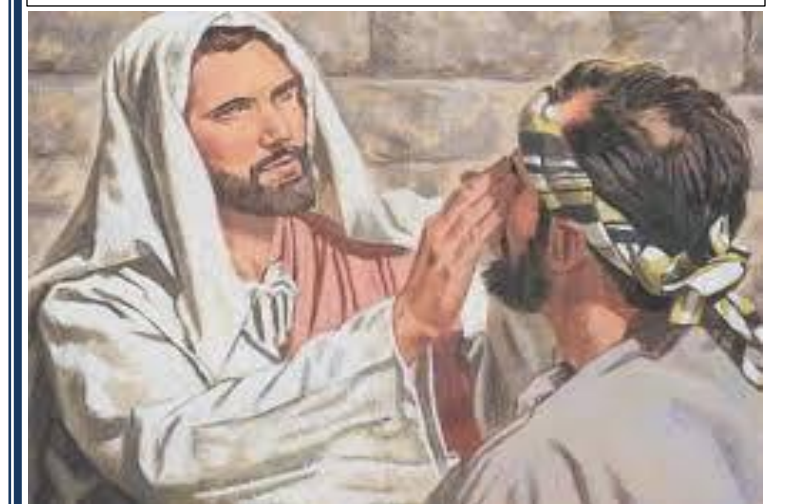
Terese Slattery, Coordinator
Leland Gregorich, Organist

**St. Peters
Catholic Church**
Middle Ridge, WI
W697 State Hwy 33
Rockland, WI 54653
608-452-4680

Parish website: www.saintpetersparish.net



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 30, 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

4/2 Wednesday 8:00 AM –
Marriage of Justin & Marybeth Griffith (MLH)
4/4 Friday 8:00 AM–
†Jeanette Hammes (MLH)
4/5 Saturday 8:00 PM –
†Gene & Rosie Hurtz (HF)
4/6 Sunday 10:00 AM –
St. Peter’s Parish Family

Ministry Servers

Saturday April 5 – 8:00 PM
Servers: Isabell Korn & Matthew Schaub
Ushers: Bill Korn & Ron Hurtz
Lector: Lynda Hurtz
Sunday April 6 – 10:00 AM
Servers: Avin & Brynn Stephenson & Allis Gronemus
Ushers: Mark Gronemus & Gary Gronemus
Lector: John Hundt
***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!!**

Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays during Lent @ 7:30 PM
Adoration to follow

Parish Calendar of Events

Wed. April 2 - Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM
Fri. April 4 - Anointing of the Sick Sacrament available; contact Fr. Biju to schedule
Sat. April 5 - Church Grounds Clean-up Day @ 9:00 AM
Sun. April 6 - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM
Sun. April 6 - Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM
Tues. April 8 - Joint Council meeting:
 Finance @ 6:30 PM, Advisory @ 7:30 PM
Wed. April 9 - Grades 7-10 CCD Class 7 – 8:15 PM
Wed. April 9 - Confessions/2 priests available @ 6:30 PM
Sun. April 13 - Grades 1-6 CCD Class 8:45 – 9:45 AM
Tues. April 15 - St. Peter’s Soup Supper @ 6:30 PM



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

Fourth Sunday of Lent

This weekend we celebrate the fourth Sunday of Lent. The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called Laetare Sunday. This Sunday of Lent marks the mid-point in the Lenten preparation for Easter. Laetare in Latin means rejoice. Like Gaudete Sunday, Laetare Sunday provides a similar break about midway through a season which is otherwise of a penitential character.

The word of God this weekend invites us into a profound reflection on the mercy of God and the reality of human sinfulness. In Luke’s Gospel, we see the Pharisees and scribes accusing Jesus, saying, *This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.* But Jesus, through the parable of the Prodigal Son, reveals the depth of God’s love and the shared sinfulness of all humanity.

At first glance, among the two sons the younger son seems to be the main subject. His reckless choices and return to his father in desperation paint the portrait of a sinner seeking mercy. The hard-working, law-abiding, self-righteous older son reveals a more subtle but equally harmful sin: pride. He refuses to celebrate his brother’s return, claiming his own righteousness as justification. Both sons, in different ways, are distant from their father’s heart, and both are in need of reconciliation. There may be a temptation in us to focus on the sins or perceived flaws of others while neglecting our own need for repentance. But Jesus calls us to a deeper, more sincere introspection of one’s own life and submit it to God.

Prayers for Deacon **David J. Allen**, serving as Deacon at Blessed Sacrament Parish in La Crosse, is also appointed Parish Director of St. Joseph Parish in St. Joseph’s Ridge and St. Peter Parish in Middle Ridge, effective April 24, 2025. I like to welcome him to our parish and wish him God’s blessings.

We had the Mass of reparation at the St. Joseph Cathedral of the Workman, March 27th. This is part of the *Presbyteral Renewal – Marian Renewal in the Diocese of La Crosse*. In the words of Bp Battersby **“I intend to grant a partial indulgence to those who will participate in this act of reparation either in person or by video”**. You are requested to pray for the bishop, the priests, the deacons, religious and laity of the Diocese.

I had come to both the parishes on 27th of Aug. 2019. This Sunday it will be 5 years 7 months 3 days. I was blessed to be here with you. Thank you for all your love and concern. Before I go, I would like to get some feedback from you if possible. There will be a box in the church meant to drop off your thoughts and suggestions regarding my ministry.

Here is the address of the rectory where I will be staying from 24th of April:

St Wenceslaus Catholic Church, 146 Main St, Milladore, WI 54454

Have a blessed Lent.

Live Jesus, Fr Biju MSFS

Parish News

Church Grounds Clean-up Day: There is a clean up day planned for April 5th beginning at 9:00 AM. **HELP IS NEEDED!!! ALL HANDS ON DECK!!** If you are proud to call St. Peter’s your home, PLEASE come out to help!! This is a great opportunity for CCD students to get in their Community service time.

St. Peter’s Passover Soup Supper: As another Lent progresses, we should gather with our parish family to enjoy fellowship. Join us on Tuesday, April 15th at 6:30 pm for soup and other delectables in the church basement. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!**

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. If you would like to volunteer to be the reader, please contact the parish office.

Children’s Choir: You’ve been making good progress learning the parts to the new Mass of St. Brigid. We will be singing this new mass on Easter Sunday. All school age children are welcome to join at any time. * The adult choir will sing the Mass of St. Brigid for the Easter Vigil mass. *

Easter flowers: Anyone wishing to donate towards our Easter flowers may place their donation in an envelope and mark it accordingly.

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 several priests available.

Farewell Reception: There will be a Reception for Father Biju after his 5:30 pm mass at St. Joseph Parish on Tuesday, April 22nd. A light meal will be served. Please plan to attend to thank Father Biju for his years of ministry at St. Joseph and St. Peters Parishes and to wish him well at his new Parish.



We have reached our goal. Don’t stop now!! Any money collected over our goal comes back to St. Peter’s for our own use towards projects and evangelization.

Pray Often & Daily!!!



Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,870.00
Last Week’s Total -	\$1,104.80
	-\$765.20
Year to Date Target -	\$71,060.00
Year to Date Total -	\$64,250.99
	-\$6,809.01

Readings for April 6, 2025

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21
Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14
Gospel Reading: John 8:1-11