

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR

Fr. Joseph Richards (Fr. Joe)

Rectory: 400 Congress Ave, Viroqua, WI 54665

Cell Phone: 608-606-9787

Email: fatherjoerichards@gmail.com

Office Hours in Coon Valley Sacristy:

Tues. 1:00 PM until Mass time

Thurs. after Mass until noon and by appt

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday.....4:00pm

Sunday.....8:00am

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday..... Stations of the Cross..... 5:15 pm

Mass....5:45 pm

Thursday.....8:00am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday.....3:15pm to 3:45pm

Sunday.....7:15am to 7:45am

PARISH OFFICE

Amy Stafslie, Admin. Assist.....608-452-3841

Bulletin deadline: Wednesday noon

E-mail: stmaryscv@mwt.net

Open most Wednesdays and Thursdays

COORDINATOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Vacant

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Nancy Peters (Secretary), John Mislivecek, Bryan

Berg and John Roesler (Buildings and Grounds)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Ryan Goodwin, Marlene Humfeld, Sue Humfeld,

Lori Pedretti and Steve Schulte. (1 appointed

vacancies)

PCCW - Parish Council of Catholic Women

Clarice Kammel (President), Nancy Peters

(Treasurer), Linda Berg (Secretary)

ORGANISTS

Mary Beth Smith, Linda Schulte, and Chris

Carskadon.

Fr. Joe also serving:

Annunciation of the BVM Parish, Viroqua

Mass Times: Weekend.....Saturday.....6:30 PM

Sunday10:30 AM

Weekday: Wednesdays - 6:30 PM & Fridays - 8:00 AM

New Parishioners: Welcome to our parish! Please introduce yourself to Fr. Joe and contact the parish office for registration and information. www.stmarycv.org/visit-us

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Call or email Fr. Joe. You can also use our website under the Sacraments tab: <https://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments>

Sacrament of Baptism: Please submit a registration by mail, or e-mail to both stmaryscv@mwt.net AND fatherjoerichards@gmail.com You will be contacted by the parish office to finalize your requested date. The registration form at: www.stmarycv.org/sacraments.

Sacrament of Anointing / Visitation of the Sick: Please contact the parish office or Fr. Joe when someone you know is in need of the Sacrament or a pastoral visit. Requests may also be made from our website under the Sacraments tab. www.stmarycv.org/sacraments

Mass Intentions: Please use the Mass Intention envelopes available in the church.

Book of Prayer Requests: Located in the back of church. Feel free to add your own prayer requests. The requests will be included in the parish prayers.

St. Mary's Parish

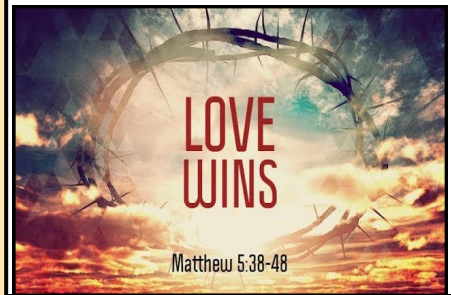
900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, WI 54623

Phone: 608-452-3841

Website: stmarycv.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley

7th
Sunday
In
Ordinary
Time



JESUS SAID, "I SAY TO YOU,
LOVE YOUR ENEMIES,
BLESS THOSE WHO CURSE
YOU, DO GOOD TO THOSE
WHO HATE YOU, AND PRAY
FOR THOSE WHO
SPITEFULLY USE YOU AND
PERSECUTE YOU."

MATTHEW 5:44

THE WORD FOR THE DAY


Fr. Joe Richards

February 19, 2023

Readings: 596A

St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley, WI

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



Sunday Readings

February 19, 2023

1) *Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18/79* 2) *1 Corinthians 3:16-23*
3) *Matthew 5:38-48*

Intentions


Feb 18 ~ 4:00 PM - † Joan Urbanek
Feb 19 ~ 8:00 AM - † Ed Gorman
Feb 21 ~ 5:45 PM - † Edward Kerska
Feb 23 ~ 8:00 AM - † Ed Gorman
Feb 25 ~ 4:00 PM - † Edward and Anna Kerska
Feb 26 ~ 8:00 AM - † Woody Roningen

Ash Wednesday, 2/22/23 12:10 PM

#686 1) *Joel 2:12-18* 2) *2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2*
3) *Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18*

12:10 PM - † Joan and Ralph Clements

Reader: Volunteer
Ushers: Volunteers




Mass Intentions

If there is a special weekend date you would like, please get your request(s) in early.

Open Sat. and Sun. dates: Apr 2, Jun 4, 10, 17, 24, & 25

Weekdays open: Mar 7, 14, & 21. If you have questions feel free to email the parish office at stmaryscv@mwt.net or leave a message at 608-452-3841.



Next Week in Service — Feb 25/26

If you are not able to serve as scheduled below, please find a substitute. Thank you!

Readers:	Sat. – Robert Kerska	Sun. – Volunteer
Ushers:	Sat. – Volunteers	Sun. – Volunteers
Money Counters:	Loree Nickelotti and Curt Horman	

DID YOU KNOW?

If you are 70 ½ or older, you can do a **qualified charitable distribution (QCD)** of up to \$100,000 a year from your **IRA directly to a charity**. The distribution won't show up in your adjusted gross income and CAN count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD). The QCD allows you to be more strategic with your RMD. Consult your tax advisor before making any decisions. If a QCD is for you, please consider St. Mary's Parish as your charity of choice.


Upcoming Events/Calendar

- **February 8-24** ~ Amy on PTO, for administrative needs please contact Fr. Joe
- **February 20** ~ *Men's Club Meeting* at 6:30 PM
- **February 22** ~ Ash Wednesday Mass at 12:10 PM
- **February 23** ~ PCCW Book Discussion Group 8:30 AM
- **February 26** ~ Parish Breakfast Social, after Mass, sign up in back of church
- **February 28** ~ Stations of the Cross at 5:15 PM followed by Mass
- **March 7** ~ Stations of the Cross at 5:15 PM followed by Mass
- **March 14** ~ Stations of the Cross at 5:15 PM followed by Mass
- **Thursday, March 16** ~ PCCW Meeting

Sunday Mass streaming Live on Facebook is back:
<https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley>

Fr. Joe's Office Hours:
Tuesdays from 1:00-6:30 PM (Mass time) and on **Thursdays from Mass until noon.**


Wednesdays and Fridays in Viroqua, and Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons will be flex options. **Note that some of this time will also include home and nursing facility visits**, so, please *call or text beforehand (608-606-9787)* or look for the Terrain under the maple tree out back in the parking lot.



CONFESSIONS

Saturday
3:15pm to 3:45pm

Sunday
7:15am to 7:45am



Donations: Here are some ways to support your parish:

- *Attend Mass and drop* your contribution envelope at either church, Coon Valley or Viroqua and the funds will be directed to St. Mary's
- US Postal Service: mail directly to the parish office, your Contribution envelope is postal ready!
- *Bill Pay* through online banking, add St. Mary's as contact (if possible, use your envelope number as the account number).
- Use our *online service* at: diolc.org/st-mary-coon-valley (a processing fee will be deducted from your contribution, which averages 3% for debit/credit cards and \$.75 for EFT/ACH. Your contribution will be recorded for the full amount).

Giving Last Week		Week 07	
Adult Env.(29)	\$1,225.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	\$104.00	Received This Week	\$1,329.00
		<u>Running total needed</u>	\$10,000.00
Total	<u>\$1,329.00</u>	YTD Received	?
		Difference	?

From the Parochial Administrator



Hello friends,

We're just a few days away from the start of Lent. You've heard enough from me to know how much I love the Church's seasons – during our time together we've seen the movement from the watchfulness of Advent into the joyfulness of Christmas as well as the slow-growth-orientation of Ordinary Time. Now we're tipping into the deeply introspective preparation and repentance of Lent that gets us ready not for Easter but for the Easter Triduum. Before we get to the Resurrection we have to walk through Christ's passion (suffering) and death, and even after his death we wait in the suspense of Good Friday. We'll get to the explosive joyfulness of Easter and the longer-than-Lent Easter Season, but first we've got to let ourselves feel the uncomfortable tension of Lent.

Now. Practicals. Last week I shared a few recommendations about your personal Lenten practices – prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. If you're planning on giving up chocolate for the thirty-seventh Lent in a row, it may be time to level up – take a look at last weekend's article for some help, and ask how the Holy Spirit is trying to lead you deeper this year. Last week was all about personal practices – this week, I'd like to share a bit about two of the Church's requirements for Lent: fasting and abstinence.

There are two days during the year when the Church asks Catholics aged 18-59 us to fast – Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On those fasting days, the guideline is to eat one regular meal and two smaller meals that together aren't bigger than a normal meal. If possible, it's good to continue that Good Friday paschal fast through until the Easter Vigil. Now, caveat. If on medical grounds fasting is a problem (e.g. diabetes), you may be allowed to relax that fasting. If you have any questions about this, just ask me and we can sort through it one-on-one.

Concerning abstinence, Catholics 14 years old and over abstain from eating meat on Fridays during Lent. Whereas Ash Wednesday and Good Friday's hard fasting very tangibly marks those two days as set-apart days, the less rigorous but still evident decision not to eat meat on Fridays is a more regular reminder (along with your personal Lenten practices) that there is something different about this season and that it's leading us to something bigger than ourselves.

This may not be pertinent, but as with any time the Church tells us to do something, whenever I feel any sense of “classic Church, telling me what to do” it's worth acknowledging the sentiment. I'm going to go out on a limb here and suggest that wherever I have a gut reaction of resentment I may need to ask whether there's some kind of wound leading to it. To quote one of my seminary professors, it may be worth asking the question, “where's that coming from?” and making it a place for the Holy Spirit to enter more deeply into my hurts with his healing.

God bless you all, and have a blessed, fruitful Lent!

Fr. Joe

Parish Announcements

Men's Club Active Again

The Men's Club is back. We will host a meeting on Monday, **February 20th at 6:30 PM** in the church basement. All men of the parish are invited to attend!

Birthright Baby Bottle Campaign

The annual fundraiser for Birthright of La Crosse is here. Grab a baby bottle from the back of church, take it home and fill it with your spare change. Birthright is an international volunteer organization with a La Crosse chapter since 1976. Birthright is available to those with an unintended pregnancy to provide information, a listening space, and love, along with referrals and emotional and spiritual support when needed. Please read the insert and return at your earliest convenience (by dropping in the collection plate) before or on Sunday February 26, 2023. Thank you and know your pro-life support will be appreciated by moms, dads, and babies to be.



PCCW Announcements

Book Discussion Group - Would you be interested in learning more about your Catholic faith? Those interested will study the **Catechism of the Catholic Church** by using a book written by Christopher Ruff called **Unlocking the Beauty of the Catechism: The Creed**. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, February 23 at 8:30AM. Future meeting dates/time will be scheduled at that time as well as format of the discuss. Please join us on February 23 to learn more.

Parish Social - There will be a parish social after mass on **Sunday, February 26**. If you would like to donate food for the event please sign up in the back of church. Items in need are egg bakes, muffins, fruit and juice or items similar to them. Plan to come and spend some time visiting with your parish family.

Roasters for Sale - The PCCW as purchased new roasters for the church kitchen. Now they would like to dispose of the old ones by allowing parishioners to purchase them for \$5 each. If you are interested in purchasing a roaster contact Clarice Kammel at 608-792-2198.

Next PCCW Meeting will be held on March 16th at 5:30PM. We will be making final plans for Fr. Joe's installation as our new pastor. Please attend if you are able.

Parish Directory St. Mary's Parish hasn't had a new directory since 2010, and our membership has changed considerably since them. As a result, a committee is being formed to discuss how to move forward. If you are interested in helping with this project leave a message with the parish office or contact Clarice Kammel at 608-792-2198. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Diocesan/Local Announcements

Fat Tuesday Party - Feb. 21 at the La Crosse Bierhaus.

For more Mardi Gras information,

Visit: www.lacrossemaidigras.com/ All are invited to these events in support Aquinas Catholic Schools with funds raised going toward classroom needs, tuition assistance, technology, and fine arts programs.

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, will be holding a Fish Fry on Friday, February 24, from 4:00–7:00 PM, dine-in or carry-out. \$12 for 2-piece & \$14 for 3-piece dinner and includes baked or batter fried cod, baked potato or fries, coleslaw and bun. \$5 kids meal includes grilled cheese, fries, fruit and milk. Beer, wine and desserts available at dine-in for additional cost.

Euchre Tournament and Luncheon - Feb 26

St. Peter Parish in Middle Ridge will be holding their Annual Cabin Fever Fest on Fe 26th. Doors open at noon, cards start at 1 PM. 1st-4th place prizes awarded. Soup, snacks and beverages included in the price. Questions contact, 608-486-2180 or email: stpetersrectory@centurytel.net.

Join St. Joseph Ridge Parish for the Eucharist Lectio Series with Brant Pitre. Starting Feb. 28th at 6:15 in the school hall. Please call Stacy Burns at 608-769-8828 to express interest or to ask questions. This 10 session series explores Scripture, history and Church teaching to illuminate the wonder and the MIRACLE OF THE EUCHARIST.

Eucharistic Revival Conference - March 3-4 (Free)

The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe will host a Eucharistic Conference offered by the Norbertine Fathers on Friday, March 3, and Saturday, March 4, 2023. Days begin with 8:30 AM Mass. Attend one or both days, with a variety of presentations on each day. Registration is not required and there is no cost to attend. The Conference will include the Eucharistic Miracles Display. View entire schedule <https://www.guadalupe Shrine.org/post/eucharisticconference>

Moring of Reflection - Mar 4

Ladies: Please save the morning of March 4, for a Morning of Reflection at the Cathedral. Elizabeth Kelly will be our guest speaker; she is a national award-winning Catholic author and speaker. The event is free and open to all ladies. A light breakfast buffet will be provided.

Retrouvaille: Are you struggling in your marriage? When the old ways aren't working, the Retrouvaille Program helps couples restore their marriages and rebuild loving relationships. Costs are affordable and no couple is turned away because of limited finances. If you are wondering if this program is right for you or a loved one, find more information and answers to Frequently Asked Questions at HelpOurMarriage.org or call toll-free: 1.877.922.HOPE (4673). The next program begins on March 3-5.

Pancake Breakfast - Sunday March 5 8 AM - Noon

Coon Valley Lutheran Church. Adults \$8; age 6-12,\$4; 0-5, free.

A Minute with Jesus

~**A Minute with Jesus**~ Jesus will help us believe what we cannot understand. The Lord always comes in to strengthen and confirm our faith in response to our desire to believe. He actually even uses our hesitation in accepting His true Presence in the Eucharist to bring us to a deeper, more lively faith in the truth of this mystery. Let's pray this right now and every day this week:

Jesus, please strengthen my faith to believe that You are truly present in the Holy Eucharist.

This week, read how Jesus responds to those who are questioning the mystery of the Eucharist in John 6: 52-59



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- Those suffering from the Coronavirus and those who are working tirelessly to help the ill recover.
- The military men and women who are supporting our freedom.
- Our political leaders, may their decisions be made for the good of all citizens.
- For those fighting cancer, especially members of our parish.
- For children suffering with life threatening conditions and illnesses.
- The intentions listed in our parish Book of Prayer.
- Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

To add a request call 608-452-3841 or email stmaryscv@mwt.net

Kids Corner

Ash Wednesday



This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday which is the first day of Lent. Lent is a special time in which we prepare to celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection on Good Friday and Easter Sunday.



Lent is a time of repentance. We make sacrifices and try to improve our lives to become more like Jesus. Jesus never sinned but He gave up His life to pay for our sins. That is why we make sacrifices out of love for God and to make up for our sins. We offer our sacrifices to God the Father, just as Jesus on the cross offered up His life to God the Father.

On Ash Wednesday if you go to Mass you can receive ashes on your forehead. The ashes are a sign of repentance. They remind us that without God we are nothing and that someday we will die and be buried. But they can also remind us that if we do have God living in us, after we die we will rise from the dead, just as Jesus did on Easter, after He died on the cross.

