

## PASTOR

**Fr. Joseph Richards (Fr. Joe)**

Rectory: 400 Congress Ave, Viroqua, WI 54665

Cell Phone: 608-606-9787

\*\*\*NEW Email: [jrichards@diolclergy.org](mailto:jrichards@diolclergy.org)

**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 Staflien, Admin. Assist.....608-452-3841

Bulletin deadline: ..... Wednesday noon

E-mail: [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto: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

vacancy)

## 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

Sunday .....10:30 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](http://www.stmarycv.org/visit-us)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday from 3:15pm to 3:45pm and Sunday from 7:15am to 7:45am

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

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/  
StMarysCoonValley](http://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley)



## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT



When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out,  
he found him and said, "Do you believe in the  
Son of Man?" - Jn 9:35

*Fr. Joe Richards*  
*Pastor*

*March 19, 2023*

*Readings: 511A*

# St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley, WI

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

### Sunday Readings

March 19, 2023

- 1) 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; 2) Ephesians 5:8-14  
3) John 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

#### Intentions

- Mar 18 ~ 4:00 PM - Derek Stafslieen  
Mar 19 ~ 8:00 AM - † Anna Roberts  
Mar 21 ~ 5:45 PM - † Tyler Turben  
Mar 23 ~ 8:00 AM - † Joan Clements  
Mar 25 ~ 4:00 PM - † Deceased members of the Roskos and Roninggen Families  
Mar 26 ~ 8:00 AM - † Kylie Von Ruden

#### Mass Intentions

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

**Open Sat. and Sun. dates:** Jun 4 & 25. Jul 2, 16, 29 & 30. Aug 5, 6, 13, 19 & 20.

**Weekdays open:** Jun 6, 15 & 22. Aug 1, 10, 17, 29, & 31. If you have questions feel free to email the parish office at [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net) or leave a message at 608-452-3841.



#### Next Week in Service — Mar 25/26

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

Readers:	<b>Sat.</b> – Jeana LeJeune <b>Sun.</b> – Marlene Humfeld
Ushers:	<b>Sat.</b> – Volunteers <b>Sun.</b> – Volunteers
Money Counters:	Loree Nickelotti and Curt Horman

**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.
- Bill Pay through online banking, add St. Mary's as contact (use your envelope number as the account number).
- Use our *online service* at: [diolc.org/st-mary-coon-valley](http://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).

#### **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

- **March 20** ~ Men's Club Meeting, 6:30 PM
- **March 21** ~ 5:15PM, *Stations of the Cross*, Mass follows
- **March 23** ~ *Catechism Study Group* meeting after Mass
- **March 25** ~ 10:30AM-Fr Joe installation Mass in Viroqua ~ **Spaghetti and Pasta Dinner** serving 4-7 PM
- **March 28** ~ 5:15PM, *Stations of the Cross*, Mass follows
- **April 2** ~ Religious Education Class after 8 AM Mass
- **April 4** ~ 5:15PM, *Stations of the Cross*, Mass follows
- **April 6** ~ **Holy Thursday**, Mass of the Lord's Supper – 5:15 PM in Viroqua
- **April 7** ~ **Good Friday**, the Lord's Passion – **12:10 PM in Coon Valley** ~ 3:00 PM in Viroqua
- **April 8** ~ **Holy Saturday**, the Easter Vigil – 8:15 PM (Dusk) in Viroqua
- **April 9** ~ **Easter Sunday**, standard Sunday schedule

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

### Stations of the Cross

Tuesday Evenings 5:15 PM followed by Mass (during Lent)



#### CONFESSIONS

**Saturday**  
3:15pm to 3:45pm  
**Sunday**  
7:15am to 7:45am



#### Fr. Joe's Office Hours:

- **Tues. from 1:00-6:30 PM (Mass time)** and **Thurs. 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.**



Giving Last Week		Week 11	3/12/2023
Adult Env.(26)	\$990.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	\$170.00	Received This Week	\$1,202.00
Votives	\$32.00	<u>Running total needed</u>	\$22,000.00
Ash Wed (1)	\$10.00	YTD Received	\$19,567.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$1,202.00</u></b>	Difference	(2,433.00)
Food Pantry	\$35.00	Easter Flowers(3)	\$75.00

## From the Pastor



Hello friends,

I have another business article for you here – first up, a bit about my new role. You may remember me drawing a strong distinction early on between my starting “Parochial Administrator” role and the “**Pastor**” role. This served a few purposes. First, before you and I locked into a Pastor-Parish relationship it gave us a very real trial period so I could get to know you and you could get to me. It didn’t take me too long to vote in favor of staying, and hopefully it didn’t take you too long either. Second, (aside from emergent needs in Religious Education) it gave both yourselves and myself an excellent excuse to maintain a status quo of sorts – that is, to try and get to know each other under some level of normalcy before even considering any substantial cultural changes. I’m glad for the introductory season we’ve had, and now it’s time to build on it in the next season. Spoiler alert: the imminent business side of things looks pretty darn similar.

Next, a bit about this coming weekend’s **Installation Mass**. Now that the Bishop has officially named me Pastor, the next important step is an Installation Mass – a chance for both our parishes to come together and celebrate on an important Marian feast day. I want to encourage the people of both Coon Valley and Viroqua to take any opportunity like this to share life and come together, whether that be Coon Valley folks coming up to Viroqua or Viroqua folks heading down the hill to Coon Valley. We each retain our parish identities and what makes us strong independently, but moments like this will give us the combined vitality we need to flourish into the future. A few details – the Mass will be **next Saturday at 10:30 in Viroqua followed by a luncheon downstairs**. An entrée will be provided, and if you’d like please bring a side dish to pass. My special thanks to the PCCWs of both parishes for coming together to make this event happen!

Finally, a bit about our **upcoming campaign**. I mentioned some of our campaign projects last weekend, including the project areas “Buildings and Grounds,” “Liturgical Accoutrements,” and “Rectory Renovations.” Both the Pastoral Council and the Finance Council have had some discussions about the rectory over the last few weeks, and the Councils’ consensus is to maintain the property and continue discussion on the best use of the space. Last Monday we brought in an independent building inspector to give us a breakdown of our rectory’s tangible needs. He highlighted some key areas for our consideration, such as roof repairs, drainage and grading, and electrical work. Our next step is to bring in contractors to assess more specific needs, and we’ll keep the process rolling from there.

That’s it for this week. God bless you!

Fr. Joe

## Parish Announcements



### Men’s Club Spaghetti Dinner NEXT SATURDAY, March 25th



#### *Info about the Dinner*

The St. Mary’s Men’s Club is hosting a Spaghetti and Pasta dinner on Sat., March 25. Serving from 4-7 PM. Adults \$12, Kids under 12 \$5, children under 3 free. Serving spaghetti/pasta (gluten free option available), sauce, meatballs, garlic bread, salad, beverage, and ice cream with toppings. Beer and wine available for purchase. Carry outs also available. There will also be 50/50 drawing and tip boards. Join us for some great food and fun at St. Mary’s Church, 900 Central Ave., Coon Valley.

#### *Signup to Work*

There are signup sheets in the back of church for various positions. There’s options for all types of talents.

#### *Advertising*

Spread the word about the dinner. Post the flyer in today’s bulletin somewhere in the community or where you work. Be sure to invite your friends and family!

#### *Donations*

Want to help with the success of the dinner? Envelopes are available to assist with covering expenses. Thank you for your support.

The **Catechism Study Group** has decided to meet on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month (there are a few exceptions) after the 8:00 AM mass for eight sessions. The **first meeting will be March 23** which will give members time to complete the readings before the discussion session. The rest of the meetings will be April 13 & 27, May 11 & 25, June 8, 22 & 29. If you would like to join this group, contact Clarice Kammel to get the discussion book and the first assignment.

**Roasters for Sale** - The PCCW as purchased new roasters the old ones are for purchase only \$5 each. If you are interested in purchasing a roaster contact Clarice Kammel at 608-792-2198.

#### **Easter Flower Donations**

Your booklet of envelopes holds an envelope for Easter Flowers; however, additional envelopes are also available in the back of church.



#### **CRS Rice Bowls: HUNGER IN OUR WORLD**

With ongoing conflicts, extreme weather events and widespread inflation making it more difficult for families around the world to put food on the table, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) invites Catholics across the U.S. to pray, fast and give alms through its annual Lenten program CRS Rice Bowl. Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to learn more. Bowls available in the back of the church.

**Student Mite Boxes:** The student boxes support the Missionary Childhood Association (MCA). Under its banner “children helping children”, monies raised through schools are directed towards self-help programs involving the building of schools, the provision of health and nutrition programs and medications, school fees, and teaching and learning resources.  
**Boxes are available in the back of church.**

#### **VC Co-op Religious Channel 15 Schedule St. Mary’s Catholic Church**

Mon – 2:30 PM	Tues – 11:30 AM	Wed – 9:30 AM
Thurs – 7:30 AM	Fri – 5:30 AM	Sat – 3:30 AM
Sun – 4:30 PM		

## Diocesan/Local Announcements

### Excellent Resources to accompany your Lenten journey.

- Real Life Catholic with Chris Stefanick [reallifecatholic.com](http://reallifecatholic.com)  
Fearless - a free, 7-week video series on fear.
- Dynamic Catholic with Matthew Kelly [dynamiccatholic.com/lent](http://dynamiccatholic.com/lent)  
Discover the real you: Sign up to receive two free videos each day.
- Word on Fire with Bishop Robert Barron [wordonfire.org/calendar/lent](http://wordonfire.org/calendar/lent)  
Receive daily Gospel Reflections.
- The Ultimate Guide to Lent with Fr. Mike Schmitz [media.ascensionpress.com/2023](http://media.ascensionpress.com/2023)  
Short videos to better understand Lent.
- Lenten Resources from the US Bishops [usccb.org/prayer-worship/liturgical-year/lent](http://usccb.org/prayer-worship/liturgical-year/lent)  
Readings for the day; articles; prayers and devotions.

### Fish Fry at MMOC, La Crosse - Mar 24

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, 2006 Weston Street, La Crosse, will be holding a Fish Fry on Friday, March 24, from 4:00-7:00 PM, dine-in or carry-out. The price is \$12 for 2-piece and \$14 for 3-piece dinner and includes baked or batter fried cod, baked potato or fries, coleslaw and roll. \$5 kids meal includes grilled cheese, fries, fruit and milk. Beer, wine and desserts available at dine-in for additional cost.

### 15th Annual La Crosse Lenten Luncheon - Mar 29

Catholic Charities cordially invites you to the 15th Annual La Crosse Lenten Luncheon! Gourmet soup, salad and bread will be served. \$30.00 per person or reserve a table of 4 for \$120.00. Please **RSVP by March 20** as seating is limited. Wednesday, March 29, 2023, Holy Cross Diocesan Center, 3710 East Avenue South, La Crosse, WI 54601.

### Nourish Your Soul - A Retreat for Caregivers and Those Working in Health Care

**MARCH 24-25**, Friday, 7-9 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Presenter: Leslie Schwarting.** Investment: • **OVERNIGHT:** \$165, includes private bedroom, breakfast and lunch on Saturday. • **COMMUTER:** \$95, includes lunch on Saturday. If you or those you love work in health care in any capacity, join us for a time of reflection, healing and soul-tending for no one else but you.

### Chicken Que & Bake Sale - Sun., Apr. 16 11 AM - gone.

Tippy Toe Inn, Chaseburg. \$12, eat in or drive thru, includes 1/2 chicken, baked potato, coleslaw & bread. Proceeds to the American Cancer Society.

### Come to Pacem in Terris for a Transformative Lenten Retreat

Allow God's love to heal, nourish and transform your life. Find rest in body, mind and spirit in this hermitage sanctuary. No schedules or daily distractions. Pacem in Terris offers guests an environment of silence to pray and enter into an intimate union with God. Open year-round. Gift certificates available. Reservations: 763-444-6408 [www.paceminterris.org](http://www.paceminterris.org)

### Founders Day - Aquinas Catholic Schools Foundation

The annual Founder's Day Celebration will take place on **Sunday, April 23, 2023**, at the **Radisson Hotel Ballroom**. The Aquinas Catholic Schools Foundation invites all to attend. Please plan to join us as we celebrate those who have made a meaningful impact on Aquinas Catholic Schools. **Cocktail Reception** 5:00 pm, **Dinner and Program** 6:00 pm

Pray + Fast + Give

## Activity Corner

### Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 19, 2023

*What did the man that Jesus cured say to the people who thought Jesus was a sinner?  
Use the code at the bottom to find out!*

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A B D E F G H I L M N O R S T U V Y

Answer: If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything.



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

2. 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.



### 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](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net)



## **SPAGHETTI & PASTA DINNER**

***ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH***

***COON VALLEY WI***

***March 25 from 4 pm – 7 pm***

***\$12 adults \$5 kids under 12***

***Children under 3 free***

***Plate of spaghetti or pasta with sauce and meatballs, garlic bread, salad, coffee, milk, or water. Ice cream for dessert.***

***Carryouts available.***

***Wine and beer available for purchase.***

***Try your luck at our 50/50 drawings & Tip Boards***

The Fourth Week of Lent

# PROCLAIMING CHRIST

Meditations for the Season of Lent

*“The Holy Spirit helps us to view others with fresh eyes, seeing them always as brothers and sisters in Jesus, to be respected and loved.”*

— POPE FRANCIS ON TWITTER



## Spiritual Sight

John 9:1-41

In today's Gospel Jesus gives sight to a man who was born blind. As the man repeatedly tells the story of how Jesus healed him physically, there is a gradual change in the man's understanding of who Jesus is. He sees Jesus first as a man, and then as a prophet, and then as someone who came from God. Finally, he falls to his knees and worships Jesus as the Lord. This man went from being blind to receiving physical sight to seeing through the eyes of faith.

The religious leaders who were questioning this man had physical sight, but they had no spiritual sight. They were blinded by prejudice, pride, fear, and animosity toward Jesus.

Spiritual sight allows us to recognize the presence of God in our

### FOR REFLECTION

- › How have you experienced spiritual sight?
- › Are there things in your life that make you spiritually blind?
- › What can you do during Lent to follow more closely in the footsteps of Christ?

lives and in the lives of people around us. We strive to love unconditionally as Christ loves.

Spiritual sight is a gift that flows from our relationship with Christ and our deep desire to follow in his footsteps. Once we have received the gift of spiritual sight, nothing is ever the same.



### DID YOU KNOW?

- Making the sign of the cross with holy water when entering a church is a renewal of our baptism and a cleansing of venial sin.
- *Laetare Sunday*, which is today, marks the halfway point during Lent. Priests wear rose-colored vestments as a reminder that Easter is coming.
- The feast of the Annunciation is March 25.



Renata Sedmakova / Shutterstock.com

## What Do You See?

It's only the Fourth Sunday of Lent. You still have three weeks to bring your spiritual sight into sharper focus. Maybe you need to forgive someone. Maybe you need to seek forgiveness. Maybe you need to experiment with new prayer forms. Are there virtues you need to cultivate? Vices you need to tame? Good intentions that need to be acted upon? We are all called to follow more closely in the footsteps of Jesus. What does that mean in your life? What sacrifices will it entail? How will you begin?



### Catechism CONNECTION

“The Lord asks us to love as he does, even our *enemies*, to make ourselves the neighbor of those farthest away, and to love children and the poor as Christ himself.”

— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1825

### Family Focus



Help your children understand that many children are less fortunate. Light a candle at church this week for children who are sick or hungry. Take the kids grocery shopping and bring the food to your parish pantry or a local food bank. Clean out closets and donate gently used items. Search “Catholic Missions” on the internet. Then pick one mission and decide as a family how you can help by sending money, clothing, or supplies.

## Reaching Out to Those in Need



Our greatest temptation when faced with people in need is to look away. But when we look away, we turn our backs on Christ himself. Jesus assures us that when we feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and visit the prisoner, we do these things for him (see Mt 25:31-41).

We all know people who have suffered a death in the family, serious illness, divorce, a job loss, or some other personal tragedy. We have heard shocking stories of violence, oppression, poverty, prejudice, and abuse in our communities and in our world. Maybe you know of people who have been affected by twists of fate, natural disasters, accidents, or injuries. We can't stop bad things from happening. But we can find ways to reach out to people in need. Promise yourself that for the remainder of Lent you will go out of your way to help someone every day.

### Lenten Prayer

Our prayer this week is a reflection from St. Teresa of Avila:

*“Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which he is to bless his people.”*