

## PASTOR

Residence: 904 Central Ave, Coon Valley, WI 54623  
Cell Phone: 608-738-6806  
Email: [mmarshall@diolclergy.org](mailto:mmarshall@diolclergy.org)  
Office Hours: Thursdays and by appointment,  
off on Mondays.

## WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday.....4:00pm  
Sunday.....8:00am

## WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday..... 6:30pm  
Thursday.....8:00am

## CONFESSIONS

Upon request

## PARISH OFFICE

Amy Stafslie, Admin. Assist.....608-452-3841  
Bulletin deadline: .....Wednesday  
E-mail: [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net)  
Open most Wednesdays and Thursdays

## COORDINATOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Niki Haugh

## 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,  
Mike Kammel, Jim Prindle and Steve Schulte.  
(2 appointed vacancies)

## PCCW - Parish Council of Catholic Women

Clarice Kammel (President), Nancy Peters  
(Treasurer), Linda Berg (Secretary)

## ORANISTS

Mary Beth Smith, Linda Schulte, and Chris Carskadon.

## Fr. Matt also serving at:

### 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. Matt and contact the parish office for registration and information. <https://www.stmarycv.org/visit-us>

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Call or email Fr. Matt. 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](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net) AND [mmarshall@diolclergy.org](mailto:mmarshall@diolclergy.org). You will be contacted by the parish office to finalize your requested date. The registration form at: <https://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments>.

**Sacrament of Anointing / Visitation of the Sick:** Please contact the parish office or Fr. Matt 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. <https://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)



"Mary, the Burning Bush"



*John answered them all,  
saying, "I baptize you with  
water, but one mightier than  
I is coming."  
Lk 3:16a*



## Fr. Matthew Marshall

Pastor

December 12, 2021

Readings: 485C

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

## Third Sunday of Advent

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021

- 1) Zephaniah 3:14-18a
- 2) Philippians 4:4-7
- 3) Luke 3:10-18

**FOCUS:** *Rejoice in the Lord always.*

As we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, our Liturgy of the Word emphasizes our call to rejoice. We rejoice because the Messiah is coming. We rejoice because God has fulfilled his promises. We rejoice because there is no more need for fear or anxiety. In Christ, we are fulfilled. Rejoice! One mightier is coming!

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, a joyful hymn praises God for his removal of judgment of his people. Saint Paul assures the Philippians that *the Lord is near*, and that they should *have no anxiety at all*. In the Gospel, John the Baptist tells the people about the Messiah to come who will be mightier than him.

Sign up for **AmazonSmile** and select St. Mary Parish as your preferred charity at [smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1218730](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1218730). Remember to shop for deals at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon app, and AmazonSmile will donate to us at no cost to you."



<b>Next Week in Service — Dec 18/19</b>	
If you are not able to serve as scheduled below, please find a substitute. Thank you!	
Reader:	<b>Saturday</b> – Robert Kerska <b>Sunday</b> -Volunteer
Money Counters:	Steve Grabowski and Bernie Roesler

<b>Intentions</b>	
Dec 11 ~ 4:00 PM - †Edward and Anna Kerska	
Dec 12 ~ 8:00 AM - †Ken and Irene Roesler	
Dec 14 ~ 6:30 PM - †Jim Malin	
Dec 16 ~ 8:00 AM - †Jim Shay	
Dec 18 ~ 4:00 PM - †Helen Stafslien	
Dec 19 ~ 8:00 AM - †Stella Hohlfeld	

**Donations:** Here are some ways to support your parish:

- US Postal Service: mail directly to the parish office, your 2021 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](https://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).
- *Attend Mass and drop* your contribution envelope at either church, Coon Valley or Viroqua and the funds will be directed to St. Mary's

### Upcoming Events/Calendar

- **December 11/12** ~ Retirement Fund for Religious Collection
- **December 14** ~ Pastoral Council Meeting 7 PM
- **December 19** ~ Blue Christmas Service, Immanuel Lutheran, Viroqua—6:30 pm
- **December 21** ~ Finance Council Meeting 7 PM
- **December 20** ~ Cathedral will be having a *Confessathon* (all day confessions) from 9am – 6 pm!
- **Christmas Eve (Friday, Dec. 24th)** - 4:00 p.m. here and 8:00 p.m. at Annunciation of the BVM, Viroqua.
- **Christmas Day (Saturday, Dec. 25th)** - 8:00 a.m. here and 10:30 a.m. at Annunciation of the BVM, Viroqua  
*There will be **no vigil Mass on Saturday Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>** (4pm and 6:30pm) at either St Mary's Coon Valley or ABVM Parish, Viroqua. Regular Mass times will resume on Sunday morning December 26<sup>th</sup>.*
- **January 16** ~ Religious Education Class following Mass

#### Sunday Mass streaming Live on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley>

**Church will be open for private prayer Tuesday through Friday from 9AM until 7 PM and Sunday until 7 PM** (please practice good social distancing)



#### 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.

#### Annual Appeal 2020-21

As of 12/9/2021	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$3,115.00	\$2,915.00
Target Amount	<u>\$14,020.00</u>	<u>\$14,020.00</u>
<b>Under Target</b>	(\$10,905.00)	(\$11,105.00)
Percent Pledged: 22.22%, Percent Received: 20.79%		
Number Contributing:	15	

[Give online at https://diolc.org/donate-online/](https://diolc.org/donate-online/) be sure and choose "2021 (445) St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley"

<b>Giving Last Week</b>		<b>Week 49</b>	<b>12/5/2021</b>
Adult Env.(27)	\$1500.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	<u>\$145.00</u>	Received This Week	\$1,645.00
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$1</u></b>	Running total needed	\$95,400.00
		YTD Received	\$89,125.05
		Difference	(6,274.95)

## Parish Announcements

### Craft Show Follow Up

Thank you!

A huge thank you to all who donated their time and talents to make the Craft Show last Saturday a success! From the workers to the great bakers, THANK YOU! The weather was fine and we hope you all enjoyed the wonderful works of the local artisans and vendors. A special thank you to Nancy Peters

for coordinating the show again this year, your efforts are noticed and much appreciated.

Congratulations to the RAFFLE WINNERS:

Quilt: Clarence Urbanek

Wreath Holder: Pat Holte

Afghan Blanket: MaryAnn Boland

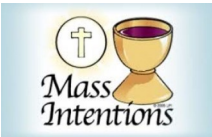
Napkin Holder: Corinne Amundsen

Napkin Holder: Marlene Humfeld

### 2022 Envelopes and Calendars

Your envelope booklets for 2022 are now available in the back of church. Please help us save on mailing expense by picking yours up today. If you cannot find your booklet or you do not currently use envelopes and would like a booklet please leave a message at the parish office.

The beautiful 2022 calendars are also available for pickup in the back of church. These calendars include all the important liturgical dates for the year.



If there is a special weekend date you would like, please get your request(s) in early. **Sunday Masses** have openings starting January 16, 2022. **Saturdays** have openings beginning March 5, 2020 (all the Saturdays are booked for January and February 2022).

**Weekdays** have openings beginning January 4, 2022. If you have questions feel free to email the parish office at [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net) or call on a Tues. or Wed.

### Celebrating your 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2022?

Each year, we ask for your help in securing the names, addresses and wedding date of those couples who will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary anytime during the upcoming calendar year of 2022. We would appreciate this information **no later than December 15!** Please call the Parish office at 608-452-3841 or email: [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net)



### Christmas Flowers

We are accepting donations for Christmas flowers. Please find the envelopes in the back of Church

### Advent Reconciliation Options

**Wednesday, December 15** at St. Joseph Ridge Parish with Fr. Biju and Fr. Hilary (from Viterbo) starting at 6 PM until no persons are present.

**Monday, December 20** at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral in La Crosse from 9 AM until 6 PM. A priest and confessional assignment schedule is posted in the back of church.

**Wednesday, December 22** at St. Peter Parish in Middle Ridge with Fr. Biju and Fr. Hilary (from Viterbo) starting at 6 PM until no persons are present.



## Parish Announcements cont'd

### 2021 End-of-Year Contributions

All donations that need to be recorded for the 2021 tax year must be submitted on or before December 30th at 12:00pm. All donations to the office by this time will be posted to the 2021 year-end tax statement. Any payments made after the deadline will post to the 2022 year-end tax statement.

### Support Aging Religious-Retirement Fund for Religious

Our second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for years for small stipends. Today, many religious communities do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps pay for medications, nursing care, and other needs for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous.

## Religious Education

### Registration for Classes Now Open

We will begin in person classes starting on January 16, 2022. Please register your child(ren). Classes are FREE! However, we do need a headcount as soon as possible for planning purposes. All previously enrolled families should have received a form in the mail, otherwise there are forms available in the back of church and online at: [www.stmarycv.org/religious-education](http://www.stmarycv.org/religious-education). Download, fill out, and return to the parish.

## Diocesan/Local Announcements

### Blue Christmas Service

Sunday Dec 19 at 6:30 PM there will be a Blue Christmas Service at Immanuel Lutheran in Viroqua. Right around the longest night of the year each year, Immanuel offers an hour of prayer, meditation, and music to help bring some light into our hearts during the holidays. Though for some the holidays are a very celebratory time, for others they are a time with a lot of hurts and grief. Come either to seek peace, or to pray for the peace of others. All are welcome!

### 15 min. with the Scriptures for Advent

A beautiful way to spend quiet time during Advent is to pray with Sacred Scripture that describe the events leading up to the birth of the Christ Child. For simple resources to help prayer become more personal, visit [diolc.org/deeper](http://diolc.org/deeper) and click on "Praying with Scripture" – Advent and Christmas or click on "Mysteries of the Rosary" – Advent and Christmas...

### Bishop Callahan's Christmas Video Message

Bishop Callahan has recorded his Christmas video message for you at: <https://youtu.be/-FbheRLg4eI>.

### St. Joseph Ridge Parish Gun Raffle

Tickets are \$10 each will be sold after Mass at St. Joseph Ridge Parish or by contacting Fr. Biju or the St. Joseph Ridge Parish Office 608-788-1646(only 500 tickets available). Prizes:

**1st Prize:** Ruger American Camo 350 Legend; **2nd Prize:** Weatherby 12 ga, Automatic; **3rd Prize:** Browning A-Bolt Synthetic 243; **4th Prize:** Legends LSI Pointers 12 ga. Automatic; **5th Prize:** Savage Axis XP-243 w/scope. Drawing will be held at the February Friday Fun Night at St. Joseph Ridge Parish School on February 25, 2021 at 9 PM.

(Continued on page 4)

## Diocesan/Local Announcements continued

### 2022 Pilgrimage for Life

We are excited to announce that we are planning to travel to Washington, DC for the Pilgrimage for Life January 19-23, 2022. For more information visit: <https://diolc.org/vya/youth-opportunities/pilgrimage-for-life-2022/>

## This Weeks Readings by Kieran O'Mahony, OSA

### Monday 13 December *St Lucy, virgin and martyr*

*Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17* Balaam was a prophet in Moab. When the king of Moab tried to get him to curse Israel, he uttered instead a re-markable blessing. The last lines speak of a star and a scepter, symbols of the coming Messiah, picked up in Matthew 1-2.

*Matthew 21:23-27* Jesus counters a trick question and yet it is obvious that he think John the Baptist came from God.

### Tuesday 14 December *St John of the Cross, priest and doctor.*

*Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13* Both praise and blame are found in this reading. In these days, when affirmation is considered so healthy, we can listen to *both!*

*Matthew 21:23-27* This is one of the blindingly obvious parables. The closing identification with the acceptance or rejection of John should not leave us off the hook. Are there people today whose uncomfortable word I resist?

### Wednesday 15 December

*Isaiah 45:6-8, 18, 21-2* We all have various images of God, taken from our past and our experiences. This reading is a challenging one: God alone is the transcendent one.

*Luke 7:19-23* John's question is our question today too. How would I express my own faith in Jesus as "the one who is to come"?

### Thursday 16 December

*Isaiah 54:1-10* The language of married love, fidelity and fertility mark this reading. The invitation to joy is directed at us today.

*Luke 7:24-30* Prophets are awkward and uncomfortable. We would probably be just as un-easy about a religious crazy! And yet, we would then miss the word of the Lord. *In these final days leading up to the feast of Christmas, the readings are very carefully chosen. They provide a very rich biblical tapestry against which it is possible to understand the teaching offered in Matthew 1-2 and Luke 1-2.*

### Friday 17 December

*Genesis 49:2, 8-10* The great patriarch Jacob is about to die and he gathers his sons around him for a final blessing. The blessing to Judah (= son, tribe and tribal area) includes a reference to the scepter—pointing to the much later Davidic dynasty. God's fidelity to David's line is fulfilled in Jesus. It thus prepares for the Gospel, which is the genealogy in Matthew.

*Matthew 1:1-17* The genealogy locates Jesus in real time with real people, warts and all. Neither the men nor the women were particularly moral—think only of David and the wife of Uriah. Matthew 1:1-17 is a kind of Gospel in miniature: God writing straight with crooked human lines. The figures in the last two generations are consciously ambiguous: Jacob and his son Joseph, evoking the earlier father and son.

### Saturday 18 December

*Jeremiah 23:5-8* The oracle cited here has its historical place in the Exile (as is very clear from the reading itself). But the real

## This Weeks Readings

reason for the choice lies in the first couple of verses, which underline God's faithfulness to David and his offspring. This prepares directly for the Gospel.

*Matthew 1:18-24* This passage continues where yesterday's left off. God-with-us—Emmanuel—re-minds us of God's word to Jacob, Moses, Joshua, David, Solomon, Jeremiah and so forth. Also to us, if we reflect back.

## KIDS CORNER

### Family Activity—New Questions Each Week Sharing Advent and Christmas Joys and Memories

As the "busy-ness" of Christmas increases, take time each day as a family to share Advent and Christmas joys and memories. Each evening at dinner or at another convenient time, choose one or two questions to share and discuss. ( from Missionary Childhood Association)

1. Who in your neighborhood needs your prayers this season?
2. Who are the people in your community who might be lonely this time of year? What can you do to help them feel less lonely?
3. If you could visit any country in the world at Christmas which would you choose?
4. What is your favorite sound during the Advent or Christmas Season?
5. Which tree ornament is your favorite? Why?
6. What can you do this season for families who do not have enough food?
7. Complete this sentence, "This Christmas our family should..."
8. What is your favorite sight during the Advent or Christmas Season?
9. What is your favorite Christmas song?
10. What do you think it is like for missionaries to be away from their family and friends during the Advent and Christmas Seasons?

### Third Sunday of Advent December 12, 2021



Luke 3:10-18

*God sent Saint John the Baptist to prepare  
the people for the coming of Jesus.  
What did he say when some of the people  
thought that he might be the saviour?  
Look in the mirror to find out!*