

St. Mary's Parish

900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, WI 54623



Fr. Matthew Marshall

Parochial Administrator

December 16, 2018

Third Sunday of Advent

Reading 685C

Fr. Matthew Marshall

Residence: St. Mary's Rectory

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St. Mary's, Coon Valley

Weekend Masses:

Saturday - 4:00 PM, Sunday - 9:15 AM

Weekday Mass:

Wednesday and Friday - 8:00 AM

Tuesday - 6:00 PM (beginning Dec. 4, 2018)

Area Parishes:

Annunciation of the BVM, Viroqua

Sat. - 5:15 PM, Sun. - 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

St. Joseph, St. Joseph Ridge

Sat. - 4:00 PM, Sun. - 8:30 AM

St. Peter, Middle Ridge

Sat. - 8:00 PM, Sun. - 10:00 AM

Holy Day Mass: Please check the bulletin for times.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Mass on Saturday; other times as announced.

New Parishioners: Welcome to our parish! Please introduce yourself to Fr. Matt and contact the parish office for registration and information.

Sacrament of Baptism: Please contact Fr. Matt to register for Baptism preparation. Preparation should be completed before the birth of your child, if possible.

Sacrament of Anointing / Visitation of the Sick: Please contact the parish office when someone you know is in need of either the sacrament or a pastoral visit, or call Fr. Matt.

Mass Intentions: Please use the Mass Intention envelopes available in the back of church and at the side door.

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 Mass intercessions.

St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley, WI

Third Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2018

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



FOCUS: The Lord is near, we rejoice and give thanks.

On this *Gaudete* Sunday, we rejoice as we look forward to the return of Christ. His coming in glory fills us with confidence and prayer – all fear is removed and our hearts sing for joy.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Zephaniah presents a vision of a great festival where God's love and forgiveness will be celebrated and his mercy shared with all. Saint Paul reminds the Philippians to be happy and prayerful as they await the return of Christ. John the Baptist proclaims the good news of the kingdom in the Gospel, and challenges his listeners to act with justice and generosity.

Giving Last Week		Week 49	12/9/2018
Adult Envelopes	\$1,376.00	Needed Weekly	\$1,400.00
Offertory	\$107.00	Received This Week	\$1,747.00
Immac. Concept.	\$174.00	Running total Needed	\$68,600.00
Ret. Fund for Rel.	\$60.00	Running total Received	\$65,566.88
Christmas	\$10.00	Difference	(3,033.12)
Pancake Breakfast	\$20.00	41 of 115 envelopes received	
Total	\$1,747.00		

Annual Appeal 2018-19		
As of 12/14/2018		
	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$10,175.00	\$7,925.00
Target Amount*	<u>\$11,405.00</u>	<u>\$11,405.00</u>
Over/Under	(\$1,230.00)	(\$3,480.00)

Upcoming Events/Calendar		
Dec 15	After Mass	Movie Night and Celebration—all are welcome to join the fun!
Dec. 16	After Mass	Religious Education Classes
Dec 16	After Mass	Decorate the church for Christmas—please plan to help
Dec 17	9:00 AM-6:00 PM	Confessions at the Cathedral, La Crosse (Fr. Matt will be there from 5-6 PM in the box closest to Main St)
Dec 18	6:00 PM	New weekday evening mass time – all welcome!
Dec 19	7:00 PM	St. Mary's Penance Service with confessions (two priests available)
Dec 23		NO Religious Education Classes-Merry Christmas!
Dec 24	4:00 PM	Christmas Vigil Mass
Dec. 24	7:00 PM	Christmas Night Mass
Dec 25	9:15 AM	Christmas Day Mass
Dec 30	After Mass	NO Religious Education Classes-Happy New Year!
Jan 1	6:00 PM	New Year's Day Mass— <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i>
Jan 4	After Mass	First Friday Adoration
Jan 6	After Mass	Religious Education Classes
Jan 8	6:00 PM	Evening weekday Mass

Next Week in Service		
If you are not able to be at the Mass scheduled below, please find a substitute. Thank you for your service to St. Mary's.		
	Saturday, Dec 22, 4:00 PM	Sunday, Dec 23, 9:15 AM
Servers:	Volunteers	Whitney and Brittney Mislivecek
Reader:	Robert Kerska	Carol Roesler
Communion Minister:	Marge Antoniewicz	John Roesler
Ushers:	Andy LeJeune and volunteer	Mark Boland and volunteer
Money Counters:	Bob Kerska, Rodney and Kathy Berg	

Mass Intentions		
Dec. 15	4:00 PM	†Edward Kerska
Dec. 16	9:15 AM	The People of God
Dec. 18	6:00 PM	† Helen Staflien
Dec. 19	8:00 AM	†Mildred Bakalars
Dec. 21	8:00 AM	†Ronald Hammes
Dec. 22	4:00 PM	†Larry and Myrtle Geier
Dec. 23	9:15 AM	†Joseph Korn

Announcements

Christmas Mass Help Signup

We need people who are available to help with mass to please signup in the back of church-servers, lectors, communion ministers and ushers. Thank you.

Christmas Flower Envelopes Now Available

If you wish to donate toward the Christmas Flowers, please use the envelopes located at the church entrances/exits. Return the envelope by dropping in the collection basket. Thank you!

Fr. Matt Availability Dec. 26– Jan. 2

Fr. Matt is on call at Gundersen and Mayo the week of Dec 26 - Jan 2. Please allow him some extra time to respond to e-mails, calls, and concerns during that week. It will probably be extra busy! All the priests in the area take turns covering on-call. In this area it usually means 2 - 3 on-call times per year. FYI.

Religious give thanks. “This money is pure gift,” writes a religious sister of the support made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious. “It enables us to continue providing care for our elderly sisters.” Your gift to last week’s collection helps hundreds of religious communities meet pressing retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Thank you for your generosity!

PCCW Craft Show

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event possible. Your time, baked goods, and participation are appreciated. Special thanks to our coordinator Nancy Peters.

Movie Night on Saturday, December 15th

All families and students are invited to our 2nd Movie Night. There will again be pizza, but feel free to bring a snack to share. Join Fr. Matt for a super fun time!

2019 Contribution Envelopes Available for Pickup

Your boxed envelopes are in the back of church. Please take yours with you this weekend, it will save on the mailing expense. Thank you for your continued support of St. Mary’s. If you do not find your box, or you wish to receive envelopes please call or email the parish office.

Extra Christmas Mass Offered This Year!

You have more opportunities to celebrate this year. Fr. Matt

will offer a 4:00 PM **and** a 7:00 PM Mass on Christmas Eve, as well as 9:15 AM on Christmas morning. He looks forward to seeing you all at the time most convenient for you.

End of the Year Giving

All contributions need to be to the parish by Sunday, December 30th to be included in the 2018 statements. All contributions received after the 30th will be included in the 2019 statements. Thanks you for your cooperation.

Religious Education

5th - 10th graders should attend the Reconciliation Service and confessions on Wed. Dec 19th at 7 PM.

Haven’t Been to Confession in a While?

Interested, but worry you don’t remember how to give a good confession? No problem. Join us on **December 19 at 7:00 PM for Penance Service** here at St. Mary’s. Fr. Matt and Msgr. Kunz will be available to assist you no matter how long it as been. Confessions will follow the service. The Sacrament is a wonderful opportunity to set aside our sinful ways and to draw closer to our Lord.

Mass Intentions Available

We have the following dates available for the next couple of months:

January—8, 11, 13, 15, 16, 19 or 20, 22, 23, 27, 29

February—5, 8, 9, 10, 12, 15, 19, 20, 23, 24, 26

Also, feel free to submit all your requests for 2019 to ensure you get that special date!

2019 Calendars

The St. Mary’s liturgical calendar is a gift to you complements of the PCCW. Feel free to take one home today.

Taking a Stand...Making a Difference Signature Ad

The 46th Anniversary of the Supreme Court decision which legalized abortion (Roe v. Wade, Jan. 22, 1973) will soon be here.

We invite you to join with other prolife members of our community in making a public statement of our belief in the sanctity of human life. This annual signature ad commemorating all of the precious lives lost to abortion will be in the La Crosse Tribune on Sunday, January 21st (Ad is sponsored by the La Crosse chapter of Wisconsin Right to Life).

If you would like to be included in this ad, PLEASE PRINT your name on the sheet in the back of church. Any donations to help defray the cost of the ad may be placed in the designated box next to the signup sheet. Thank you!

Food Pantry Donations/Christmas Tree Lighting

Again this year, the CV Lions will be hosting their Christmas Tree Lighting/Food Pantry Fundraiser project. Last year Saint Mary’s parishioners and the Saint Mary’s Men’s Club contributed a total of \$775.00!!! (\$725 from parishioners), and our goal is to raise \$1.00 more this year... We will do the same as last year and use the food pantry collection basket in the back of church. All money that is in there, starting the weekend of October 27-28 until the weekend of December

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22-23, will be designated as a contribution from Saint Mary's Parish to this Coon Valley Lions fundraiser. Please be generous and help us reach our goal and help the Coon Valley Lions reach their goal.

Order Anything on Amazon? Use Amazon Smile and Help St. Mary's Parish

Amazon Smile is now up and running for our parish! *Amazon Smile* is the charitable arm of Amazon.com, and will now be supporting St. Mary's Parish every time you make a purchase through Amazon. Log in to: amazon.com/smile and click the word "supporting" under the search bar. You can search for St. Mary's by typing, "St. Mary Parish Coon Valley" in the search bar provided. .5% of all your Amazon purchases will then come back to St. Mary's as a gift from Amazon. It's not an enormous contribution, but every bit helps! If you have any troubles logging in, please contact Fr. Matt. He will drive over and set it up for you! Let's help make St. Mary's even stronger financially!

Did you have losses or damages because of the flood? Even if you have replaced or repaired damages, you may still be entitled to benefits. **REGISTRATION FOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE FROM FEMA AND SBA CLOSES DEC. 17TH!** See Bulletin insert for more details.

Aquinas Robotics Christmas Cookie Sale ~ No time to bake? Get 3 dozen assorted Christmas Cookies for \$20 and support the Robotics team. Limited supply! Email: Keagan.Lovejoy@aquinasschools.org or use our online order form at <https://www.7rrc.org/aquinas>. Cookies are available for pickup on December 20th.

Free Advent Prayer Books

The Word Among Us Advent prayer books are in the pews. Please take as many as you will find helpful!

Adopt a Family this Christmas

Would you be willing to adopt a Door of Hope family this Christmas by providing a few gifts, gift cards and/or food to make their holiday a little more special? Some families in our community are experiencing a tough holiday season. If you are willing to help, please contact, Rachel Niemeyer at (608)637-8688

March for Life Pilgrimage to Washington DC registration is open

Consider joining other pilgrims from the Diocese of La Crosse traveling to Washington DC on January 16 returning on January 20, 2019. The annual Pilgrimage for Life is open to all people ages 13 and up. Either join the group from your parish or contact the diocesan Office for Youth & Young Adult at 608-791-2652 or visit our website at diolc.org/m41-reg

Job Opening – President of McDonnell Area Catholic Schools ~ Do you know someone interested in the president position for McDonnell Area Catholic Schools? He or she should review the job posting - http://www.mcdonnellareacatholicschools.org/editoruploads/files/18_president.pdf or contact Jenna Mattice, Human Resource director for MACS, at 715-723-0538.

U.S. Bishops Raise Social Concerns

The U.S. Bishops invite you to make your voice heard in Washington on a number of issues, including:

- Protection of Catholic adoption and foster care agencies
- Global relief of poverty and hunger
- Protection of the right to seek asylum

For information and action alerts, see diolc.org/social-concerns.

Families – Your Feast Day is Almost Here!

Dec. 30th is the feast of the Holy Family. It is the day when families celebrate their ability to imitate the Holy Family (Joseph, Mary and Jesus) who showed us how to create a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect and faithfulness exist. What will your family do on the 30th to celebrate your feast day? For ideas go to: www.catholicicing.com.

January 7 ~ Begin the New Year with Emotionally Mature Children

Do your children test your resolve with their emotional immaturity? Do you need some suggestions on how to moderate the drama in your family? Then plan to attend the Raise Them Well Webinar on emotional maturity, January 7th at 7PM. You can be part of this webinar from the comfort of your own home. Just register and watch the entire presentation on your computer or smartphone. Cost \$5. Register at diolc.org/marriage/webinars/

GIVEN Marriage Retreat ~ GIVEN is a one-day retreat that fosters a deeper understanding of Marriage. It includes inspiring talks, energizing music and meaningful conversation. Retreats will be held in Marshfield (Jan.12, 2019), Chippewa Falls (Jan. 26, 2019) and La Crosse (Feb. 23, 2019). Dating, engaged and married couples are encouraged to attend. To get more information and/or register visit diolc.org/marriage/marriage-enrichment/ (see the flyer posted in back of church).

January 22 ~ The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe will feature Joseph M. Scheidler, founder of the Pro-Life Action League, for a talk in the church on January 22 at 10:00 am. A Mass for Life celebrated by the Friars will follow at 11:00 am, after which there will be a pizza buffet on the lower level of the church (\$5 per person with pre-order required by Jan. 2). For group reservations, call 608-782-5440, ext. 240.

Diaconate Discernment Retreat Feb. 1-2, 2019

Are you a man at least 35 years of age who feels a yearning to give yourself more radically to the service of God and the Church? Are you perhaps called to be a deacon? Talk to your pastor about attending the Diaconate Discernment Retreat to be held at St. Anthony's Spirituality Center Feb. 1-2, 2019, and then call the Office for Ministries and Social Concerns at 608-791-0161. A new deacon formation class will begin in the fall of 2019 and attendance at the Discernment Retreat is a prerequisite. For more on the diaconate and the discernment retreat, visit www.diolc.org/diaconate.

Rejoice!

Televised Masses for Shut-ins:

WXOW CH 19 La Crosse – Sunday: 9:30 AM
EWTN (cable/sat.) – Sunday: 7 AM & 11 AM Daily: 7 AM & 6 PM

Catholic Broadcasting:

EWTN Catholic Cable Television
Vernon Telephone Cable – Chan. 143
MediaCom Chan 15 – Coon Valley
Chan 74 – La Crosse also available via satellite

Youth Religion Education Program:

Classes meet after the Sunday Mass from September to May. Coordinator: Paul Thompson. Email: thom.paulrobert@gmail.com

Natural Family Planning:

Information on natural family planning can be obtained by calling 715-235-6226 or visiting the web site at nfp@diolc.org

Catholic Charities:

Catholic Charities offers many services in our diocese. Programs offered include: emergency services, adoption services, mental health counseling, financial counseling, HIV/AIDS ministries, immigration services, in-home support for children with disabilities, and domestic abuse services. For more information please call 1-888-212-HELP or visit www.cclse.org.