

PASTOR

Fr. Joseph Richards (Fr. Joe)

Rectory: 400 Congress Ave, Viroqua, WI 54665

Cell Phone: 608-606-9787

***NEW Email: 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 Stafslin, 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 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

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



Fr. Joe Richards
Pastor

March 26, 2023

Readings: 514A

St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley, WI

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday Readings

March 26, 2023

- 1) *Ezekiel 37:12-14*; 2) *Romans 8:8-11*
 3) *John 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45*

Intentions

Mar 25 ~ 4:00 PM - † Deceased members of the Roskos and Roninggen Families

Mar 26 ~ 8:00 AM - † Kylie Von Ruden

Mar 28 ~ 5:45 PM - † Edward and Anna Kerska

Mar 30 ~ 8:00 AM - † Bob Stevenson

Apr 01 ~ 4:00 PM - † Edwin and Anna Sedevie

Apr 02 ~ 8:00 AM - † Ed Gorman

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 or leave a message at 608-452-3841.



Upcoming Events/Calendar

- **March 25** ~ Spaghetti and Pasta Dinner serving 4-7 PM
- **March 28** ~ 5:15PM, *Stations of the Cross*, Mass follows
- **April 1** ~ Confirmation Retreat
- **April 2** ~ Religious Education Class after 8 AM Mass
- **April 4** ~ Chrism Mass 10:30 AM at the Cathedral ~ 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
- **April 11** ~ Fr. Joe's Birthday 🎂 🎉



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

Next Week in Service — Apr 1/2

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

Readers:	Sat. – Nancy Peters	Sun. – Ryan Goodwin
Ushers:	Sat. – Volunteers	Sun. – Volunteers
Money Counters:	Steve Grabowski and Bernie Roesler	

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 (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.

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 12	3/19/2023
Adult Env.()	\$2,090.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	\$93.00	Received This Week	\$2,183.00
Total	\$2,183.00	Running total needed	\$24,000.00
Easter Flowers(2)	\$35.00	YTD Received	\$21,750.00
Spaghetti Dinner	\$170.00	Difference	(2,250.00)

From the Pastor



Hello friends,

We've had a good bit of business in these articles lately – again, there's a lot to be excited for in the coming months & years as far as Buildings and Grounds go, and the last few weeks we've been pulling back the curtain on some of those projects. For this week, let's take a reflective minute together.

“Jesus Wept”

Two words: “*Jesus wept.*” Fun fact, this is the shortest verse in all of scripture. Right up there with the shortest chapter in all of scripture (Psalm 117: “Praise the Lord, all you nations, praise him all you people,” the end), these two words pack a serious punch. The Martha and Mary in this story are the same overburdened Martha and teachable Mary in Luke 10, and Jesus' relationship with Martha, Mary, and their brother Lazarus isn't too far different from my relationship with Fr. Sam McCarty's family up in Wausau. I seek them out when I'm in town, they seek me out when they're down here, and there's a true and restful friendship there. Martha and Mary send a messenger Jesus' way letting him know their brother is seriously ill, and Jesus and his disciples make their way to Bethany (not far outside Jerusalem). Lazarus dies, and there's a dialogue with Martha where Jesus lets her know her brother is going to both rise (this time) and Rise (later on). To be extra clear, Jesus knows how this story ends, that Lazarus is going to come back to life in roughly seven minutes, and that Jesus is the one that's going to make it happen. But even while Jesus knows how joyful things are about to get, he still gives us this short verse, “Jesus wept.”

We've been walking through Lent for a good few weeks now, doing the deeply introspective work of self-assessment and growing in humility. This is all on purpose, meant to get us ready for the uncertain watchfulness of Holy Thursday, the suspenseful shock of Good Friday, and the climactic triumph of the Easter Vigil. There's something here about the way Jesus, knowing full well the tension and grief of Lazarus' death are about to be relieved, still lets himself feel the loss of his friend. There's something about the way Jesus, knowing even that after Lazarus dies again the two of them will spend eternity together, still lets himself weep. When Holy Thursday comes around, we know how the story ends. When Good Friday comes and we wade through that heavy presentation of Christ's Passion, we know that in 36 hours we'll be lighting the Easter candle. Even while we know the resurrection is coming, we still let ourselves wait in the emptiness of the tomb, because the more we acknowledge and let ourselves experience Christ's suffering and death (even acknowledging it with our own suffering), the more we'll recognize the power of his resurrection.

One last encouragement: if you are at all able this year, try and make it to the full Triduum. It's one of the great privileges of my priesthood to fully pray this shortest-of-all liturgical season, and after a few years praying this prayer, I'll attest to the fact that there's power in following the story from start to finish.

God bless you, Fr. Joe

Parish Announcements



**Men's Club Spaghetti Dinner
THIS WEEKEND—March 25th**
Join us Saturday after Mass downstairs
for some great food and fun!



Catechism Study Group

Will meet on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month (there are a few exceptions) after the 8:00 AM mass for eight sessions. The **next meeting will be April 13**, with the following dates being April 27, May 11 & 25, June 8, 22 & 29. If you would like to join this group, contact Clarice Kammel.

Easter Flower Donations

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



Alms Giving—use your loose change and fill a box or two!

Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowls and Lenten Mite Boxes are in the back of the church.

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 to learn more. The mite boxes support the Missionary Childhood Association (MCA). The Mite boxes are 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.

Chrism Mass, Apr 4

The Chrism Mass is one of the diocesan highlights at which the Bishop blesses the oils for the celebration of the Sacraments of Baptism and the Anointing of the Sick, and consecrates the Sacred Chrism used in the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Orders. Priests also renew their priestly promises at this Mass, and the faithful pray for them. The Chrism Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, April 4, at 10:30 a.m., at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral in La Crosse. Please consider attending!

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

“The Passion of the Christ” movie

To be shown at the following times and locations:

April 3rd 6-8:00 pm —Blessed Sacrament, La Crosse

April 4th 9-11:00 am—St. Pat's Catholic Church, Onalaska

April 4th 6:30-8:30 pm—Mary Mother of the Church, La Crosse

Sacrament of Reconciliation

During Lent individual confessions are also offered:

5:15-5:45 PM on Wednesdays of March at Cathedral

3:00-3:50 PM on Fridays at MMOC

8:30 AM on Saturdays at St. Patrick

3:15-3:45 PM on Saturdays at MMOC

3:30 PM on Saturdays at Blessed Sacrament

4:00 PM on Saturdays at Holy Trinity

30 minutes before weekday Mass-Roncalli Newman

9 AM - 6 PM on Monday, April 3 at Cathedral

Diocesan/Local Announcements continued

Excellent Resources to accompany your Lenten journey.

- Real Life Catholic with Chris Stefanick reallifecatholic.com
Fearless - a free, 7-week video series on fear.
- Dynamic Catholic with Matthew Kelly 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
Receive daily Gospel Reflections.
- The Ultimate Guide to Lent with Fr. Mike Schmitz media.ascensionpress.com/2023
Short videos to better understand Lent.
- Lenten Resources from the US Bishops usccb.org/prayer-worship/liturgical-year/lent
Readings for the day; articles; prayers and devotions.

Meatball and Lefse Dinner - Apr 15

Lower CV Lutheran Church is hosting their 13th Annual Dinner on Saturday, April 15 from 4-7 PM. \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 6-11, free to 5 and under. Menu: Meatballs and gravy, homemade lefse, mashed potatoes, corn, green beans, various desserts, coffee and milk. Carry outs available, bake sale on site. Located at S1801 N Stoddard Rs, Stoddard, between Stoddard and Chaseburg off Hwy 162).

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.

Divine Mercy Sunday - Apr 16

The Deanery of the La Crosse Diocese has chosen the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe for the celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday. You are invited to make a pilgrimage for Divine Mercy Sunday on April 16. **The schedule** for the day is as follows:

- 9:00 AM Latin Mass
- 11:00 AM Spanish Mass
- 1:00 PM English Mass
- 2:30 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- 2:45 PM Divine Mercy Reflection and Family Consecration to the Divine Mercy
- 3:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet, 3:15 PM Benediction
- 3:30 PM Blessing with the relic of St. Faustina



Confessions will be heard in English and Spanish 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM. Cart shuttles will be available for pilgrims from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM. For more information, please call the Shrine at (877) 799-4059.

"On that day (Divine Mercy Sunday), the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." – Diary of St. Faustina #699

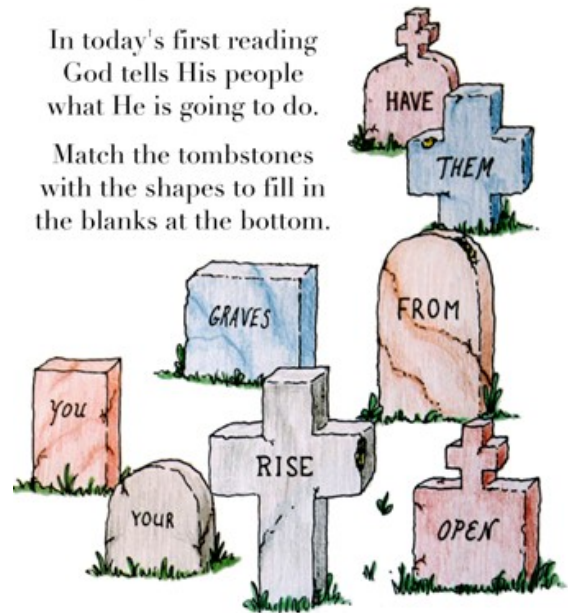



Activity Corner


An Ezekiel Puzzle

In today's first reading God tells His people what He is going to do.

Match the tombstones with the shapes to fill in the blanks at the bottom.



I will _____


and _____




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

The Fifth Week of Lent

PROCLAIMING CHRIST

Meditations for the Season of Lent

“Where is God, if evil is present in our world, if there are men and women who are hungry and thirsty, homeless, exiles and refugees? Where is God, when innocent persons die as a result of violence, terrorism and war? ... These are questions that humanly speaking have no answer. We can only look to Jesus and ask him. And Jesus’ answer is this: ‘God is in them.’ Jesus is in them; he suffers in them and deeply identifies with each of them.”

— POPE FRANCIS, WAY OF THE CROSS AT WORLD YOUTH DAY 2016

When Bad Things Happen

John 11:1–45

In today’s Gospel a friend of Jesus is dying, and Jesus purposely waits before going to him in Bethany. By the time Jesus arrives, Lazarus has died, and his two sisters are distraught. If Jesus had come at once, he could have healed their brother!

Both women profess their faith in Jesus as Lord and their belief that they will be reunited with their brother in eternity, but they are grieving deeply. The painful question that hangs in the balance is: Why did Jesus allow this bad thing to happen to Lazarus? Jesus answers this question earlier in the passage when he said this was all part of a plan to reveal God’s glory.

The story of Lazarus is a precursor to what will happen next week when God allows Jesus to die on the cross and then raises Jesus from the dead. What seems to be a

FOR REFLECTION

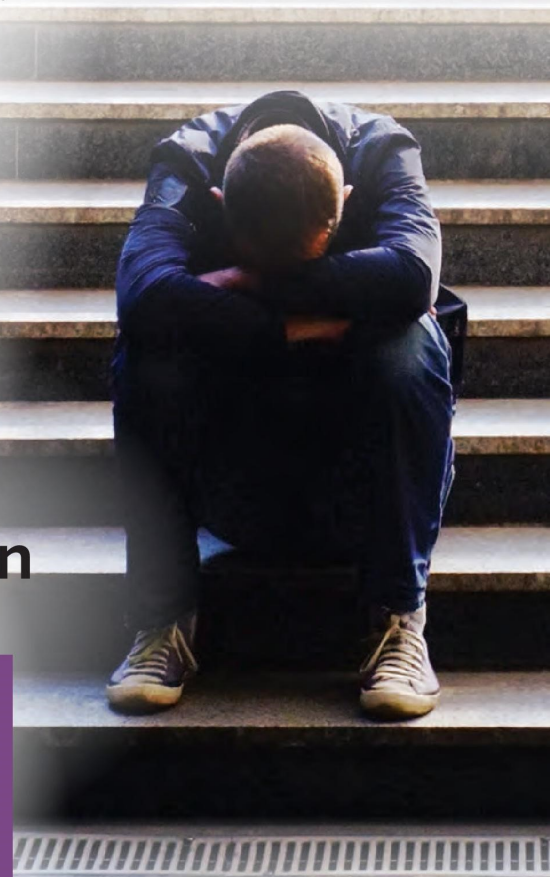
- › Do you believe that God will give you the strength you need to get through all things?
- › Can you recall something bad that happened in your life that ultimately resulted in something good?
- › In what ways have you grown stronger because of the trials in your life?

terrible tragedy will be transformed into the greatest miracle of all time. As people of faith, we understand that even in the darkest moments of our lives there is a promise of new life, new hope, new energy, and new possibilities.

LENT TRIVIA

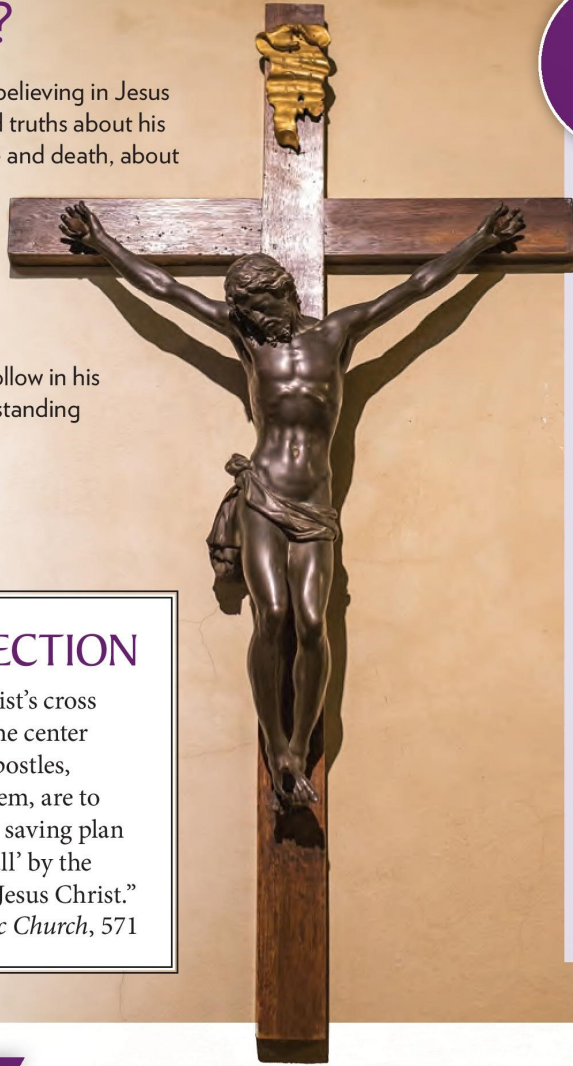
1. How many times does Jesus fall in the Stations of the Cross?
2. Who helped Jesus carry his cross?
3. When does Lent officially end?

Answers on reverse.



What Is Faith?

As Catholics, the essence of faith is believing in Jesus Christ, the son of God, who revealed truths about his loving and merciful Father, about life and death, about our relationships with other people, about the power of the Holy Spirit, and about eternity. But faith is more than just believing. Faith is a lifelong process of growing in our relationship with Jesus Christ, making a personal commitment to follow in his footsteps, and deepening our understanding of what it means to be his disciple.

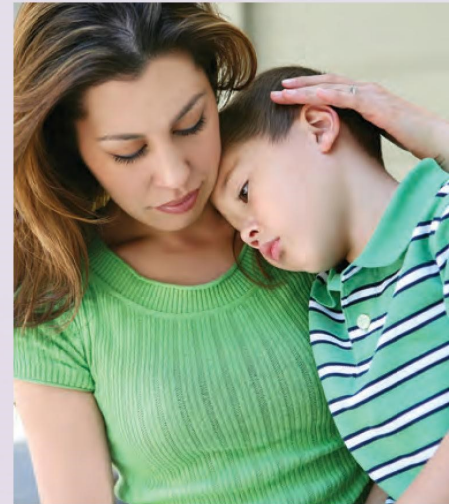


Catechism CONNECTION

“The Paschal mystery of Christ’s cross and Resurrection stands at the center of the Good News that the apostles, and the Church following them, are to proclaim to the world. God’s saving plan was accomplished ‘once for all’ by the redemptive death of his Son Jesus Christ.”
— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 571

Family Focus

It is not easy to explain to children why bad things happen. Start by acknowledging that everyone has difficulties in life but we know that God will help us. Explain that Jesus died on a cross but three days later God brought him back to life on Easter Sunday. That’s why we believe that even though something bad happens, God can make something good come from it.



Images: Shutterstock.com

Lenten Prayer

This week’s prayer, by St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina, asks for help in difficult times:

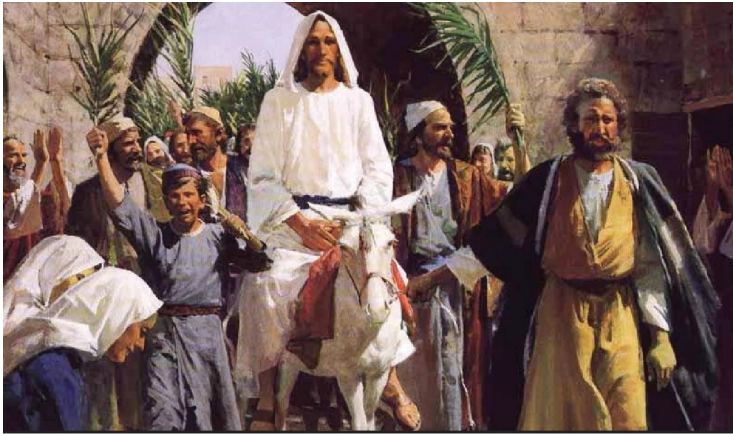
“O Lord, we ask for a boundless confidence and trust in your divine mercy and the courage to accept the crosses and sufferings which bring immense goodness to our souls and that of your Church. Help us to love you with a pure and contrite heart, and to humble ourselves beneath your cross, as we climb the mountain of holiness, carrying our cross that leads to heavenly glory. Amen.”

Comforting the Sorrowful



The word “bereaved” has roots meaning “to be torn apart.” When someone dies, bereaved people experience a deep emotional wound. It is no surprise that comforting the sorrowful is a work of mercy. One of the best ways to comfort someone who is grieving is to listen. Don’t try to change the way the person is feeling. Just listen. And while you are listening, pray for the person who is grieving.

Answers: 1. Jesus falls three times. 2. Simon of Cyrene helped Jesus carry the cross. 3. Lent officially ends at sundown on Holy Thursday.



Entering into the Holiest Week of the Year

Holy Week Schedule

No 8AM Mass on Thurs.

The events of Holy Week changed the world and are, therefore, the holiest days of the year. The sacred liturgies observed during this week remember and make present again the passing of Jesus from death to new life—what is called the Paschal Mystery. You will want to go through the entire week with Christ, dying to selfishness and sin in order to rise to new life along with Him.

Regular weekend schedule

Palm Sunday Time: 4PM Sat. and 8AM Sun.

Palm Sunday is the first day of Holy Week, which commences with the blessing of palms and the reading of the Gospel somewhere outside the nave. A procession into church, with people holding blessed palm branches and singing festive songs follows, in imitation of the triumphant entrance of Jesus from Bethany to Jerusalem. Immediately afterwards, the theme of triumph changes radically with the reading of the Passion narrative, devoted to the suffering of Christ, which He endured for love of you.

Preparation Days Time: Tues. 5:15PM Stations & Mass

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week are preparation days, both spiritually and physically, for the holiest days to come later in the week. It is a most appropriate time to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Wednesday of Holy Week is known as Spy Wednesday. This gets its name because this is the day on which Judas betrayed Jesus to the Sanhedrin. Because Judas is thought to be sneaky, his actions conjured up the image of a spy.

The Chrism Mass is one of the diocesan highlights at which the Bishop blesses the oils for the celebration of the Sacraments of Baptism and the Anointing of the Sick, and consecrates the Sacred Chrism used in the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Orders. Priests also renew their priestly promises at this Mass, and the faithful pray for them. The Chrism Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, April 4, at 10:30 a.m., at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral in La Crosse. All are welcome to attend.

Holy Thursday Time: In Viroqua Only 5:15PM Mass

Holy Thursday begins the Sacred Triduum – which means three days. On this first day the Church commemorates the events surrounding the Last Supper and the institution by Christ of the Holy Eucharist. At the Last Supper Jesus was with His Apostles celebrating the Passover, the annual memorial of the mystery of the Jews’ escape from Egypt, and the “passing over” of the angel of death. The Passover was an exodus, or passage, from the oppression of slavery to spiritual freedom. On this night before His crucifixion, Jesus commanded that this Passover be celebrated in a new way as an unbloody anticipation of His sacrificial and saving death that would take place the next day on the cross. This was (is) the new Passover of the Lord in which we are freed from slavery to sin and death through our cooperation with His divine life of grace received in Holy Communion.

A solemn ritual of washing of feet takes place in imitation of Jesus who humbly served His Apostles by washing their feet. Jesus said, “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you.... By this, all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34, 35)

At the end of Mass, consecrated Hosts—the true presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist—are carried in procession to the side chapel of adoration. These Hosts will be received the next day in Holy Communion. After placing the Holy Eucharist in the tabernacle, an atmosphere of quiet watching with the Lord begins. This commemorates how Jesus went with His Apostles to the Garden of Gethsemane, and asking them (and you) to watch and pray with Him. Jesus prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup [of suffering] pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will it.” (Matthew 26:39) “And being in agony He

continued on back >>



DIocese of LA CROSSE, WI
ST. MARY PARISH, COON VALLEY

Holy Week Schedule



prayed more earnestly; and His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down upon the ground.” (Luke 22:44) Remain with Jesus in His agony over what He knew He would endure for the sins of the world.

Good Friday Time: 12:10PM here, 3PM in Viroqua

The second day of the Sacred Triduum is the Passion of the Lord, known as Good Friday, the commemoration of the death of Jesus on the cross outside the walls of Jerusalem. The theme of this day throughout history has been one of quiet sorrow and mourning for the crucified and dead Jesus. Consider spending the hours of 12- 3 p.m. in quiet prayer, giving up even a drink of water, as this was the time that Jesus hung on the cross and died at 3 p.m.

The emphasis of the liturgy on this solemn day is on Scripture readings and prayers, the veneration of the cross, and the reception of the Eucharist consecrated on Holy Thursday.

NO 4PM Mass in Coon Valley

Holy Saturday Time: In Viroqua Only 8:15PM Mass

The daytime hours of Holy Saturday continue the atmosphere of Good Friday, and have been observed as a time of quiet and fasting. The Easter Vigil on the evening of Holy Saturday is the night of all nights and the primary celebration of Jesus' Resurrection. The elaborate and beautiful ritual of the Easter Vigil has four clearly-defined parts: the service of light, the Liturgy of the Word, the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation and the reception of the risen Christ in Holy Communion.

The service of light begins with a darkened church. The priest lights the Paschal candle, the symbol of Christ's Resurrection. The Paschal candle is used to light small candles held by those in the congregation as all process into the church to the chant of "light of Christ."

The Exsultet is sung which recounts the saving action of Christ, and it is followed by the readings of the Mass, several from the Old Testament, interspersed with responsorial Psalms and prayers. The Liturgy of the Word consists of as many as seven Old Testament readings that recapitulate God's saving action throughout history. The Gloria is then sung with the maximum amount of musical instruments, bells, and choir available to the parish. The Gospel is proclaimed that narrates eye witness accounts of those who encountered the risen Christ, stirring you to a deeper realization that He is alive! There are baptisms, bringing people to new life in Christ followed by confirmation, strengthening them to be bold witnesses for their faith in God. You will renew your own baptismal promises to live more fully as a committed disciple of Christ. The Liturgy of the Eucharist is celebrated with the greatest of joy, leading to our reception of the risen Christ in Holy Communion. This is a day to rejoice that the establishment of the Church and the celebration of the Sacraments are all made possible through the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Regular Sunday Schedule

Easter Sunday Time: 8AM here, 10:30AM Viroqua

The theme of Easter morning continues the triumphant joy of the Easter Vigil. It remembers and celebrates the very foundation of Christianity: Jesus who is Lord is raised from the dead. You will want to share in this incredible joy by participating, as much as possible, in the holiest Week of the year.





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