



St. Mary Parish

900 Central Ave, Coon Valley, WI 54623

Fr. Joe Richards, Pastor | Dcn. Tony Shay



May 17, 2026 | The Ascension of the Lord | Reading 565A

CONNECT WITH US

PASTOR

Rectory: 400 Congress Ave.
Viroqua, WI 54665

Cell Phone: 608-606-9787

Email: jrichards@diolclergy.org

Office Hours in the Sacristy

Tuesday 1:00pm until Mass
Thursdays after Mass until noon or by appointment

DEACON

Email: ashay@diolclergy.org

Parish Phone

608-452-3841

Mailing Address

904 Central Ave
Coon Valley, WI 54623

Email

stmaryscv@mwt.net

Website (scan QR code in header)

www.stmaryscv.org

Social Media

www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley

Bulletins

Bulletin Deadline: Monday, 6 days prior

Parish Office Hours

Varies - most Wednesdays, Thursday morning and most Fridays

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday | 4:00pm

Sunday | 8:00am*

**Livestreamed on our Facebook page*

Weekday Masses

Tuesday | 5:15pm

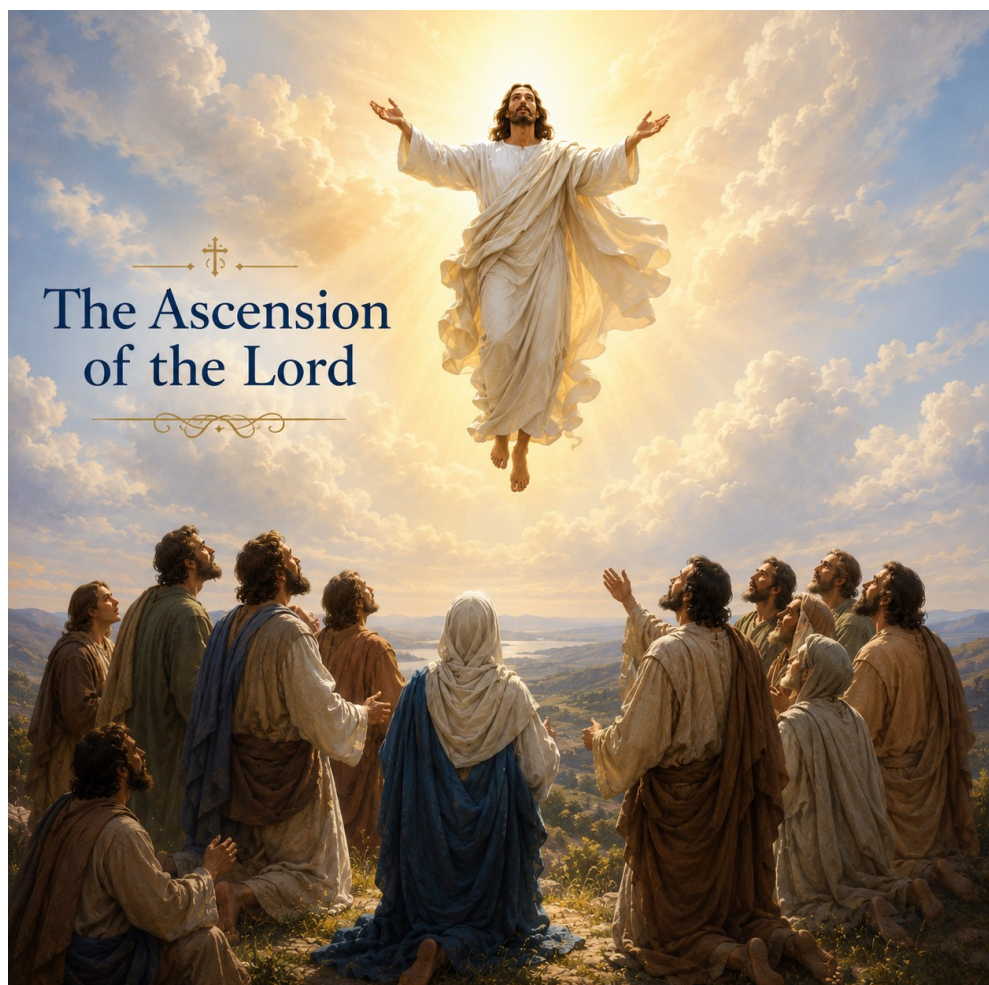
Thursday | 8:00am

Confession

Saturday | 3:30pm - 3:45pm

Devotions

Adoration Tuesday | 4:30pm



The Ascension of the Lord

Administrative Assistant

Amy Stafslie 608-452-3841
stmaryscv@mwt.net

Coordinator of Religious Education

Bridget Goodwin
bladams50@gmail.com

Parish Finance Council

Tom Duerst, Mary Gajewski, John Mislivecek, Nancy Peters (Secretary), and John Roesler (Bldg and Grounds)

Parish Pastoral Council

Ryan Goodwin, Marlene Humfeld, Sue Humfeld, Robert Kerska, and Steve Schulte

PCCW (Parish Council of Catholic Women)

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

Musicians

Mary Beth Smith 608-632-9548
Linda Schulte 608-397-3643
Chris Carskadon 608-790-4495

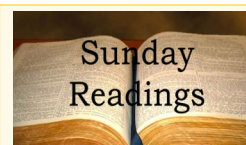
Fr. Joe also serving:

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Viroqua

Mass Times:

Weekend: Saturday 6:30pm
Sunday 10:30am

Weekday: Wed - 5:15 pm
Fri - 8:00am



May 17, 2026
 1) Acts of the Apostles 1:11
 2) Ephesians 1:17-23
 3) Matthew 28:16-20

Intentions / Schedule

SATURDAY, May 16

The Ascension of the Lord (7th Sunday of Easter)
 -4:00 PM Mass - † Kararo Family (living and deceased)
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Robert Kerska

SUNDAY, May 17

The Ascension of the Lord (7th Sunday of Easter)
 -8:00 PM Mass - † Marie Servais
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Volunteer

Money Counters: Loree Nickelotti and Curt Horman

TUESDAY, May 19

Weekday
 - Adoration 4:30 PM
 - 5:15 PM Mass - Those discerning a call to the priesthood/
 religious life

THURSDAY, May 21

St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions
 - 8:00 AM Mass - For the People

SATURDAY, May 23

Pentecost Sunday
 -4:00 PM Mass - † Fr. Lyle Schulte
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Jeana Lejeune

SUNDAY, May 24

Pentecost
 -8:00 AM Mass - † Gavin Williams
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers
 Lector: Marlene Humfeld
 Money Counters: Steve Grabowski and Bernie Roesler



Inspired by the Spirit Campaign

5 Year Goal : \$105,000.00
 As of May 15, 2026
 Pledges received (30): \$109,520.00
 Payments received: \$77,313.50 (73.63%)
THANK YOU!

A breakdown of how the Inspired by the Spirit Campaign funds have been allocated is posted in back of the church.

Annual Appeal 2025-2026

As of 5/7/2026	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$18,625.00	\$16,446.69
Target Amount	\$14,565.00	\$14,565.00
Over Target	\$4,060.00	\$1,811.69

Percent Pledged: 127.88% , Percent Received: 113%
 Number Contributing: 26 (active)
 To donate online, visit: <https://diolc.org/stewardship/> and in the drop down box choose: 2025(445) St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley

THANK YOU!
WE HAVE EXCEEDED OUR GOAL WITH PAYMENTS!

Upcoming Events/Calendar

- **May 19** ~ Grief Share in Viroqua 5-7 PM
 ~ Finance Council Meeting 5:45 PM
- **May 20** ~ Anniversary of the installation of Bishop Gerard Battersby as La Crosse's 11th Bishop.
- **May 21** ~ Coffee and Fellowship after 8 AM Mass
 ~ Pastoral Council Meeting 7 PM
- **May 26** ~ Grief Share in Viroqua 5-7 PM
- **May 25-Jun 5** ~ Fr. Joe in Lincoln, NE for FOCUS
- **May 30/31** ~ Welcome Fr. John Parr
- **May 31** ~ May end of the year celebration for First Communicants, Confirmation Student and Graduate—
 Parish Social after 8 AM Mass sponsored by all the PCCW Guilds
- **Jun 2** ~ Grief Share in Viroqua 5-7 PM
- **Jun 9** ~ Sharon (LeJeune) Tarpenting Funeral at 11AM

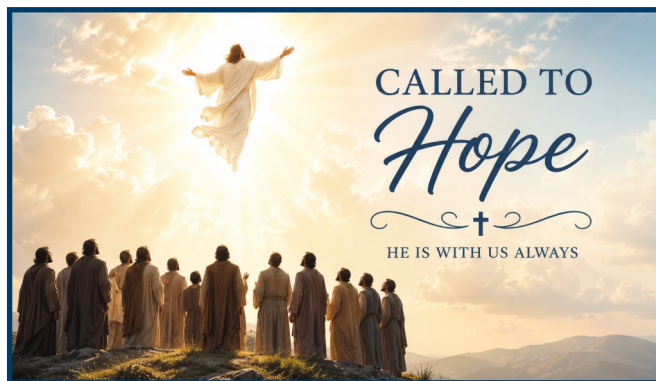
Mass Intentions

Below are open dates for the next few months.

- **Open Sat. and Sun. dates:** Jul 4, 12, 19, and 26.
 Aug 1or2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22or23 and 30.
- **Open Weekdays:** Jul 7, 9, 14, 21, 23, 28, & 30.
 Aug 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, and 25



Request a specific date by filling out an intention envelope or by emailing the office. Suggested stipend amount is \$20 per Mass. If you have questions feel free to email the office at stmarysev@mwt.net or voice message 608-452-3841.



Needed this Month

\$10,000.00	at \$2000 per week
\$3,142.00	Received as of week 2
(\$6,858.00)	Difference for the Month

Giving Last Week		5/10/2026	
Adult Env	\$900.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	369.00	Received This Week	\$1,333.00
Votives	64.00	Total needed	\$38,000.00
Total	\$1,333.00	YTD Received	\$37,628.93
Food Pantry	\$64.00	Difference	(371.07)
Cem/Mem Day	\$300.00		

From the Pastor

Hello friends,

I'm writing on Thursday this week from the retreat center we're using out in Oconomowoc. We're being directed by Fr. Boniface Hicks, a Big Name in the Church right now and (as I discover as this week continues) rightfully so. He has a beautiful awareness of the human heart and the way the Holy Spirit and community of brothers and sisters interact with the heart. Listening and accompaniment have comprised the running theme through the week – what it looks like for us as priests to be heard and accompanied/walked with, and what it looks like to enter into the space of accompaniment with “the Other.” After Peter's words last weekend (be always ready to give an explanation for the reason for your hope, with gentleness, reverence, a clear conscience), I can't help but notice these themes of evangelization and walking-with continuing and developing. We are in a beautiful season in the life of the Church, brothers and sisters, and beauty is not always (or even often, I think) easy or simple or quick. It is a gift and a responsibility that the Lord gives you and me to let ourselves be seen and known, to intentionally step into the space another person shares with us and the Lord and journey with each other. Anyway, I figured I'd share a few little nuggets Fr. Boniface has shared with us for your own musings before receding back into the retreat for the final day and a half:

- “Mary talks only a little, listens quite a lot, and when she speaks her words have great impact.”
- “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”
- “We cannot accompany others into places we cannot go ourselves.”
- And a fascinating distinction between two major roles in the work of accompaniment: the Good Samaritan and the Innkeeper. The Good Samaritan is the one who finds the traveler beaten and crumpled on the side of the road and does the triaging/emergency/initial work to bind his wounds, stabilize him, and remind him that he is lovable and loved, worth being seen and known. He also shares the work of ongoing care and recovery/restoration for the traveler with the Innkeeper, who enters into the longer relational work of tending the traveler. I find myself often in the Samaritan role, leading the intake process and tending the presenting needs of the traveler (that is, the one being accompanied), and I am deeply grateful for a growing community within our community of Innkeepers – folks who intentionally step into the relational work of walking-with and long-term tending. There is an elegant teamwork in this.

Anyhow there are a few quick reflections from our time here.

God bless you!

Fr. Joe

Parish Announcements

End-of-Year Religious Education Celebration & High School Graduate Recognition

Join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of our parish students at our End-of-the-Year Student Celebration following Mass on Sunday, May 31! During this special celebration, we will recognize our First Communicants, Confirmation students, and High School Graduates.

To help make this event a success, we are asking parishioners to sign up to bring food and/or volunteer to help with the celebration. A sign-up sheet has been placed in the back of church.

Thank you for helping us honor and celebrate our students and their faith journey!

May the Month of Mary - Rosary before Mass



May Rosary: May is traditionally dedicated to honoring and seeking the intercession of Mary. To commemorate our parish namesake, the rosary will be recited 20 minutes before the weekend masses in May. Please make an effort to join us. Thanks!

Memorial Day - May 25

As we gather with family and friends this Memorial Day, let us also pause to pray for the faithful departed, especially those who died serving our country. The Honor Guard of the Coon Valley American Legion Post 116 will be conducting military rites at 7 community cemeteries. The schedule will be:

- Hellwig Cemetery at 7:15am
- Koethe Cemetery at 7:30am
- Trinity Church Cemetery in Mormon Coulee at 7:45am
- St. Joseph Ridge Catholic Church Cemetery at 8:15am
- **St. Mary/N Ridge Catholic Cemetery at 8:30am**
- Esofea Bethany Lutheran Church Cemetery at 9:30am
- Coon Valley Lutheran Church Cemetery at 10:00am

There will be a Parade beginning at 10:30 am from the Coon Valley Post Office continuing down Central Avenue to the Coon Creek Veterans Memorial, followed by a program at the Veteran's Memorial and lunch and the Legion. All are welcome to attend and pay tribute. *“No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.” (John 15:13)*

Mother's Day Rose Sale: Thanks so much to all who supported the PCCW Mother's Day rose sale last weekend. The sale brought in \$300 for WI Right to Life!



Buildings and Grounds — What's Happening Church Roofing:

Following the severe storm on April 14, we noticed damage to our church building. We have filed a claim with our insurance company after shingles were lost, newly installed gutters began to detach, and water from the metal roof leaked into the basement. An adjuster will be visiting soon to assess the situation. As we move forward, we are gathering quotes for the needed repairs and for replacement of the metal roof and repairs. We ask for your prayers as we work to care for and

Parish Announcements *continued*

preserve our church home.

Church Pew Cushions:

We are also exploring options to replace the pew cushions to enhance the comfort of our worship space. Quotes will be reviewed at the upcoming Finance Council meeting. Thank you for your continued support and stewardship.

Gathered in Grace (Moms Group)- Driftless Region

Mom Group starting for local parishes. If you are a mom looking to enrich yourself spiritually, join the GroupMe group called "Gathered in Grace - Driftless Region" for more information. We will gain interest from the community and begin meeting once a week in September. If you have any questions, feel free to text/call Alex Kararo at 612-578-6706 or Sarah Gronemus at 608-386-9546. Scan the QR code to join the group with no obligation.



Uganda Mission

From July 21-August 6 Mike and Clarice Kammel will be traveling with a group to Uganda. They will be spending time at Our Lady of Guadalupe School with Sr. Salome. There they will assemble and distribute essential food bags, visit the city where St. Francis helped provide a well for clean water, and work at a coffee plantation. There is also a wish list of items they could use in Uganda. If you have any questions please contact Clarice Kammel.

Copies of the wish list is located in the back of the church if you would like to donate. All donations can be placed in the designated boxes in the back of the church or given to those traveling on these mission trips.

Diocesan/Local Announcements

Job Opportunities at Aquinas Catholic Schools

Positions are available at Aquinas Catholic Schools: teachers in elementary, middle and high school, food service staff, after school care and coaching. For more information on how to apply please visit: aquinas Catholicschools.org/enrollment

Franciscan Spirituality Center Free Program Offerings

The FSC offers a variety of free events and programs. Check out the offerings; support groups for those with overwhelming grief, depression, opportunities for creativity, wellness, growing hope and improving mental health. <https://www.fscenter.org/>

Catholic Charities 2026 Back2School Program

Even though the school year is winding down, we're already gearing up for our Back2School Program—and we couldn't be more excited! Thanks to your incredible support last year, we were able to help over 1,000 students head back to school with the supplies they needed to succeed. **If your children need backpacks and supplies for the 2026-2027 school year, we encourage you to fill out our registration form as soon as possible at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/4ws6v9xb>** This is a supplemental program so we will do our best to make sure basic needs are met.

We are currently collecting: Backpacks, School supplies, and Monetary donations to purchase additional needed items

Donate here: <https://tinyurl.com/2m2p225j>

Learn more: <https://cclse.org/back-to-school-program/>

Diocesan/Local Announcement *continued*

Choir Camps for Students at the Shrine

Youth Choir Camp, June 22-26. High School Choir Camp July 13-17. Visit: <https://guadalupe Shrine.org/events/>

Chicken Q - May 20

Holy Trinity Parish, 13th and Park Ave., La Crosse will hold a Chicken-Q and Bake Sale on Wednesday, May 20th from 11:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. ½ Chicken, Coleslaw, Beans and Bun \$12.00. Carry Out, Drive Through or Delivery. For Delivery call 608-782-2028 Ext. 2

Activity Corner

*Feast of the Ascension
May 14th or May 17th, 2026*

AGBOCDDMEOFUGNHTHSJHK
ILSMTNHORPOQNRSTTUS
VHWOXUYTZSAOBFCJDOEYF



What does today's Psalm say about the Ascension? Use every other letter from the box of letters above to fill in the blanks below.

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_ _ _ _ _!

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

Sacrament of Baptism: Please use the registration form at: www.stmarycv.org/sacraments. Then mail or email it to stmarycv@mwt.net and jrichards@diolclergy.org You will be contacted by the parish office to finalize your requested date.

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.