

St. Mary's Parish

900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, WI 54623



Fr. Matt Marshall

Pastor

2nd Sunday of Easter/Divine Mercy Sunday- April 19, 2020

Fr. Matthew Marshall

Residence: St. Mary's Rectory

904 Central Ave

Coon Valley, WI 54623

Rectory Phone: 608-452-3841

Cell Phone: 608-738-6806

E-mail: fmattmarshall@gmail.com

Amy Staflien, Admin. Assistant

Office: 608-452-3841

Website: stmarycv.org

E-mail: stmaryscv@mwt.net

St. Mary's, Coon Valley

Weekend Masses:

Cancelled until further notice

Weekday Mass:

Cancelled until further notice

Local Parishes—Mass Times

Annunciation of the BVM, Viroqua

Cancelled until further notice

St. Joseph, St. Joseph Ridge

Cancelled until further notice

St. Peter, Middle Ridge

Cancelled until further notice

Holy Day Mass: Please check the bulletin for times.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Mass on Saturday; other times as announced or by appointment, request appointment by calling Fr. Matt or via our website under the Sacraments tab.

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 submit a Baptism registration by mail, or e-mail to both stmaryscv@mwt.net AND fmattmarshall@gmail.com. You will be contacted by the parish office to finalize your requested date. The registration form can be found here: <https://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments>.

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. Requests may also be made from our website under the Sacraments tab.

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

2nd Sunday of Easter-Divine Mercy Sunday

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2020

- 1) Acts 2:42-47
- 2) 1 Peter 1:3-9
- 3) John 20:19-31



FOCUS: We are reconciled to God, in his Divine Mercy, through his Son.

The Church continues to celebrate and give thanks for the mystery of the Resurrection. God has anointed his only Son as our Savior and Redeemer. So with hearts full of hope, joy, and faith, let us be reconciled to God in his Divine Mercy and share that mercy with the world.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Saint Luke describes the early Christian community, as *they devoted themselves to prayer, the communal life ... [and] ... the breaking of bread*. Peter's Letter stresses the *living hope* that believers now have *through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead*. In John's Gospel, the resurrected Jesus appears to his disciples, saying, *Peace be with you* and showing them his wounds. He breathes on them, and says, *receive the Holy Spirit* and grants them the authority to forgive sins. Later, he convinces Thomas of the truth of the Resurrection.

Giving Last Week		Week 15	4/12/2020
Adult Env.	\$2315.00	Needed Weekly	\$1,900.00
Offertory	\$100.00	Received This Week	\$3,250.00
Good Friday	\$170.00	YTD Needed	\$28,500.00
Easter	\$665.00	YTD Received	\$28,496.50
Total	\$2350.00	Difference	(3.50)
20 Weekend Env. Received	6 Good Friday Env.		
13 Easter Env.			

Annual Appeal 2019-2020		
As of 04/08/2020	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$15,547.50	\$15,007.50
Target Amount	<u>\$11,755.00</u>	<u>\$11,755.00</u>
Over Target	\$3,792.50	\$3,252.50
Percent Pledged: 132.26%, Percent Received: 127.67%		
Number Contributing:	41	

Upcoming Events/Calendar

All Scheduled Events/ Religious Education /Mass are Cancelled until further notice

- **Church will be open for private prayer daily from 9AM until 7 PM.** (please practice good social distancing and Maximum of 10 persons)
- If you are currently homebound or under quarantine and need assistance, please call Fr. Matt at 608-738-6806 or 452-3841. We have people ready and willing to help.

Amazon Smile is the charitable arm of Amazon.com.

If you order on Amazon, use Amazon Smile the same as you would as regular Amazon, and choose St. Mary's Parish as your charitable organization.



Log in to: [amazon.com/smile](https://www.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" or simply **click the link on our parish website: stmarvcv.org**

Televised Masses:

WXOW CH 19 La Crosse – Sunday: 9:30 AM
 EWTN (cable/sat.) – Sunday: 7 AM & 11 AM Daily:
 7 AM & 6 PM or **online at stmarvcv.org** or at
<https://diolc.org/sacredworship/televised-mass/>.

Catholic Broadcasting:

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

Intentions

Intentions will be prayed for privately by Father Matt on the day scheduled, please add these intentions to your own, in your prayers from home.

Apr. 18 ~ †Leyton Stafslieen

Apr. 19 ~ †Kylie Von Ruden

Apr. 21 ~ No Mass Scheduled-Fr. was to be on retreat

Apr. 22 ~ No Mass Scheduled-Fr. was to be on retreat

Apr. 24 ~ No Mass Scheduled-Fr. was to be on retreat

Apr. 25 ~ †Dennis LeJeune

Apr. 19 ~ †Rhonda Buckmaster

From Fr. Matt

Thank you to the following people who have helped to complete projects here at church during this COVID time. We thank **Bruce and Chase von Ruden, Bryan Berg, and Larry Servais** for repairing our sidewalk in front of the rectory and for re-seeding the lawn. Thank you to the **Roger and Nancy Peters and their family** for making new handrails for the back entrance to church. And thank you to **Ben and Tina Thomas**, my next-door neighbors, for fixing the roof just above the sacristy. All these generous persons have entirely donated their time and talents to help make our church more beautiful and safer. Thank you so much! Please remind them when you are able of our gratitude and support. We are all in this together!

Thank you to everyone here at St. Mary's for so generously continuing to donate during COVID time. I have been delightfully surprised that we are keeping pace with typical contributions. That is a strong word about the character of this community. I just ordered take-out from *The Legacy* (reuben and garlic fries 😊), and Jeff and I were talking about that. About how committed this community is to being a community and supporting one another. Way to go St. Mary's! Way to go Coon Valley!

Thank you to **Stella and Albert Hohlfeld, and their family**. Stella passed from this life into God on January 22nd, 2020. A memorial of **\$3,000.00** from her funeral has very generously been offered to our church. Stella and Albert's gift will provide for the care of our buildings and grounds. A very fitting gift indeed from a family that cares so much about our community. Thank you, Hohlfeld Family! Stella, pray for us all!

One last thank you...and a big one to **Kermit and Janet Bekkum**. Their recent gift of **\$12,836.26** has entirely eliminated our debt. This is so worth celebrating! Truly a new chapter begins for our parish. The Bekkums have allowed me to share this in writing first, but I look forward to celebrating this gift for our community in prayer once we are all back together again at church. Please pray for Kermit and Janet. Pray for our parish community. Even in a season of sickness our parish is experiencing wonderful growth. May God bring to completion the good work begun within us all!

Parish Announcements

Your Continued Support is much appreciated!

If you are able, please continue to support the parish financially. Our parish will continue to have financial obligations such as utilities, repairs, maintenance, supplies, payroll, education and obligations to the Diocese of La Crosse for Catholic Schools.

We are accepting **donations through the mail** and if you use online banking, please consider adding St. Mary's Parish to your **Bill Pay** by setting up St. Mary's Parish as payment and it will be mailed directly to the parish office (if possible, use your envelope number as the account number). Online services now available: diolc.org/st-mary-coon-valley.

Online giving to St. Mary's Now Available

<https://diolc.org/st-mary-coon-valley/>

Bulletins—lets stay connected!

- The parish bulletin will continue to be available on our Website—www.stmarycv.org
- We are mailing the bulletin to those over the age of 80 (if their age is recorded in our database)
- Copies of the bulletin will also be available in the church for pickup during private prayer times.
- **If you know of someone who does not have internet and could benefit from having the bulletin mailed to their home, please contact the parish office with the person(s) name(s).**

Thank You

The food pantry at the Butikk would like to thank you for your recent donation of \$212.00. We will be able to assist many family with your gift. With much appreciation and grateful hearts, *Pastor Daines and The Buttikk*

Diocesan/Local Announcements

Cathedral Live Stream Mass Schedule

The Cathedral Live Stream Schedule is available at diolc.org/live
Live Daily Mass (Monday-Saturday) from the Cathedral Mass in English – 8:00am
Mass in Spanish – 8:30am

LifeTeen Catholic Youth Ministry Convention Scholarship:

Over the last several years, through a generous grant, people from our diocese who work with young people have been able to attend this convention for free. There are a few more scholarships available for the convention that will be held June 7-10, 2020. If you have not attended this convention, or know of someone who has not attended this convention, please email Andrew Brueggen, our LifeTeen Area Coordinator at youthdir@stpatsonalaska.com.

Adventure Camp: Here are the dates for Adventure Camp this summer! We hope that you will bring a group and join us. This is for youth in grades 6-12. To register and get more details, please visit: <http://diolc.org/youth-opportunities/adventure-camp/>
Week 1: June 21-26, 2020; Week 2: June 28-July 3, 2020; Week 3: July 19-24, 2020

At Home Sunday Prayers

"The Incredulity of St. Thomas"
by Michelangelo Caravaggio



Gathering

We gather together not so unlike the disciples after the Lord's Passion and Death. We gather together, even from a distance, shut into our homes by the present pandemic. Into this space we invite the Lord Jesus. We invite God into our lives from this past week, the good and the bad:

PAUSE

The Lord Jesus in the presence of his disciples breathed on them and said, *Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.* In that Spirit we have all received we now pray:

Lord Jesus, you held onto no resentment, retained no sin. Help us, who gather all together with you now, to experience your Easter peace and forgiveness. May this gift of your love renew our hope, and expand our hearts. Help us to share the peace and mercy we have received. You died, and have risen, and live forever and ever. Amen.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were,
for fear of the Jews,
Jesus came and stood in their midst

and said to them, "Peace be with you."

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you.

As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,

"Receive the Holy Spirit.

Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord."

But he said to them,

"Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe." Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them.

Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you."

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe."

Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

The Gospel of the Lord

Reflection

Very fitting indeed this Sunday's Gospel. The disciples are all locked indoors! And they are

At Home Sunday Prayers Continued

afraid and confused. Their whole world has turned upside down. Sound familiar? Good News indeed for us this Sunday because we are reminded that even more than those unexpected visits we receive from suffering, God is wanting to surprise us with His presence in the midst of our real lives. We are used to expecting God being around in moments of happiness and joy. So helpfully, this week Jesus' unexpected appearance in the locked room with the disciples let's us know that God can even be present in times of frustration and hurt.

I take that cue from the wounded hands, feet, and side of the Risen Jesus. Jesus did not magically erase those moments from his life. No, even in the Resurrection Jesus acknowledged the **whole** of his story and told the disciples...God was there. God is here. God is everywhere, and always with us. *Peace be with you*, Jesus said. Peace, indeed. God help us to remember that **God is with us** —“Emmanuel”— in every part of who we are. Things welcomed, things unwelcomed. Things pleasant, things painful. Things spoken, things unspoken.

The word for wounds in Jesus' tongue was *stigma*. Hmm...for us that word has come to mean something we can't talk about. Something we might even refuse to acknowledge. For Jesus, nothing is unspeakable. And no one is separate from God's love. May the peace of Jesus risen from the dead fill our minds and hearts. We are not alone. Not ever!

Prayer in Practice

This week consider some single thing that was an unpleasant part of your life. Ask God to help you experience God's presence even there. Just like Jesus' wounded hands and feet, we have nothing to be ashamed of!

Petitions

For people of faith all around the world who mourn not being able to gather together on their holy days. May God who has made this whole world a temple of the spirit help us to feel connected to one another and God...we pray to the Lord:

That God would heal us and help us to accept, even our experiences of suffering and fragility...we pray to the Lord:

For all the many families who are bound together at home. God bless and strengthen them through the acts of love and forgiveness they offer each other... we pray to the Lord:

For all the people and situations we are carrying in our hearts as we gather for prayer today...

PAUSE

We all lift each other up in prayer...we pray to the Lord:

Lord Jesus, you show us the way to peace. Help us to take heart for the journey as we pray the way you taught...

OUR FATHER...

Let us pray:

Lord, help us to celebrate the joy of Resurrection in the way we live. May our lives express our hope, and our love reveal your own. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Daily Readings

Monday 20 April

Acts 4:23-31

What happens when we are challenged in our faith? Strength in witnessing can lead to a new experience of the Holy Spirit, as we hear in this reading.

John 3:1-8

There is an important play on words in this Gospel. “From above” means both “from above” and “again.” Nicodemus misunderstands Jesus.

Tuesday 21 April - (St Anselm of Canterbury, bishop and doctor)

Acts 4:32-37

Here we have a general statement of how the community functioned, with a particular example given to illustrate.

John 3:7-15

The dynamic of the conversation depends on an untranslatable play on words. The Greek word *ἄνωθεν* means both again and from above. Jesus intends from above and Nicodemus misses it.

Wednesday 22 April

Acts 5:17-26

This miraculous anecdote (not lacking in humor) illustrates how irrepressible the preaching of The Way was and how its bearers were and are still today under God’s protection.

John 3:16-21

The opening words in this Gospel are justly famous—surely one of the greatest affirmations in Scripture. They echo the story of the sacrifice of Isaac. The rest of the Gospel is difficult for us, until we remember that we are overhearing the robust dialogue between the Church and Synagogue from about AD 90. It may be best to understand the harsh line on judgment to refer to full believers who have walked away.

Thursday 23 April

Acts 5:27-33

In this passage, Peter responds to those who would silence him. The clarity of his defense might help us today: obedience to God comes before obedience to humans.

John 3:31-36

Our reading of John 3 moves forward to the teaching on the lips of John the Baptist. The writer is looking back with the 20/20 vision of (theological) hindsight. Our reading gives us a rich reflection on Jesus and what Jesus means to us today.

Friday 24 April

Acts 5:34-42

As we continued the tale of the aftermath to the escape, a certain Gamaliel speaks. His advice is sound both as law and as strategy.

John 6:1-15

Today we hear a version of the multiplication of the loaves from John’s Gospel. The evangelist signals that the time is Passover—and he uses the story to explore Jesus’ identity as a Moses-type figure: he feeds in the wilderness, he acts as a prophet and is misunderstood as a king. The sensitive reader will notice that the superabundant feeding also echoes the Christian Eucharist: bread, took, gave thanks, gave.

Saturday 25 April - (St Mark, evangelist)

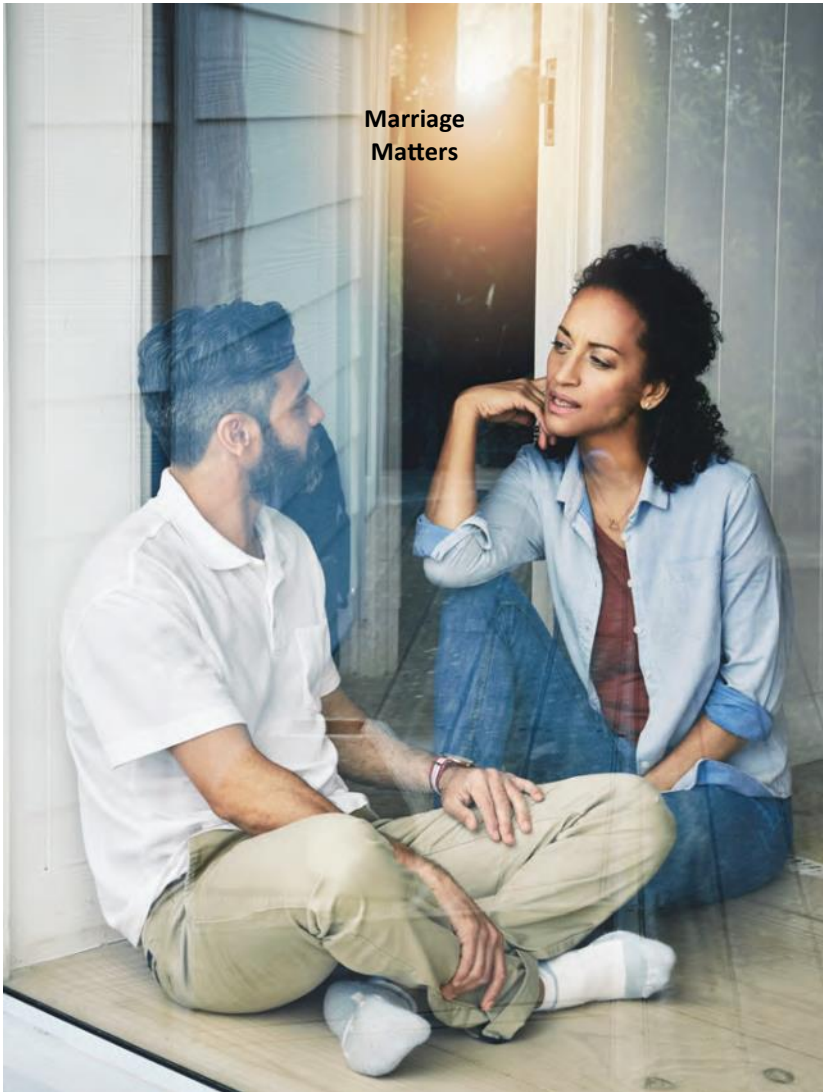
1 Peter 5:5-14

The reading is chosen because it mentions a certain “Mark”. According to tradition, Mark’s Gospel represents the preaching of Peter. 1 Peter is a very late Christian document, written in the name of Peter, but honors that link all the same.

Mark 16:15-20

The ending of Mark’s gospel—unlikely to be original—brings to expression the energy, vision and commitment behind all evangelization.

Marriage Matters



STEVE AND BRIDGET PATTON
hold master's degrees in theology and counseling and serve as family life ministers for the Diocese of Sacramento.



WHAT DO THEY DO?

Calamities can bring out the best and the worst in a marriage. Our routines can serve us well by keeping our lives predictable and peaceful, but they can also shield us from seeing and more fully embracing the whole of each other, warts and all. So try to view this disruption to our routines as an opportunity to grow in love.

For starters, keep in mind it's only human to get on one another's nerves whenever we're forced to stay cooped up inside together. Now, as always, "be patient, bearing with one another in love." (Eph 4:2) But don't stop there. Trust that God is in the plan even when life's wrecking balls come smashing in. "Do not be alarmed when disaster comes ... As gold is tested in the fire, so are we in the furnace of humiliation." (Ecc 2: 2-5) Here are three verbs to help transform this calamity of forced intimacy into a purifying furnace:

Accept. I have unique needs and limitations, and so does my spouse. This means I should not expect my spouse to fully understand, let alone meet, all my needs. So, my spouse may need more time alone than I do, and I must respect and support that. Likewise, my spouse may need more socializing than I do, and I must respect and support that.

Adjust. Even if we have differing needs and limitations, we are still called to suffer well for one another. So if I think I need 14 hours a day of "me time," could I maybe shoot for 13? If I'm on the other end of this spectrum, could I likewise adjust, maybe by connecting with friends at online meeting spaces?

Pray. If you are sacramentally married, you have God at the heart of your marriage, waiting there to help you grow in sacrificial love for one another. If that sounds hollow and unreal, give this a try. During all these hours of forced togetherness, set aside just a few minutes each day to sit together before God. Light a candle, and say, "God, help us to better appreciate, support and be patient with each other." Sit there quietly for five minutes afterward, and then blow out the candle. You'll be amazed.†

HOW DO WE KEEP THE STRESS AND ANXIETY OF THIS TIME FROM STRAINING OUR MARRIAGE?



SHE SAYS:

I'm enjoying all this together time



HE SAYS:

I need my personal space



DIOCESE *of* LACROSSE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

17 April 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Christ is Risen, Alleluia! He is Risen, Indeed. Alleluia!

Well, I sure do wish I could announce another form of joyful news: our release from the "lockdown" we have endured because of COVID-19. We will endure our sequestration for another month! Yes, this means we enter May with fervent prayers to the Loving Mother of the Redeemer and Her Husband, our Diocesan Patron, and Patron of the Universal Church, St. Joseph.

I invite you to celebrate and pray with me to Our Mother, Mary, and Our Patron, Joseph, starting on 1 May, the Solemnity (for us) of St. Joseph, the Workman. The Holy Mass will be celebrated in our Cathedral that bears his name at 12:00 noon. and it will be live-streamed on our Diocesan website www.dioc.org. This Mass will mark the beginning of a year of thanksgiving, petition, and honor to St. Joseph along with many prayers of special intention for his blessings upon our families (Patron Saint of Husbands, Fathers, and Families) and upon all our beloved dead (Patron Saint of a Happy Death) and special needs of our Diocese (Patron Saint of the Universal Church).

Several different spiritual events, prayers and novenas will be available throughout the year for publication in bulletins or special occasions as we make our way through the year. It, of course, is painfully obvious for all of us to know that our plans often turn to dust in the midst of possible tragedies and sicknesses that come our way. So, please watch our Diocesan website (www.dioc.org) for further information and possible events—some of which may be live-streamed. I am hopeful that in the Fall we may be able to put together a pilgrimage to St. Joseph Shrine at St. Norbert Abbey in De Pere and then stop at the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Hope in Champion (the only authentic Shrine of an apparition of our Lady in the USA.)

So, please keep these thoughts in your prayers along with all the other pressing intentions for the sick and dying. St. Joseph, pray for us!

In the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, I am,

+ 

+William Patrick Callahan, OFM Conv.
Bishop of La Crosse