



# St. Mary Parish

900 Central Ave, Coon Valley, WI 54623

Fr. Joe Richards, Pastor | Dcn. Tony Shay



May 04, 2025 | Third Sunday of Easter - First Communion Sunday | Readings 555C

## 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

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



### Administrative Assistant

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

### Coordinator of Religious Education

Bridget Goodwin  
bladams50@gmail.com

### Parish Finance Council

Mary Gajewski, John Mislivecek,  
Nancy Peters (Secretary), and John  
Roesler (Buildings and Grounds)

### Parish Pastoral Council

Mike Callan, Ryan Goodwin, Marlene  
Humfeld, Sue Humfeld, Robert Kerska,  
Lori Pedretti 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

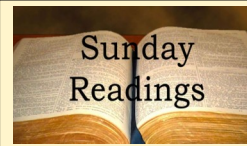
### Fr. Joe also serving:

### Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Viroqua

Mass Times:

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

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



**May 4, 2025**  
 1) Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/48  
 2) Revel. 5:11-14  
 3) John 21:1-19 or 21:1-14

**Intentions / Schedule**

**SATURDAY, May 03**

*Third Sunday of Easter*

- 4:00pm Mass - † Donald "Bud" McCormick  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Robert Kerska

**SUNDAY, May 04**

*Third Sunday of Easter/First Communion*

- 8:00am Mass - † Helen Stafslien  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Marlene Humfeld

Money Counters: Loree Nickelotti, Rodney and Kathy Berg

**TUESDAY, May 06**

*Weekday*

- 4:30-5:00pm Adoration  
 - 5:15pm Mass - Our Parish Family

**THURSDAY, May 08**

*Weekday*

- 8:00am Mass - † Edwin and Anna Sedevie

**SATURDAY, May 10**

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

- 4:00pm Mass - † Roskos and Roningen Families  
 (living and deceased)  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Nancy Peters

**SUNDAY, May 11**

*Fourth Sunday of Easter/Mother's Day*

- 8:00am Mass - † Marlis Urbanek  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Ryan Goodwin

Money Counters: Mike Kammel and Mark Boland

**Upcoming Events/Calendar**

- **May 4** ~ First Communion Sunday  
 ~ Rel Ed after the 10:30 AM Mass in Viroqua
- **May 6** ~ Greif Share in Viroqua from 5-7 PM  
 ~ Finance Council Meeting 5:45 PM
- **May 10/11** ~ Mother's Day Weekend Rose Sale by the PCCW for WI Right to Life
- **May 12** ~ PCCW Meeting at 5:30 PM
- **May 13** ~ Greif Share in Viroqua from 5-7 PM
- **May 15** ~ Coffee and Fellowship after 8 AM Mass
- **May 18** ~ Rel Ed end of year party after 8 AM Mass and Parish Social!
- **May 20** ~ Greif Share in Viroqua from 5-7 PM
- **May 26-Jun 6** ~ Fr. Joe in Lincoln NE for FOCUS
- **May 27** ~ Greif Share in Viroqua from 5-7 PM
- **Aug 18-22** ~ Fr. Joe on PTO to the Boundary Water
- **Jun 3** ~ Grief Share in Viroqua from 5-7 PM
- **Jun 10** ~ Grief Share in Viroqua from 5-7 PM
- **Jun 17** ~ Grief Share in Viroqua from 5-7 PM

**Open Sat. and Sun. dates:** Jul 6, 13, & 20. Aug 3, 10 & 31.

**Open Weekdays:** May 22. Jun-full. Jul 8, 10, 22, 24, 29 & 31.



Request a specific date by filling out an intention envelope or by emailing the office. As of July 1, 2024 suggested stipend amount is \$20 per Mass. If you have questions feel free to email the office at [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net) or voice message 608-452-3841.



**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.



**Inspired by the Spirit Campaign**

5 Year Goal : \$105,000.00  
 As of May 2, 2025  
 Pledges received (30): \$109,520.00  
**Payments received: \$57,721.50**  
**THANK YOU!**



Needed last Month	
\$8,000.00	at \$2000 per week
\$7,900.25	Received as of week 4
<b>(\$99.75)</b>	Difference for the Month

**Annual Appeal 2024-2025**

As of 05/02/2025	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$13,905.00	\$12,279.97
Target Amount	<u>\$14,050.00</u>	<u>\$14,050.00</u>
<b>Under Target</b>	<b>\$145.00</b>	<b>\$1,770.03</b>
Percent Pledged: 98.97%, Percent Received: 87.40%		
Number Contributing: 29		
To donate online, visit: <a href="http://diolc.org/donate-online/">diolc.org/donate-online/</a> and in the drop down box choose: 2024(445) St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley		

Giving Last Week		4/27/2025	
Adult Env (32)	\$1155.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Easter Env (2)	100.00	Received This Week	\$1,604.25
Offertory	273.25	Running total needed	\$34,000.00
Votives	<u>76.00</u>	YTD Received	\$34,819.21
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,604.25</b>	Difference	819.21
Food Pantry	\$95.00		

## From the Pastor

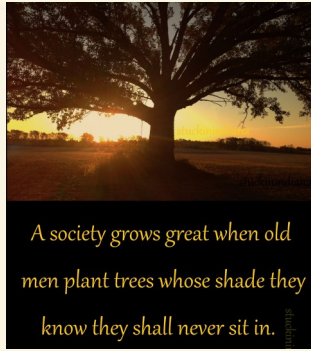
Hello friends,

I like trees. I like making things out of trees, I like planting trees, I like hanging hammocks off of trees, I like trees. Right now, I'm writing this article from a retreat center surrounded by old trees (a mix of walnut and oak mostly, with a few patches of cedar splashing early green across the sky), and it's got me thinking on the tree planting we've been doing around both parishes over the last few years. Three years ago, when we put in those first five new trees in Viroqua (three maples and two slow-growing oaks that will certainly not be big enough to hang a hammock off of by the time you or I move on to other pastures) some priest or parishioner shared a line that's stuck with me ever since: *"a society grows great when old men plant trees under whose shade they will never sit."* I don't know who said this first, but it rings for me. Here at this retreat center, some old man planted these trees before old men today were even young men, without any idea that a hundred years later this group of priests would be joining a long history of folks coming here to pray, encounter and rest with the Lord, but he still bent over to dig each sapling into the ground. Now this youngish man gets to sit (hang) under their shade.

On an annual and a generational level, we're at a strange moment in the history of our Church and our churches. As far as the annual is concerned, on Monday the Bishop picked up his phone to call one then another priest sharing a reassignment (he didn't call me). This is the time of year when new priests get their first assignments, associates get new associate pastorships or become pastors for the first time, and when standing pastors are given new roles or parishes to serve. This has thankfully slowed down from a decade or so ago, but we'll still see some changes around us over the next week or two (one known new assignment is Richland Center, where Msgr. Scheckel has publicly announced his impending retirement). On a generational level, the Diocese (maybe try not to think of it as a monolithic institution, a.k.a. "the Man," so much as a conglomeration of many parts and people) is keenly aware of the Church's changing landscape – birth & death rates, disaffiliation and conversion, geographic movement, cultural animosity and movement away from religious connection, all these and more play into it. In short, we're trying to gracefully enter a season of transition.

So, what do you and I do? We plant trees. We harvest the fruit from the trees planted by our mothers and fathers and grandmothers and grandfathers. We do what our immediate and far-away ancestors did – we listen for and try to respond to the Holy Spirit as well as we can. We pay attention and follow where the Lord leads, and He's leading us somewhere good.

God bless you, Fr. Joe



## Parish Announcements

# First Communion Sunday



With joyful hearts we announce our First Communicant on this 4th day of May 2025



## Jaxyn Ryker Halvorson

*"It's going to be an awesome adventure receiving the body of Jesus in the Eucharist."*

Jaxyn was baptized at St. John the Baptist Church in Muscoda, WI on October 15, 2016. He is the son of Konrad and Corinna (Studnicka) Halvorson. His maternal grandmother is Mary Ann Studnicka. His paternal grandparents are Lincoln and Eileen Halvorson.



### Rosary Help Needed for the month of May

Rosary before Mass in the month of 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 weekend masses in May. Please make an effort to join us. We are looking for parishioners who would be willing to help out (could do as couples). We have a handout on how to recite the rosary that we can provide. If interested please call or text Karen Callan (608 397-3490) or Bob Kerska (608 317- 8392). Thanks!

### Mother's Day Rose Sale - May 10 & 11

Honor your Mother the weekend of May 11th & 12th with a rose! The PCCW is sponsoring the annual Mother's Day Rose Sale after both masses. A \$2 donation per rose is requested, with all proceeds going to Wisconsin Right To Life.



**Save the Date**  
*Summer Family Picnic*  
**July 26, 2025**

## Parish Announcements continued

### Spring Luncheon Update

Thank you to all the ladies from St. Catherine & St. Cecelia Guilds who brought bars & salads to our spring luncheon last weekend. Thank you also to all those who worked to make this another beautiful event for our parish. A special thank you goes out to Linda & Steve Schulte who put together a presentation on their mission trip to Casa Hogar this past January. We were blessed to have Msgr. Joseph Hirsch, who lives at Cossa Hogar, join Linda & Steve in their presentation. The ladies collected \$490 from the luncheon before expenses \$ another \$30 after mass Saturday.

### Divine Mercy Sunday Collection for DCCW

The ladies collected \$354.00 during the second collection last weekend. This money will all be sent to the La Crosse Diocesan Council of Catholic Women for the many programs they support. Thank you to all who generously donated to this worthy organization.

## Diocesan/Local Announcements

### A Message from Bishop Battersby

#### “Experience the Tenderness and Love of our Father”

You are invited to listen to a compelling message from Bishop Battersby about God’s love and mercy. His 7-minute message is available at [diolc.org/mercy](http://diolc.org/mercy), or by using your smartphone to scan the QR code to the right



### Blood Drive—St. Joseph Ridge ~ Monday, May 5th 1-6:00 pm

If you have thought about donating blood, you have the opportunity on Monday, May 5th at the Town of Greenfield town hall. You can make an appointment on the Versiti website ([versiti.org/wi](http://versiti.org/wi)) or call 877-232-4376 or you can stop in on the 5th. Please consider. Great need!

### Aquinas Booster Club Chicken Q - May 7

The annual Chicken Q will be held in the Cass Street parking lot at Aquinas High School on Wednesday, May 7th, serving from 11 a.m. until gone. Delicious chicken and fixings for \$12 per plate. All proceeds support student-athletes at Aquinas High School and Aquinas Middle School. If you would like to preorder tickets, please call Aquinas at 784-0287 ext 4113 and speak with Denise Knutson.

### Spring Chicken Que—MMOC - May 8

The Spring Chicken Que will be held on Thursday, May 8 for \$12 per ticket. Sign up sheets for volunteers and tickets are available after Masses in the Gathering Space. For ticket reservations, please call 608-518-6145 or email [chickenque@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:chickenque@mmoclacrosse.org).

### Called to Join a Franciscan Community?

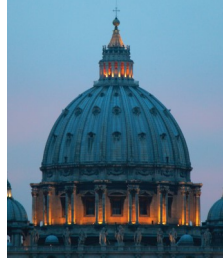
The Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in La Crosse invite those who are interested in exploring how they could be called to live a life of community, prayer, and service according to the Gospel and the teachings of Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi to join us for a Charism Immersion at St. Rose Convent June 9-13. Contact us by April 30: [vocations@fspa.org](mailto:vocations@fspa.org) or 608-782-5610 ext. 292.

### Chicken-Que - May 21

Holy Trinity in La Crosse is hosting a Chicken-Que and Bake Sale Wednesday, May 21 - Serving 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Dine in, Carryout, Drive Through.

## Diocesan/Local Announcements

Prayer for the  
Election of a New  
POPE

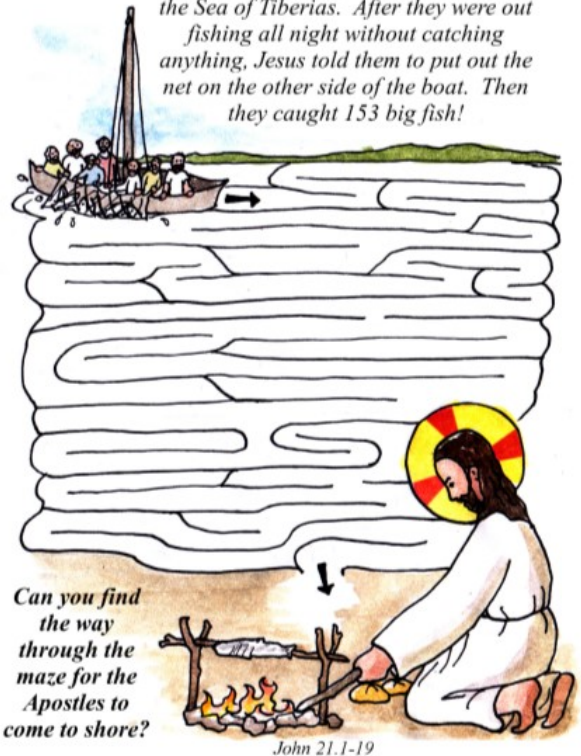


O God, eternal shepherd, who govern your flock with unfailing care, grant in your boundless fatherly love a pastor for your Church who will please you by his holiness and to us show watchful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

~United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

## Activity Corner

The third time that the Apostles saw Jesus after He rose from the dead was at the Sea of Tiberias. After they were out fishing all night without catching anything, Jesus told them to put out the net on the other side of the boat. Then they caught 153 big fish!



Can you find the way through the maze for the Apostles to come to shore?

John 21.1-19

**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](http://www.stmarycv.org/visit-us)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday from 3:15pm to 3:45pm

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Submit a registration by mail, or e-mail to both [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net) AND [jrichards@diolclergy.org](mailto:jrichards@diolclergy.org) You will be contacted by the parish office to finalize your requested date. The registration form at: [www.stmarycv.org/sacraments](http://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](http://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.