

Fr. Matt's Residence:

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Coon Valley, WI 54623

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Open office: Thursdays and by appointment. Off on Mondays.

Amy Stafslie, Admin. Assistant

Office: 608-452-3841

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St. Mary's, Coon Valley

Weekend Masses

- 4:00 PM Saturday (max 30 people)

- 8:00 AM Sunday (max 30 people)

Weekday Mass:

Tues. - 6:30 PM and Thurs.- 8:00 AM

Annunciation of the BVM, Viroqua

Weekend Masses

- 6:30 PM Saturday

- 10:30 AM Sunday

Weekday Mass:

Wed. - 6:30 PM and Fri. - 8:00 AM

New Parishioners: Welcome to our parish!

Please introduce yourself to Fr. Matt and contact the parish office for registration and information. <https://www.stmarycv.org/visit-us>

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Mass on Sat. or by appointment, call Fr. Matt or on our website under the Sacraments tab. <https://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments>

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

Sacrament of Anointing / Visitation of the Sick: Please contact the parish office or Fr. Matt when someone you know is in need of a sacrament or a pastoral visit. Requests may also be made from our website under the Sacraments tab. <https://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments>

Mass Intentions: Please use the Mass Intention envelopes available in the church.

Book of Prayer Requests: Please call or email Fr. Matt to have an intention added during COVID time. General Book of Prayer requests will be included in the intercessions.

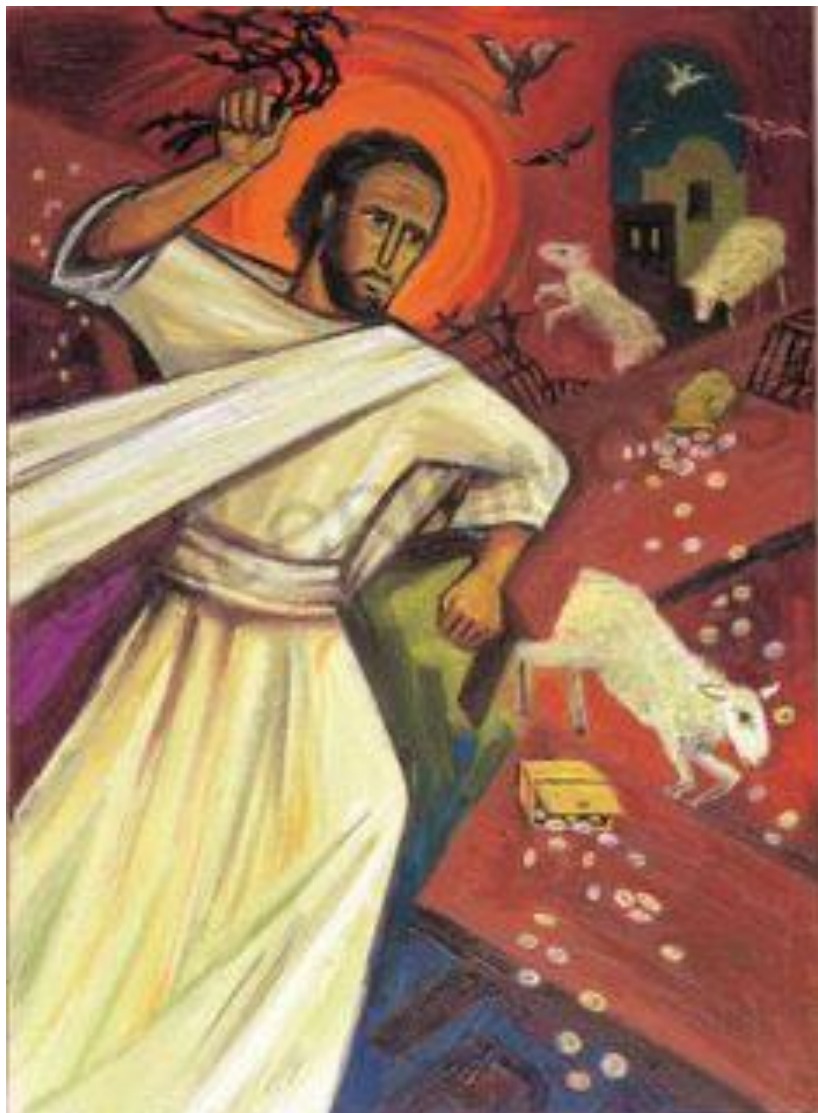
St. Mary's Parish

900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, WI 54623

Phone: 608-452-3841

Website: stmarycv.org

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley>



Third Sunday of Lent

Fr. Matthew Marshall

Pastor

March 07, 2021

Readings: 509B

St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley, WI

Third Sunday of Lent

SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 2021

- 1) Exodus 20:1-17
or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17
- 2) 1 Corinthians 1:22-25
- 3) John 2:13-25

FOCUS: Eliminate what distracts us from God. The first of God's commandments – that he alone is God and we shall not have other gods or idols – reaches beyond simply "not offering sacrifices to pagan deities." Rather, it includes avoiding anything that we "rank above" God or that prevents us from worshipping him. The importance of this commandment is seen in the way Jesus reacts against those who have made commerce – selling animals and changing money – their gods, their idols.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

God gives the Israelites his commandments, saying he will punish those who do not follow them but grant mercy to those who do. Saint Paul writes the Corinthians, we *proclaim Christ crucified*, which is foolishness to those who do not believe, but power and wisdom to those who do. In the Gospel, Jesus drives money-changers and vendors from the temple area, and then tells the crowd that if the temple is destroyed he will raise it in three days.

Order Anything on Amazon? Use Amazon Smile!

You can help increase AmazonSmile donations to St. Mary Parish by shopping at smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1218730 or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon Shopping app.



<u>Intentions</u>
Mar 06 ~ 4:00 PM - †Edward and Anna Kerska
Mar 07 ~ 8:00 AM - †Allen and Mercedes Christen
Mar 09 ~ 6:30 PM - †Rosie LeJeune
Mar 11 ~ 8:00 AM - †Francis Kerska
Mar 13 ~ 4:00 PM - †Jeannette C. Duda
Mar 14 ~ 8:00 AM - †Jim Shay

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.

<u>Next Week in Service — Mar 7th</u>	
If you are not able to serve as scheduled below, please find a substitute. Thank you	
Money Counters:	Loree Nickelotti and Curt Horman

Upcoming Events/Calendar

- **March 10** ~ Stations of the Cross at 6:30 PM
- **March 13** ~ Confirmation Retreat **10 AM–1 PM**
- **March 13** ~ 4:00 PM Confirmation during Mass
- **March 17** ~ Stations of the Cross at 6:30 PM
- **March 24** ~ Stations of the Cross at 6:30 PM
- **March 27/28** ~ Palm Sunday
- **April 1** ~ *Holy Thursday Mass at 7:00 PM*
- **April 2** ~ *Good Friday at 3:00 PM*
- **April 3** ~ *Holy Saturday Mass at 7:30 PM*
- **April 4** ~ *Easter Sunday Mass at 8:00 AM*

Our Sunday Mass Streaming Live on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley>

Church will be open for private prayer Tuesday through Friday from 9AM until 7 PM and Sunday until 7 PM (please practice good social distancing)



STATIONS of the CROSS
On March 10th at 6:30 PM
and each Wed. of Lent

Annual Appeal 2020-21		
As of 03/04/2021	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$16,765.00	\$16,073.56
Target Amount	<u>\$12,925.00</u>	<u>\$12,925.00</u>
Over Target	\$3,840.00	\$3,148.56
Percent Pledged: 129.71%, Percent Received: 124.36%		
Number Contributing:	37	
<p>WE HAVE REACHED OUR GOAL! Thank you! All funds donated from this point forward will be returned to the parish untaxed by the Diocese. If you have not contributed, now is the time! Extra cards and envelopes are located at the church doors, or you may give online at: https://diolc.org/donate-online, under Designation, choose: 2020 (445) St. Mary Parish.</p>		



Giving Last Week		Week 09	2/28/2021
Adult Env.(22)	\$2,115.00	Needed Weekly	\$1,900.00
Offertory	\$129.00	Received This Week	\$2,664.50
Ash Wed(1)	\$10.00	YTD Needed	\$17,100.00
Memorials(3)	\$100.00	YTD Received	\$15,412.42
Catholic Life(3)	\$90.00	Difference	(1,687.58)
Votive Lights	\$120.50		
Capital Improve(1)	\$100.00	Food Pantry	\$97.45
Total	\$2,664.50		

From Fr. Matt:



Triduum 2021

Fr. Bill Kulas will be celebrating the Triduum here at Coon Valley this year. I explained to our Pastoral Council a few months back that unfortunately the Roman Catholic Church has a lot of rules around Triduum. One of them is that a priest must celebrate all 3 days of it at one location.

Because I know I can't celebrate two full Triduums, one at Coon Valley and Viroqua, both our parishes' Pastoral Councils wrote to Bishop Callahan asking him to consider amending the rule in our Diocese, especially since we are short on priests. Most parishes that share one pastor have historically either gotten help-out or done all the celebrations at the biggest church. I am aware that help-out is growing increasingly slim, and I don't think any parish should be permanently deprived of Easter celebrations.

Since Bishop does not intend to change the rules at this time, I will alternate the celebration of the Triduum year-to-year at our parishes and look for help-outs as I am able for the parish where I cannot attend. This applies only to Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil. I will celebrate Easter Sunday at both parishes as in a typical week.

Please warmly welcome Fr. Bill and be available to assist him as he asks. He is a priest from the Diocese of Winona who has retired to our side of the River. I'm grateful for his generous help! In future years, if we can't find a priest at either parish for the Triduum...we will have to get creative. I think both parishes need to stand ready to join together in prayer, even if I cannot be present.

There remain in our churches tradition numerous prayers that are perfectly acceptable for lay persons to lead. We will likely have to draw on those resources in both parishes in the future. I'm truly sorry that I cannot celebrate Triduum with you in Coon Valley this year. I am grateful that the Pastoral Council at Viroqua so strongly confirmed my desire to celebrate here next year even if that means Viroqua has no Triduum. I'm proud of both communities for their strong faith and commitment to serving each other as neighbors. Any questions, please let me know. Peace!

- No Mass at Viroqua next Wed (March 10, 2021)

- **Congratulations to our Confirmation students who will be Confirmed at our 4 PM Mass next Saturday!** We love you and are praying for you. As our community confirms the gift of God's Spirit alive in you, remember: **God believes in you, and so do we!** Congratulations!



Brock Hoskins
Dustin Kenyon
Grant McCauley
Brittney Mislivecek
Garrett Vatland



Parish Announcements

Liturgical Ministry Volunteers Needed for Holy Week

We will need help for Holy Week from Readers, Servers, and Ushers starting on **Palm Sunday, March 27/28 through Easter Sunday, April 4**. If you are able to help one or more areas please sign up in the back of church. Your time and talents are much appreciated.



CRS Rice Bowls: HUNGER IN OUR WORLD

CRS helps both local and internationally. From aid relief during national disasters to poor farmers in Salvador. What will you do to support the hungry in our community and around the world? Visit csrricebowl.org to learn more.

Student Mite Boxes: The student boxes support the Missionary Childhood Association (MCA). **Youth are encouraged to support other children around the world by donating during Lent. Boxes are available in the back of church.**

Free Lenten Materials

There are several different booklets and flyers for Lent in the back of church for adults and children. Feel free to take whatever speaks to you.

Donations: We cannot survive without your generosity! Here are some ways to contribute:

- US Postal Service: mail directly to the parish office, your 2021 Contribution envelope is postal ready!
- *Bill Pay* through online banking, add St. Mary's as contact (if possible, 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 and credit cards and \$.75 for EFT, ACH your contribution will be recorded for the full amount).
- *Drop off* your contribution envelope at either church, Coon Valley or Viroqua and the funds will be directed to St. Mary's

Pray + Fast + Give

Lenten regulations are as follows:

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. *(Continued on page 4)*

Diocesan/Local Announcements

Lenten Day of Recollection-Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe
You are invited to attend a Lenten Day of Recollection on Saturday, March 20, that will include Mass (8:20 AM and 12:15 PM), Confessions (9:00 AM and throughout the day), three 30-minute spiritual conferences with Fr. Paul Check (9:30 AM), Fr. Joachim (11:00 AM), Fr. Elias (2:00 PM) and Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Come and stay as long as you would like. Lunch will be available in the Culina Mariana. Note: no reservations required. See flyer in the back of church or visit: diolc.org/lent

Cathedral Restoration Work Blessing and Press Conference
Friday, March, 12, Blessing of the Cathedral Restoration Project - 1:30 p.m. Join Bishop Callahan as he blesses the beginning of the restoration work on our Cathedral. Under the guidance of St. Joseph, we ask his protection as this project begins. Everyone is invited to be present or join via live stream at cathedralsjworkman.org

Employment Opportunity:

Administrative Assistant for the Offices of Catechesis & Evangelization and Family Life/ Youth Ministry
Apply: [Employment Opportunities | Diocese of La Crosse](http://diolc.org/jobs) (diolc.org/jobs)

Week of Mar 7th Readings

Monday 8 March

2 Kings 5:1-15. A very lively, realistic story prepares us for the Gospel reading. There are comic elements: the disappointment of Naaman and the utterly sensible advice of his servants.

Luke 4:24-30. Our reading is really the second part of an integrated scene in Luke's Gospel. Jesus preaches in Nazareth and is initially well received. What we really have here is a symbolic *tableau*, giving us the whole Gospel story of Jesus in a nutshell. The last elusive line points to Easter.

Tuesday 9 March

Daniel 3:25, 34-43. The context for this wonderful prayer can help a great deal. The book of Daniel was written during a time of brutal persecution under the Syrian ruler, Antiochus IV Epiphanes. Under the guise of the time of the earlier Babylonians, the book of Daniel really reflects this later, highly dangerous situation. The three main characters have been thrown into the fiery furnace and one of them, Azariah, prays this great prayer.

Matthew 18:21-35. Our first reading was a prayer for mercy from God. The Gospel is also about mercy, but in another perspective. Mercy is given to a great debtor, who begs precisely for mercy. But he in his turn refuses mercy to a fellow servant, who begged him. It is all a comment on the words we pray everyday: *forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

Wednesday 10 March

St Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop and doctor

Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9. Our reading reflects on God's grace to Israel and on the consequent responsibility of the Israelites to live lives consistent with that grace. It was true long ago in Judaism; it is true today in our Christian proclamation.

Matthew 5:17-19. Matthew can disconcert with his quite conservative attitudes. It is important to remember that the Law (the Torah) meant three things at the time: the Pentateuch, the moral law and the ritual. The moral law is, if anything, sharpened.

Thursday 11 March

Week of Mar. 7th Readings (cont.)

Jeremiah 7:23-28. The ministry of Jeremiah encountered tremendous opposition. In fact, his book is divided into two parts, the first devoted to a rehearsal of the collapse of the independent kingdom of Judah. Within that, Jeremiah points out that the very faithlessness of the people was one of the causes of that calamity.

Luke 11:14-23. Just as the prophets encountered opposition, so did Jesus. In the case of Jesus, the opposition accuses God's prophet of aligning himself with the forces of evil. Already in Luke's Gospel, we hear the story of the temptation, wherein Jesus resolutely rejects the devil.

Friday 12 March

Hosea 14:2-10. Hosea wrote in the 8th century BC, at a time of immense pressure from Assyria. He can be trenchant but is also a marvelous poet of the love of God. Listen by letting any of the moving metaphors touch our hearts.

Mark 12:28-34. This great passage takes us to the heart of the preaching of Jesus, the Jewish Messiah.

Saturday 13 March

Hosea 5:15-6:6. This is really a sarcastic reading. But, behind the biting sarcasm, is the beating heart of God, reaching out to us again and again.

Luke 18:9-14. The risk for us in reading this parable is that we find ourselves sitting in judgment on the Pharisee—that is, copying him in sitting in judgment on the tax collector. The heartfelt prayer for mercy is at the center: can I make it my own?

KIDS CORNER

Jesus at the Temple Word-Find



DROVES OCT F
HEVTEPXOTA
MZEALIEIET
FORTY LNNMH
OUTABLESPE
PSULEEHLR
THREEDOVES
MONEYIUSIX
SWEJEWSTOP
BODSHEEPDY

Find all the words in CAPITALS and then use the letters that are left over to fill in the blanks at the end.

Jesus made a whip out of cords and DROVE them all out of the TEMPLE area, with the SHEEP and the OXEN, and SPILLED the COINS of the MONEY-changers and OVERTURNED their TABLES, and to those who sold DOVES he said, "Take these OUT of here, and STOP making my FATHER'S house a market place." His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, ZEAL for your HOUSE will consume me. The JEWS said to Him, "What sign can you SHOW us for doing this?" Jesus answered them and said, "Destroy this temple, and in THREE days I will raise it up." The Jews said, "This temple has been under construction for FORTY - SIX years, and you will raise it up in three days?" But He was speaking of

Answer: The temple: The temple (or) His body.

Meditations for the Third Week of Lent

WE THIRST FOR YOU, O LORD

Out of the Temple

John 2:13-25

When Jesus saw the money-changers, merchants, sheep, oxen, and doves at the Temple, he became angered, not because of what they were doing, but because of where they were doing it. Making the act of worship into a commercial, for-profit enterprise by selling those animals within the Temple made a mockery of a sacred duty.

The temptation to turn faith into profit is still with us. Today, as in Jesus' time, there is wealth to be made in religion and spirituality. At the same time, there is a pull to make Sunday

worship into just another thing we do every week, instead of a true act of reverence. When we come to Mass, we can be distracted by worldly affairs, more concerned with what we (or someone else) is wearing, even slipping out early so that we can get on with "real life." In today's Gospel, Jesus is showing us that the time we give to God needs to be given freely and fully — without being compromised by anything else. This Lent, let us make the time we spend at Mass a highlight of our week.

FOR REFLECTION

- › When I attend Mass, am I fully aware that I am in the presence of God during that time?
- › When was the last time I went to confession?
- › As we enter the third week of Lent, what progress have I made spiritually? Do I need to make a "course correction" for the remaining weeks?

Lenten Prayer

Unto to you, I cry, my God!

"As the deer longs for streams of water, so my soul longs for you, O God."
— Psalm 42:1

My Lord, as we enter into the third week of Lent, help me to put aside worldly concerns and focus more deeply and completely on you.

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OUR FAITH

Works of Mercy

Along with prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we are encouraged to perform both corporal and spiritual acts of mercy during Lent. During the next few weeks, try to do at least one act of mercy.

The Corporal Works of Mercy

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the sick
- Visit the imprisoned
- Bury the dead

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

- Admonish the sinner
- Instruct the ignorant
- Counsel the doubtful
- Comfort the sorrowful
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Forgive all injuries
- Pray for the living and the dead

SIGNS OF THE SEASON

The Scrutinies

This week and two following weeks, we celebrate the Scrutinies. Their purpose is

“to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good. For the Scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth, and the life. These rites, therefore, should complete the conversion of the elect and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all.” (*Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults*, 141)

While specifically designed for those who are entering the Church, all of us can benefit from the Scrutinies by examining our hearts and consciences for both healing and strengthening.

Catechism CONNECTION

“In the formation of conscience the Word of God is the light for our path (cf. Ps 119:105), we must assimilate it in faith and prayer and put it into practice. We must also examine our conscience before the Lord’s Cross. We are assisted by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, aided by the witness or advice of others, and guided by the authoritative teaching of the Church.”

— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1785

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Crown of Thorns

To encourage children to perform good deeds and make small sacrifices during Lent, make a “crown of thorns.” Twist a rope of tan modeling clay into a circle and then stud it with toothpicks. Each time someone in the family makes a sacrifice or does a good deed, pull one of the toothpick “thorns” out of the “crown.” Try to remove all the “thorns” by Good Friday.

