

Diocesan and Community News

Supporting your Church: In good times and bad times, Catholic faithful have supported the church generously. Your Parish needs your generous support to continue. Collections at Weekly Masses are the main source of income. We need to consider alternative options to continuing your contributions to the Church. Our bank is not able to process ACH payments. You can mail in your weekly/monthly offering to the parish office. (W697 State Hwy 33 Rockland, WI 54653) Thank you for your generosity!

Wills & Estates: As you prayerfully execute your will or do estate planning please consider keeping the St. Peter Parish in mind. The most common and simplest way to include the parish in your last wishes is to include a bequest in your will or trust.

First Saturday Devotions: First Saturday Devotions are starting again at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Join us at 11:15 a.m. for a meditation on the Holy Rosary followed by the Holy Rosary at 11:45 a.m. and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 12:15 p.m. Confession will be available from 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 a.m. and also following Mass.

Donate to Project Milk: Help the Children of Casa Hogar in Peru The Father Joseph Walijewski Legacy Guild and Rural Life Committee ask you to help support Project Milk. Help us send 800 bags of Wisconsin milk each year to Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II in Lurin, Peru – home to 72 children, families and staff. Casa Hogar also trades milk for needed resources and donates milk to local soup kitchens and families across greater Lima. Last year over 40 sites and hundreds of people received nutritious milk from Wisconsin. For more information and to give, visit diolc.org/project-milk.

Demand a COVID-19 Vaccine free from abortion: Among the vaccines currently in development, some are being produced using old cell lines that were created from the cells of aborted babies. There is no need to further exploit the bodies of aborted children. Other cell lines or processes that do not involve cells from abortions are available. To learn more and to make your voice heard, visit votervoice.net/usccb/home.

Help Stop Mail-Order Abortion: The number of chemical abortions in the US has gone up dramatically, and COVID-19 is only making the problem worse, with more women (and teen girls) seeking chemical abortions at home—even illegally, by mail and without a doctor's prescription. But there is hope: a new bill has been introduced that could help protect mothers and babies from chemical abortion. For more information and to make your voice heard, visit votervoice.net/usccb/home.

La Crosse Warming Center: This year has seen a lot of unexpected expenses - change in location, increased 2019-2020 season - increased staffing hours. We need your support. Please donate to our Homeless for the Holidays Appeal. Your donation will stay in this community, providing service to those who are experiencing homelessness! Volunteers are needed also. Check us out at www.cclse.org or call 888-212-4357.

Kid's Korner

Who Will Lead You to God?



Today's Gospel reading tells us about Saint John the Baptist, who prepared the people for the coming of Jesus. At first people thought that he might be the saviour they were all waiting for, but he was very clear when he told them that he wasn't- there was one coming after him Who would be the truly great One.

Sometimes we hear about great or important people. We know about movie stars and singers and government leaders. Who are some important people you know of?



Do those people that you've thought about help to bring you closer to God? Do they teach you well and give good example? Or do they lead people away from God by doing wrong things or making fun of God's truth?



We can know which people are really great by thinking about whether they lead us closer to God, like Saint John the Baptist did, or further away from Him. Which sort of people do you want to follow?



The Messenger of Peace Word-find

V Y E A R P O O R B
I C S P I R I T R O
N A A N N O U N C E
D P K G F C E S L N
I T G O A L H E I T
C I L D V A E N B I
A V A N O I N T E D
T E D A U M R T R I
I S L O R D E D T N
O R E L E A S E Y G
N P R I S O N E R S

See if you can find the words in CAPITALS from today's first reading in the puzzle. Use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks in the reading.

The SPIRIT of the Lord God is upon me, because the LORD has ANOINTED me; he has SENT me to bring GLAD TIDINGS to the POOR, to heal the



to PROCLAIM LIBERTY to CAPTIVES and RELEASE to the PRISONERS, to ANNOUNCE a YEAR of FAVOUR from the Lord and a day of VINDICATION by our GOD.

PASTOR

Fr. Biju Chennala Kunjukutty, MSFS

Cell: (715) 495-2338

Email: danielchennala@gmail.com

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday.....8:00 PM

Sunday.....10:00 AM

Please keep capacity to 75 people.

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday and Friday.....8:00 AM

ADORATION

Wednesday.....7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

CONFESSIONS

Wednesdays during Adoration & By Appointment

PARISH OFFICE (located in the church Sacristy)

Hours: Wednesday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Friday 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Melissa Schaub.....Secretary

Office Phone: (608) 486-2180

Home Phone: (608) 486-4012

Bulletin deadline:Wednesday

Email: stpetersrectory@centurytel.net

Fax: (608) 486-2181

PARISH WEBMASTER Christopher Pundzak

SACRISTANS Richard Korish & Austin Menn

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mary Hundt, Coordinator.....(608) 780-6172

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Dan Korn (Chairman), Gary Flock, Michael Hundt, Pat Lucey

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Tom Schaub, Mark Stephenson, Rob Slattery, Peter Benzing, Chris Pundzak, Kathy Flock

PCCW - Parish Council of Catholic Women

Pam Benzing, Mary Bach-Filla, LaVonne Hundt

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Leo Leis (Chairman), Mark Gronemus, Jared Lucey, Don Halderson, David Scharping

CEMETERY SEXTON Tom Schaub...(608) 486-4012

FUNERAL COMMITTEE CHAIR

Debra Leis.....(608)632-7830

MUSIC

Terese Slattery, Coordinator.....(608) 486-2605
Leland Gregorich, Organist

St. Peters Catholic Church
Middle Ridge, WI
W697 State Hwy 33
Rockland, WI 54653



Parish website: www.saintpetersparish.net

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 13, 2020



CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR:

- Joining the Parish • Weddings • Baptisms
- Anointing of the sick (Please call Father Biju's cell phone)
- If you are home-bound & would like to be visited

Parish Intentions

12/16 Wed. 8:00 AM – † Walter Godlewski (PTS)

12/18 Fri. 8:00 AM – † Special Intentions (DT)

12/19 Sat. 8:00 PM – † Elreda Meyer (JM)

12/20 Sun. 10:00 AM – St. Peters Parish Family

You may still observe the Sabbath from home via televised Mass (La Crosse, Channel 19, at 9:30 a.m. Sunday) or online at diolc.org/sacredworship/televised-mass/

Parish Calendar of Events

Sun. Dec. 13 – Religious Retirement collection

Wed. Dec. 16 – Grades 7-10 CCD 7 – 8:15 PM

Wed. Dec 16 – Confessions available 6-9 PM

Sat Dec. 19 & Sun. Dec. 20 – Christmas decorating

Sun. Dec. 20 – Grades 1-6 CCD 8:45 - 9:45 AM

Wed. Dec. 23 – No CCD for Grades 7-10

Thurs. Dec. 24 – Christmas masses at 5:00 PM and 8:30 PM

Fri. Dec. 25 – Christmas day mass at 10:30 AM

Sun. Dec. 27 – No CCD for Grades 1-6

Wed. Dec. 30 – No CCD for Grades 7-10

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday: 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Come spend some quiet time with Jesus. Confessions available.

\$10,815.00
TARGET
\$6,100.00
COMMITTED
56.4%
% OF PARTICIPATION

HIS CHURCH
IS STILL HERE † IT STILL PROVIDES
IS YOU AND ME

DIOLC.ORG/HISCHURCH

Pray Often & Daily!!

Parish Finances

Weekly Target -	\$1,700.00
Last Week's Total -	\$2,021.00
	+\$321.00
Year to Date Target -	\$40,800.00
Year to Date Total -	\$41,531.96
	+\$731.96

Readings for December 20, 2020

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-16

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel Reading: Luke 1:26-38

Prayer for Spiritual Communion: My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire You with all my heart. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already in my heart and unite myself to You completely. Please do not let me ever be separated from You. Amen.

ADVENT PARISH MISSION

Preparing for the Birth of the Christ Child through the Eyes of St. Joseph.
There will be four presentations, one for each week of Advent. The length of the talks will be roughly 30-40 minutes and discussion questions will be provided. The purpose of the Parish Mission is to bring parishioners together to prepare for Christmas and to strengthen the community.

The title and presenter for each of the four weeks of Advent.

Week 1
St. Joseph: The Man Selected by God to be Closest to Mary and to Jesus.
– Mgr. Joseph Diermeier

Week 2
Joseph and Mary: A Holy Love Story
– Mgr. Joseph Hirsch

Week 3
That Holy Night, through Joseph's Eyes
– Fr. Woodrow Pace

Week 4
"Joseph, Son of David... You are to Give Him the Name Jesus"
– Bishop William Patrick Callahan

Date: Sunday, Nov. 29; Dec. 6, 13, 20
Time: 7:00 pm
View presentations at the above dates and time or view anytime at diolc.org/advent.

St. Joseph's Ridge Mass Times

Saturday 4:00 p.m. and Sunday 8:30 a.m.
First Saturday Mass.....8:30am
Monday5:30pm
Tuesday..... 5:30pm
(Adoration before Mass beginning at 5:00 pm)
Thursday.....8:30am

From the Pastor's Pen

Gaudete Sunday

The Third Sunday of Advent has traditionally been called "Gaudete" Sunday. "Gaudete" is Latin for "rejoice". The rose-colored vestments and rose candle on our Advent wreath remind us that we are halfway through the Advent season. For many of us this Advent of 2020 might not make us feel like rejoicing. You may wonder what do we have to rejoice in in this time of the world-wide pandemic?

I believe in the midst of this time of fear and uncertainty Christmas reminds us how much we are loved by our God. Because God came down as a defenseless infant to teach us how to love and live. Perhaps the "rejoicing" we need to do this Advent in the midst of uncertainties and fear, in the face of financial concerns and a troubled world, of not knowing exactly how we should celebrate Christmas this year, is that we might rejoice in what Christmas promises us A Savior. "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord" (Lk 2:8-11). Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us John 1:14. God is with us. As this Advent 2020 quickly moves along, I encourage you to take some time for quiet in your life to reflect upon the great mysteries we celebrate at this time of the year.

Some journeys need no roads, only a willing heart! Wishing you Gaudete Sunday!

Live Jesus, Fr Biju

Parish News

Advent Confession Opportunity: The Cathedral will not be holding their annual Advent open confession day this year. However, Fr. Biju will be offering Confessions here December 16th at St. Peter Parish from 6-9 PM with the assistance of another priest.

Church Decorating: This year things will be done a little differently. We hope to have family groups to take over the different areas (trees, garland, Nativity set, outdoor, etc) so as not to have everyone gathered at once. There is a sign up sheet in the back of church to choose an assignment for YOUR family/group. We will decorate on Dec 19 & 20 unless other arrangements are made.

Christmas Masses: We are offering 3 Mass times for Christmas this year. They will be on Christmas Eve at 5:00 PM & 8:30 PM and Christmas Day at 10:30 AM. (Note the time change from the normal weekend mass times!) If you are able to be a Eucharistic Minister, usher or lector, please call or email Melissa. St. Joseph will have masses available at 4 PM and 7 PM on Christmas Eve and 8:30 AM on Christmas Day. **PLEASE SIGN UP:** Fr. Biju would like a general idea of how many people are planning to attend each Christmas mass. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church or you can do it on the church website.

Fundraiser for Casa Hogar: It has been decided that due to Covid we will not have our annual Christmas cookie sale to raise funds for the orphanage in Peru. We would still like to send them a donation from our parish. If you would like to contribute watch for a basket in the back of church to drop donations through December or place yours in a marked envelope in the collection basket.

Religious Retirement Collection: Support aging religious. Our second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for years for small stipends. Today, many religious communities do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps pay for medications, nursing care, and other needs for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous. An envelope is included in the bulletin this week for this collection.

Marriage Preparation Retreats: The La Crosse Deanery, which consists of 14 area parishes, will be offering *Married Love: Two Becoming One*, a marriage preparation retreat for engaged couples, on February 6, April 24, and July 10, 2021. These retreats will take place at Mary Mother of the Church Parish in La Crosse. Couples must register at least one month prior to the retreat. To register for a retreat, please email Mari at mnerickson95@gmail.com or leave a voice message at 608-518-7655.