

**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 Lurín, 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 voterveice.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 voterveice.net/usccb/home.

**March for Life:** Jan. 2 in Madison, Jan. 29 in Washington, D.C. While the Diocese of La Crosse is not taking pilgrims to the March for Life this year, you can choose to participate in the March for Life in Madison on Jan. 2 or the march in Washington, D.C. on Jan. 29. For more information on both, visit prolifewi.org/marchforlife. If you plan to attend the March for Life in Madison, please email cruff@diolc.org or crogers@diolc.org and we will discuss a rendezvous point for pilgrims from our diocese.

**Kid's Korner**



*Christmas is almost here!*

Christmas is almost here! Isn't it exciting? It's like when it's getting really close to your birthday, except that people all over the world are going to be celebrating Christmas! We should help make Jesus' birthday as special as we can!



I CAN WASH THE SINK FOR MOM!

If your family has an Advent wreath, today all four of the candles will be lit. This represents the light of Jesus coming

closer and getting brighter. Jesus is the light of the world. If we want to make Christmas beautiful, then we should make our own lives shine with the love of Jesus.



HERE, I'LL HELP YOU PICK UP THE TOYS.



HI DAD! I VACUUMED UNDER YOUR DESK!

Does your family have a Christmas tree? Are there lights on it? Do you have Christmas lights on your house? All the little lights you see can represent all the people whose lives are lit up with the love of God. Or maybe they can represent all the good things you can do to brighten up other people's lives! Think of some things you can do this week to love God and bring His love to your family and your friends and neighbours.

**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.  
- Msgr. Joseph Diermeier

**Week 2**  
Joseph and Mary: A Holy Love Story  
- Msgr. 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.

**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](mailto: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](http://www.saintpetersparish.net)

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
DECEMBER 20, 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

**12/23 Wed. 8:00 AM** – For the health of neighbors, friends & relatives (PTS)

**12/24 Thurs. 5:00 PM** – † Bobby & Arlene Arentz (DKS)

**12/24 Thurs. 8:30 PM** – † Arnold & Theresa Arentz (JPS)

**12/25 Fri. 10:30 PM** – Living & deceased members of the Gronemus family (GF)

**12/26 Sat. 8:00 PM** – † Jacob, Ernie & Kayleen Gronemus (GF)

**12/27 Sun. 10:00 AM** – † Msgr. Francis Ebo Abuah-Quansah (ML)

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/](http://diolc.org/sacredworship/televised-mass/)

### Parish Calendar of Events

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

Fri. Jan. 1 – Solemnity of Mary mass at 10 AM



### Eucharistic Adoration

**Wednesday: 7:30 – 9:00 pm**

Come spend some quiet time with Jesus. Confessions available.

### **December 25<sup>th</sup> The Nativity of the Lord**

*Merry Christmas!*



### St. Joseph's Ridge Mass Times

Saturday 4:00 p.m. and Sunday 8:30 a.m.

First Saturday Mass.....8:30am

Monday .....5:30pm

Tuesday..... 5:30pm

(Adoration before Mass beginning at 5:00 pm)

Thursday.....8:30am

### From the Pastor's Pen

#### **Mary's fiat**

Our Advent journey reaches a climax with Mary's story and Mary's "Yes". It is also called Mary's fiat. In Latin, the word fiat means "let it be done." Mary's fiat was an immediate acceptance of and consent to God's will for her life. Therefore, Mary is presented as the perfect disciple. Those who find out what God wants of them and accept His message as Mary did are Jesus' true followers. Even without giving a chance to what it would bring about she said yes. In 1984 Mark Lowry was asked to pen some words for his local church choir, and he wrote a poem that began like this, "Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water? Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?..."

What a wonderful moment when Mary said yes to God. Christ took flesh in her consent and our Savior was born. As we celebrate Christmas, on behalf of St Joseph Ridge and St Peter Middle Ridge parishes and my own behalf, I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas. May the joy, the serenity, and the peace, which Christmas brings fill your heart, your home, and all who are dear to you.

I would like to let you know that the 4pm Mass at St Joseph Ridge is at maximum capacity; signup is no longer available. So, if you have not signed up at St Joseph please plan for other mass. Who wants to turn away people on Christmas Eve when Mary and Joseph could find no room at the inn?

This Monday on the night of Dec.21<sup>st</sup> there is going to be an astronomical spectacle as Jupiter and Saturn will move closer to one another that they will look like a single, bright star. Some call it the star of Bethlehem. A wonderful treat during season of waiting.

Wish you merry Christmas

Live Jesus, Fr Biju

### Parish News

**Parents:** please accompany your children to the restrooms as there have been many messes left lately.

**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:** There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church or you can do it on the church website.

**New Years Holy Day:** There will be two opportunities for the Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God mass, a holy day of obligation. December 31<sup>st</sup> there will be a 5:30 pm mass at **St. Joseph Ridge** and on January 1<sup>st</sup> there will be mass **here at St. Peter at 10:00 AM.**

**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:** Thanks for giving to the retirement fund for religious "We are conscious of the great generosity of the many benefactors who support the Retirement Fund for Religious each year," says a Catholic sister. "Support from the fund has been a tremendous blessing to our retired sisters." Thank you for donating to last week's second 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](mailto:mnerickson95@gmail.com) or leave a voice message at 608-518-7655.

### Parish Finances

Weekly Target - \$1,700.00

Last Week's Total - \$937.00

-\$763.00

Year to Date Target - \$42,500.00

Year to Date Total - \$42,468.96

-\$31.04

### Readings for December 27, 2020

**First Reading:** Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

**Second Reading:** Colossians 3:12-21

**Gospel Reading:** Luke 2:22-40

**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.

**\$10,815.00**  
TARGET  
**\$6,270.00**  
COMMITTED  
**58%**  
% OF PARTICIPATION

**HIS CHURCH**  
IS STILL HERE + IT STILL PROVIDES  
**IS YOU AND ME**

DIOLC.ORG/HISCHURCH