

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.

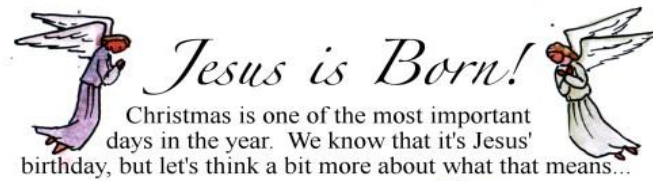
Donate to Project Milk: Help the Children of Casa Hogar in Peru The Father Joseph Walijewski Legacy Guild and Rural Life Committee ask you to help support Project Milk. Help us send 800 bags of Wisconsin milk each year to Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II in Lurín, Peru – home to 72 children, families and staff. 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 voterveoice.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 voterveoice.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 one of the most important days in the year. We know that it's Jesus' birthday, but let's think a bit more about what that means...

Who is Jesus? He is God. He is also a real man. When Adam and Eve sinned they lost the privilege of going to Heaven. Now people needed to pay back for their sins, but no sacrifice they could make could ever be big enough. Only a perfect man could make a perfect sacrifice. And because God loved us so much He became a man to die for us!

Now think about God, Who made Himself a little baby, coming down to our world. He had a poor mother and foster father, and He was born in a little barn, far away from their home. The first people who came to visit were the rough men who lived in the fields, looking after their sheep.

God loved us so much that He made Himself into a poor baby. Doesn't that just make you want to love Him more? Today or in the next few days, spend some time looking at a creche (a nativity scene) and think about Baby Jesus and how much God loves us.

Christmas Day and Feast of the Holy Family
December 25th & 27th, 2020



During the night of the first Christmas, the shepherds were out in the fields watching their sheep before the angels came to tell them that the Saviour was born. Can you find all the shepherds in this picture? How many are there? You can colour in the picture too!

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

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
DECEMBER 27, 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

12/30 Wed. 8:00 AM – Living & deceased members of the Gronemus family (GF)

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

1/1 Fri. 8:00 AM – † Peter Drake (PTS)

1/2 Sat. 8:00 PM – † Art Leis (GDF)

1/3 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. 27 – No CCD for Grades 1-6

Wed. Dec. 30 – No CCD for Grades 7-10

Fri. Jan. 1 – Solemnity of Mary mass at 8 AM

Sun. Jan. 3–CCD for Grades 1-6, 8:45-9:45AM

Wed. Jan. 6–CCD for Grades 7-10, 7:00-8:15 PM



Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday: 7:30 – 9:00 pm

Come spend some quiet time with Jesus. Confessions available.

Thank you to all who donated to the beautiful Christmas flowers:

- The Marge Lee family
- In memory of Eugene Flock, Chad Mlsna & Kylie VonRuden
- The Halderson family
- In memory of Jacob, Ernie & Kay Gronemus from the Kast family
- Living & deceased members of the Otto Schaub family
- In memory of parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters and miscarried babies; Jacinta Marie, Jean Marie, Jamie Marie, Jacob Michael Daniel, Jonas Thomas, Angela Jane & James Joseph

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

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

This year with the pandemic the entire global family was thrown into a sea of confusion. The rich Easter liturgies and our Sunday obligations were suspended. In the history of the Church, we had to sign up to attend the Holy Eucharist, wear face masks, and practice social distancing to keep each other safe. Though the vaccines are out, U.K. reported a newly identified variant of the coronavirus that appears to be more contagious than the first one. In the midst of fear and pandemic, we are going to celebrate Christmas. I wish everyone Merry Christmas. On the first Christmas Eve two thousand years ago, something beautiful and earthshattering happened. The eternal Son of God entered the world as a baby. Angels rejoiced on that day, shepherds exulted, Joseph was in awe and Mary was filled with adoration. All our thoughts are focused on the beautiful gift of the Child Jesus. One of the most remarkable features of Christmas is its family character. It brings us together, friends and relatives and indeed the whole community of the faithful, too. Not only our families are brought together, but God made us all brothers and sisters in Jesus. In his recent encyclical, Fratelli tutti, Pope Francis reminds us that we are all sisters and brothers to each other, ultimately linked together in Jesus Christ who is Son of God and Son of Mary.

This weekend we will be celebrating yet another feast which shows the importance of the family. The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. As we celebrate, I invite you to pray for our families. Let’s keep in our mind parents, children, young, elderly, family members in hospital, prison, and nursing homes. Let’s take them to our blessed mother as we honor her on first January Mary the mother of God. Pray for our parish family, too. Together, we shall continue to grow in faith and we shall all focus on the things that really matter; the things that will strengthen our bond as a family; the things that will invite others to our faith community without any inhibitions.

As we come to the close of the year 2020 there are a lot of reasons to be thankful. I like to thank you for all the support given to our faith community. Thanks to Ushers, Lectors, Altar servers, Extraordinary ministers of Eucharist, Sacristans, CCD teachers, music directors and choir. Thanks to members of the different councils, too. Thanks to all volunteers during COVID-19. Thanks to all those who decorated the Church for Advent and Christmas. I want to let everyone know that you have been in my thoughts and prayers. Thanks for all the Christmas cards and presents sent to me.

Wish you Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Live Jesus, Fr. Biju

Parish News

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

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 31st there will be a 5:30 pm mass **at St. Joseph Ridge** and on January 1st there will be mass **here at St. Peter at 8:00 AM.** (Please note time change here per Fr. Biju)

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.

Thank You from Casa Hogar: Hola Friends and Family, on behalf of all the children, families and staff at Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II, we wish you and your family a very Merry and Blessed Christmas and healthy New Year! Although the holiday season looks different for us all, we are closing out the year by counting our blessings, simple and grand, with reflection, music, graduations, and preparations for the New Year. We invite you to share in this joy of the season through a tour of our Nativity Scenes all made from recycled materials in the house. Thank you for the support, love and prayers you share with us throughout the year. It is only through your generosity that we are able to provide faith, family and a future for these children.
Msgr. Joseph Hirsch Director

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.

\$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

Pray Often & Daily!!!

Parish Finances

Weekly Target -	\$1,700.00
Last Week’s Total -	\$2,089.50
	+\$389.50
Year to Date Target -	\$44,200.00
Year to Date Total -	\$44,558.46
	+\$358.46

Readings for January 3, 2021

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-6

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

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.