

**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.

**Young Men:** 100% Catholic, 100% Boys, 100% Boarding: St. Lawrence Seminary High School is an all-boys, Catholic boarding high school focused on college prep and spiritual depth. Located in Mt Calvary, WI since 1860, SLS students live, learn, work and pray together. Families invited to come visit April 23-24 or April 30-May 1 and to start the application online today! Call (920) 753-7570 or visit [www.stlawrence.edu/weekend-visit](http://www.stlawrence.edu/weekend-visit)

**Be Part of an Amazing Adventure in Faith:** Join the Lay Formation Institute! Registration is now open for the next two-year Lay Formation cycle that begins in fall of 2021. Draw closer to Christ and deepen your knowledge of the Faith in a joyful community of learners! See complete information, schedule and application form at [diolc.org/layformation](http://diolc.org/layformation). Discuss with your pastor and contact the Office for Ministries and Social Concerns at [ministries@diolc.org](mailto:ministries@diolc.org) or call (608) 791-0161.

**Wisconsin Bishops Speak Out Against "Equality Act":** Wisconsin's Catholic bishops join with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in opposing the Equality Act of 2021 (H.R. 5). While all people must be treated with dignity and respect, efforts to prevent discrimination cannot foster inequality and intolerance of religion and people of faith. The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution specifically protects free speech and the free exercise of faith, as both are essential for a free and open society.... To read more and to find out how you can make your voice heard against this dangerous legislation, visit [www.diolc.org/social-concerns](http://www.diolc.org/social-concerns).

**Homemade Raised Glazed Donut Sale:** Saturday May 8<sup>th</sup> Sale starts at 10:00 AM at St. Joseph Ridge Parish- School Hall. The St. Joseph PCCW will be making and selling homemade raised glazed donuts at the school hall. Grab & Go sales beginning at 10AM until gone. Get 'em while they're hot!

**Chicken-Que:** Mary, Mother of the Church Parish, 2006 Weston Street, La Crosse, will be holding a Chicken-Que on Thursday, May 13, from 11:00 - 6:00 p.m. for pick up and delivery only. The price is \$10 and includes a half chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, homemade beans and a dinner roll. For pre-sale tickets (guaranteed) and deliveries, call (608) 518-6145. No minimum order and no delivery charge. Enter at Weston Street driveway.

**Kid's Korner**

*Jesus is the True Vine*

Jesus says that He is the vine and we are the branches. Branches grow out from a vine and receive their food from the main stem. They grow leaves and bear fruit. Our souls get their life from Jesus. When we stay united with Him then our souls are healthy and able to do good works, like the grapes that grow on a healthy vine.



Doing a serious sin is like cutting oneself off of the main vine. The nutrition can't flow into the branch because it's cut off! The branch can't grow leaves or fruit and it withers and dries up. Even though you can't see it, that is what happens to a soul that doesn't have God's life coming into it.



Sometimes a branch of a vine needs to be pruned. A bit gets cut off, but then it grows even better where it was cut. In the same way, sometimes God lets us suffer, but then our souls can grow even stronger and bear more good fruit. Next time you are



suffering, remember that God might be using this time to make your soul stronger!



Jesus tells us that He is the true vine and we are the branches. But something needs to be done to the branches so that they will bear good fruit. Follow the dots to find out what it is. (Start at the little grapes!)

**PASTOR**

Fr. Biju Chennala Kunjukutty, MSFS

Cell: (715) 495-2338

Email: [danielchennala@gmail.com](mailto: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 - 3:00 PM

Friday 11:00 AM - 4:00 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, Gary Flock, Michael Hundt  
(Committee liaisons: Peter Benzing & Leo Leis)

**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

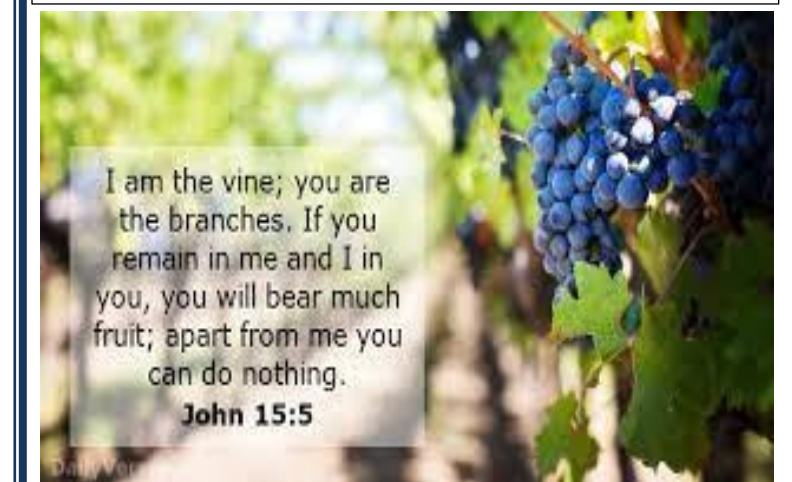
**St. Peters Catholic Church**  
**Middle Ridge, WI**  
**W697 State Hwy 33**  
**Rockland, WI 54653**



Parish website: [www.saintpetersparish.net](http://www.saintpetersparish.net)

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**MAY 2, 2021**



I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.  
**John 15:5**

**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

**5/5 Wed. 8:00 AM** – † Elreda Meyer (DKS)

**5/7 Fri. 8:00 AM** – Living & deceased members of the Lee family (ML)

**5/8 Sat. 8:00 PM** – † Bobby & Arlene Arentz (DKS)

**5/9 Sun. 10:00 AM** – † Theresa Clements (PF)

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

Sun. May 2 – First Holy Communion  
Sun. May 2 – May Crowning of Mary, Mother of God  
Mon. May 3 – PCCW Meeting 7:30 pm  
Sat. May 8 – Mother’s Day Rose Sale (after mass)  
Sun. May 9 - Mother’s Day Rose Sale (after mass)



Eucharistic Adoration

**Wednesday: 7:30 – 9:00 pm**

Come spend some quiet time with Jesus. Confessions available.



**Hail, Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.**

**Blessed art thou amongst women  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.**

**Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.**

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

**I AM THE VINE, YOU ARE THE BRANCHES**

You must have seen in the television news about India as the Covid cases are staggeringly high. Oxygen supplies remain critically low, crematoriums operating non-stop. Hospitals are overwhelmed. People are frustrated. A lot of pain and loss. Many have asked about my family. By the grace of God, they are doing well. Thanks for your concern and prayers. My brother and sister-in-law work at the hospitals, please keep them in your prayers.

In the gospel of this weekend even as death is looming, Jesus tells his disciples at the Last Supper, “I am the true vine” (Jn 15, 1). “you are the branches... Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit.” To abide or remain or be part of Jesus is to stay constantly connected to him. He says “cut off from me, you can do nothing” (Jn15, 5). This is an absolute truth; no believer can achieve anything of spiritual value outside of Christ. Jesus offers what must have been a familiar image to explain what it means to live in his love, and how we can “measure” the love that gives us life. Isn’t it wonderful to know that He is our “life-line,” the only way we can truly find life, be fruitful and give life to others.

This week Finnley Leis & Marshal Klinkner will receive the body and blood of Christ for the first time. They will be like branches ready to give fruits in abundance. Please keep them, their families and their teacher Carol Gronemus in your prayers too.

May 1<sup>st</sup>, is the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker, the patronal feast day of our diocese. I wish you happy feast of Saint Joseph the Worker. Month of May is also a month dedicated to the devotion to our blessed mother. May our blessed mother bless everyone with health and companionship.

Live Jesus, Fr Biju

Parish News

**First Holy Communion:** Please pray for Finnley Leis & Marshal Klinkner who received this most holy Sacrament today. May the Lord always guide you on your path to holiness. Special thanks to Carol Gronemus for preparing them for this Sacrament.

**PCCW Meeting:** There will be a meeting on Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 pm in the church basement. Please plan to attend as the Sauerkraut supper future will be discussed.

**Mother’s Day Rose Sale:** Next weekend we celebrate Mother’s Day. As in the past we will be selling long stem roses after each mass. The recommended cost is \$2 per rose. The money collected will go towards the local Wisconsin Right to Life chapter.

**Thank You:** Our Sunday school & CCD classes have come to a close for the school year. Please let us thank all of our teachers for all they do to guide our students: Mark Gronemus, Erin & Michael Klinkner, Carol Gronemus, Kristen & Rebecca Schaub, Lori Olson, Pam Benzing, LaVonne & Michael Hundt and our DRE Mary Hundt. May God bless you all!

**Feedback Wanted:** The Diocese of La Crosse is embarking on a feasibility study that embraces some of the short-term and long-term strategic initiatives and needs of the Catholic community of La Crosse. As part of this study, we have invited approximately 1,650 families from around the Diocese to provide their input so that it may guide the bishop as to how we may proceed. Hearing from so many faithful Catholics should provide the information necessary to forge our path forward. I encourage you, should you receive an invitation to participate in the study, to please do so. Your input will have a direct impact on the decisions we make for our future.

**Pray Often & Daily!!!**

Parish Finances

Weekly Target -	\$1,700.00
Last Week’s Total -	<u>\$902.25</u>
	-\$797.75
Year to Date Target -	\$74,800.00
Year to Date Total -	<u>\$78,467.61</u>
	+\$3,667.61

Readings for May 9, 2021

**First Reading:** Acts 10:25-48

**Second Reading:** 1 John 4:7-10

**Gospel Reading:** John 15:9-17

**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  
**\$8,285.00**  
COMMITTED  
**77%**  
% OF PARTICIPATION

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

WE ARE THE DIOCESE  
DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL  
2020-2021

DIOLC.ORG/HISCHURCH