

**Diocesan and Community News**

**Eucharistic Revival - 2022 through 2025:**

Visit: [eucharisticrevival.org](http://eucharisticrevival.org) for more information.

**Message for the week of July 30:**

**The Eucharist is called Holy Communion**  
When we receive Holy Communion at Mass, we are receiving Jesus Himself, which is our closest union with Him on earth. As we receive Jesus' Body and Blood into our own body and soul, we are united with Him in a deep and intimate bond. Jesus feeds our soul, strengthening us to be faithful by following Him, and loving and serving Him through serving others, particularly those in need. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, thank you for the incredible treasure of Holy Communion in which You allow us to be united with You in the closest possible bond of friendship and love. This week, read how Jesus encourages us to "remain" in Him in John 15:4-5.

**Art Fair:** On Saturday August 26<sup>th</sup> the Blessed Sacrament Parish in La Crosse will hold an art fair including a bake sale, silent auction and ice cream social from 9 AM – 4 PM hosted by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. Proceeds will go to the priest and seminarian education fund.

**Virgin Statue Pilgrimage:** The Blue Army/World Apostolate of Fatima will be hosting the world-famous International Pilgrim Virgin Statue, which has been traveling since 1947 will be at our Diocese of La Crosse this year starting from August 16<sup>th</sup> thru August 27<sup>th</sup> at several parishes. The Pilgrimage will also feature 2nd class relics of St. Jacinta and St. Francisco. Please see flier in the back of church for a schedule of dates and places. The pilgrimage will come to the Shrine of Guadalupe on Saturday August 26<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 AM – 4:30 PM.

**Pregnant and in distress? Confidential help is available:** Make a confidential call to Catholic Charities at 844.644.7223 (844.64.GRACE) or text 715.600.6391. To learn more visit [cclse.org/i-think-im-pregnant](http://cclse.org/i-think-im-pregnant). For additional pregnancy support resources and locations, visit [diolc.org/pregnancy-resources](http://diolc.org/pregnancy-resources).

**See SOUND OF FREEDOM – Powerful Movie on Daring Rescue of Trafficked Children:**

See the movie taking the country by storm – SOUND OF FREEDOM, a true story starring Jim Caviezel as Tim Ballard, a Homeland Security agent who quits his job and puts his life at risk to go on a dangerous journey through the Colombian jungle to rescue hundreds of children from human traffickers. This powerful drama raises awareness about the 2 million children exploited every year in the international sex-trafficking trade. To find out where you can see it, visit [angel.com/watch/sound-of-freedom](http://angel.com/watch/sound-of-freedom).

**Kids Korner**

*The Kingdom of Heaven is Like...*



In today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells the disciples what the Kingdom of Heaven is like. He says it is like a buried treasure, that when a man finds it, he sells everything he has and buys the field where it is hidden. He also says it is like a pearl of great price, that when a merchant finds it he sells all he has and buys it.

These parables tell us how precious the Kingdom of Heaven is. Jesus is explaining that it is more important than anything else in our lives. The men in the parables sold EVERYTHING they had to get the treasures.

But what is the Kingdom of Heaven? Is it a country with a king and subjects? Well it is, sort of, but you can't see it. Jesus is the King and His people are the people who choose Him as their King. The laws of the kingdom are God's laws, and the enemy is the devil who is trying to take all the souls. Always remember that belonging to God's Kingdom is more important than everything else in your life!



Answer to front page: Kingdom of Heaven  
Answers to Cross-words:  
across: 2. judge 4. act 6. who 7. wisdom  
10. mere 12. wrong 15. God 17. heart  
18. servant 22. numbered 24. king  
down: 1. how 3. understanding 4. able 5. to  
8. man 9. people 11. right 14. govern 16. give  
18. serve 19. said 20. Lord 21. ask 23. me

**Congratulations to Payton Lea Hauser – Wall, daughter of Bret Wall & Ashlee Hauser, who was baptized last Sunday. May God bless them all!**



**PASTOR**

Fr. Biju Chennala Kunjukutty, MSFS

Cell: (715) 495-2338

Email: [bchennala@diolclergy.org](mailto:bchennala@diolclergy.org)

**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday.....8:00 PM

Sunday.....10:00 AM

**WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

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

Wednesday.....7:30 PM to 8:30 PM

**CONFESSIONS**

Wednesdays during Adoration & By Appointment

**PARISH OFFICE (located in the church Sacristy)**

Hours: Wednesday 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Friday 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Melissa Schaub.....Secretary/Bookkeeper

Office Phone: (608) 452-4680

Home Phone: (608) 486-4012

Bulletin deadline: .....Wednesday

Email: [parishoffice@stpmr.diolcparish.org](mailto:parishoffice@stpmr.diolcparish.org)

**PARISH WEBMASTER** Christopher Pundzak

**SACRISTANS** Richard Korish & Austin Menn

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

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

**PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL**

Gary Flock, Rachel Persson, Brandon Flock,  
Mark Nicolai & Louisa Peterson  
(Committee liaisons: Peter Benzing & Leo Leis)

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Tom Schaub, Mark Stephenson, Rob Slattery,  
Peter Benzing, 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) 452-4605  
Leland Gregorich, Organist

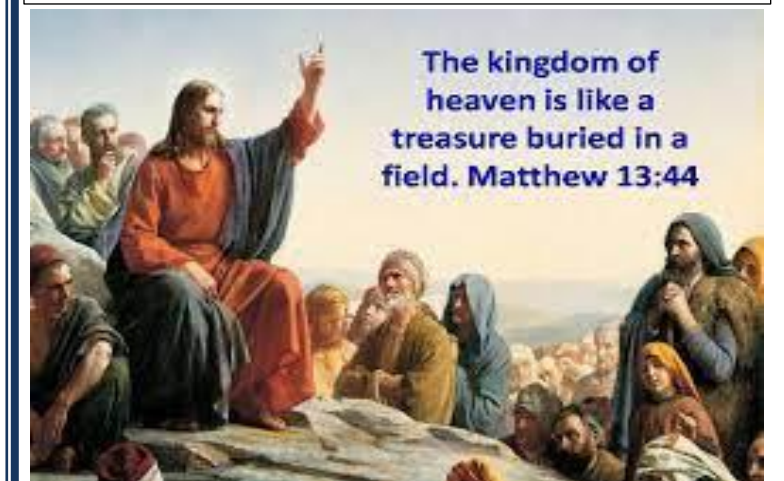
**St. Peters Catholic Church**  
**Middle Ridge, WI**  
**W697 State Hwy 33**  
**Rockland, WI 54653**



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

**17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**JULY 30, 2023**



**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

**8/2 Wed. 8:00 AM –**  
**† Avalon Widner (LF)**  
**8/4 Fri. 8:00 AM –**  
**† Peggy Arentz (AH)**  
**8/5 Sat. 8:00 PM – † Asa &**  
**Ruth Ann Rowell (MLH)**  
**8/6 Sun. 10:00 AM –**  
**St. Peters Parish Family**

Parish Calendar of Events

**Tues. Aug. 1** – CCD Registration begins  
**Fri. Aug. 4** – Anointing of the Sick Sacrament available; contact Fr. Biju to schedule  
**Sun. Aug. 6** – New Member Reception after mass  
**Sun. Aug. 6** – Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM  
**Tues. Aug. 8** – Kraut cutting @ 5:30 PM  
**Tues. Aug. 15** – Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary mass (Holy day of Obligation) @ 8:00 PM



Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,700.00
Last Week's Total -	\$1,177.00
	-\$523.00
Year to Date Target -	\$6,800.00
Year to Date Total -	\$5,636.60
	-\$1,163.40

Readings for August 6, 2023

**First Reading:** Daniel 7:9-14  
**Second Reading:** 2 Peter 1:16-19  
**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 17:1-9

**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.

Ministry Servers

**Saturday August 5 – 8:00 PM**

**Servers:** Isabell Korn,  
Brielle & Brooklyn Lundeen  
**Ushers:** Bill Korn & Phil Gronemus  
**Lector:** Lynda Hurtz

**Sunday August 6 – 10:00 AM**

**Servers:** Jake & Josh Peterson  
**Ushers:** Mark Gronemus & Leo Leis  
**Lector:** Joe Peterson

**\*Reminder\*** We understand everybody's schedules get busy. If you are not able to make it on a day you are scheduled PLEASE make the effort to find a replacement or at least let somebody know ahead of time!!

Eucharistic Adoration

**Wednesday @ 7:30 until 8:30 PM**

Come spend some quiet time with Jesus. Confessions available.

**Welcoming New Parishioners:** There will be a reception after mass on Sunday August 6<sup>th</sup> to welcome those who have joined our family in the past 18 months. Please join us for coffee, donuts & fellowship.

Welcome to new members:

**Justin & Louisa Peterson and family,**  
**Kirk & Nicole Koplín and family,**  
**Kristen Koplín, Mark & Patti Koplín,**  
**Mike & Kindra Leis, Jake & Mandi Steiger, Justin & Miranda Flock, Josh & Brianna Lucey, Dylan & Kayla Scharping, Chad & Stephanie Tollefson, Vicki Walters, Chuck & Cheryl Arentz, Cody & Myserie Eirschele, Ashlee Hauser and family.**

St. Joseph's Ridge Mass Times

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

From the Pastor's Pen

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

This weekend we conclude three weeks of readings from the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Matthew's Gospel. Throughout these past couple of weeks, we had been listening to Jesus teaching crowds about the kingdom of heaven. This week Jesus offers three more short parables. In one of the parables Jesus compares the kingdom of God to a fine pearl of great value. Jesus says "the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it." Fine pearl of great value. The merchant sells all that he has. Here we encounter an issue of priorities. The fact that what the dealer had to sell included presumably other, lesser, pearls might however have led the hearers to reflect on the value of the kingdom of heaven in relation to other competing ideologies; once you have it, you need no other.

If the Kingdom of God requires a lot of investment to obtain and is of great value, we need to ask ourselves where do I invest my time and energy each day? Do I work for God's kingdom or am I investing in building up my own? Have you ever considered tracking how you spend your time, talents and energy? You may be surprised! The demands of secular life and the agendas competing for our attention can quickly take us way from His kingdom. We can get tired and spiritually apathetic. But if we can see our way through all of the conflicting voices and hear the voice of God, we can rediscover our zeal and passion for God's kingdom or life with God.

From the first of August we have the 37th World Youth Day celebration with the theme "Mary arose and went with haste" (Lk 1:39). It's a global celebration of young people. This year it's going to be at Lisbon, Portugal from August 1-6, 2023. The US Conference of Catholic Bishops announced July 24 that more than 28,600 individuals, most between the ages of 18 and 25 will be there at the gathering. Pray that it will be a great success for the young people to discover the beauty of their faith and appreciate it.

Have a blessed week.

Live Jesus, Fr Biju MSFS

Parish News

**Parish Advisory Council:** We are looking for parishioners willing to join the parish council. The committee meets once per quarter. Please contact the parish office or Fr. Biju if interested.

CCD News:

- CDD registration starts August 1st. Registration materials will be emailed to returning families. If you are new to our CCD program you can pick up a registration packet from the table in the vestibule or contact Mary Hundt at [hundthill@gmail.com](mailto:hundthill@gmail.com).

-Looking for an opportunity to share your faith? The CCD program needs an eighth grade teacher. We have great students and a supportive team of teachers just waiting for you to say "yes!"

-"CCD End of the Summer Sleepover at the Ballpark" Wednesday, August 9th. The CCD beginning of the summer sleepover in June was a great success and a whole lot of fun, so we are doing it again! Tent set up starts at 5:00 PM. Mass at 5:30. Come enjoy an evening of food, games, activities, and an outdoor movie.

**Sauerkraut Supper:** It has been decided that we will go back to our sit down meal along with carry-outs available. The sit down meal will not be family style or all you can eat and there will be no drive through for the carry-outs. There will be a bake sale in the garage and a beverage tent on the lawn. Many volunteers are needed so mark your calendars for October 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> to help. We will cut cabbage to make sauerkraut on Tuesday August 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM.

**Hearing Assistance:** For anyone finding it difficult to hear during mass we now have head-sets available in the sacristy that can be used to help. They are linked into our sound system directly.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Fr. Biju will be available to perform this Sacrament on the first Friday of the month after daily mass. Please contact him directly if you or a family member would like to receive. **This is available Friday August 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**First Sunday Rosary:** We pray the rosary on the first Sunday of each month in church at **7:30 PM**. The next one will be **August 6<sup>th</sup>**. Please plan to attend to pray as our Holy Mother has called us to do.