

**Diocesan and Community News**

**Eucharistic Revival - 2022 through 2025:**

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

Message for the week of August 20:

**At Mass, we want to focus on God**  
 When we go to Mass, we want to think about God. This is our set-aside time with Jesus and we are to speak with and listen to Him because the Mass is the official public worship of God by the Church. This is the way that God invites us to worship Him as laid out in the Bible. Jesus wants us to sincerely focus on Him and what is happening at the altar. When we get distracted: don't get upset, but say a little prayer – ever so simple – and turn your thoughts gently and peacefully back to the Mass. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, help me to stay focused on You and what is happening at Mass every Sunday. This week, read how we are to give thanks to the Lord in Psalm 95:1-6.

**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 16th thru August 27th 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.

**Rural Life Day - Marshfield - All are Welcome:** The 42nd Annual Rural Life Day will be held on Sept. 13, 2023, hosted by Ken and Joellen Heiman of Heiman Holsteins, at 11875 US Hwy 10 in Marshfield. The day begins with a 10:00 AM Mass celebrated by Bishop Callahan, followed by awards, recognitions, the blessing of crops and machinery and a catered meal. There will also be wagon rides to tour the ridge-top farm. All are welcome to this celebration of the uniqueness of rural life, giving thanks to God for the contribution of rural values to the life of the Church in the Diocese of La Crosse.

**Retrouvaille:** Healing Your Marriage – Retrouvaille (French for "Rediscovery") is a 3-phase program designed to give you the tools to restore your marriage and rebuild a loving relationship. The next program in Central Wisconsin begins with a weekend stay, Aug. 25-27 in the Wausau area. For more information or to register, call 877.922.HOPE (4673), visit the website: [HelpOurMarriage.org](http://HelpOurMarriage.org).

**Kids Korner**

*Does God Only Care for the Chosen People?*



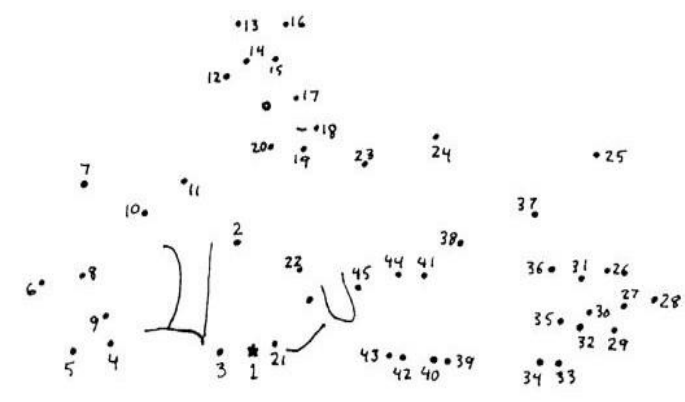
Long ago God had set aside the Israelites as His chosen people. He gave them laws and prophets and set up a covenant with them, that they would be His people and He would be their God. He promised them that He would send them a Savior.

When Jesus the Savior came, His first mission was to care for God's chosen people. In today's Gospel reading, however, a woman who was not an Israelite came to ask Jesus for help. At first Jesus refused- He had been sent to God's children, and "it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." But the woman said, "even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the master's table." She knew that Jesus could help her. When He saw how much faith she had, He did what she asked and cured her daughter.

Jesus wasn't trying to make the woman give up. He was giving her a chance to show how much humility and faith she had. Jesus used this to show the people that God will let anyone who believes, like this woman, become part of His chosen people.



Dot to dot: dogs. Fill-in-the-Blanks: just, revealed, Lord, servants, keep, sabbath, mountain, prayer, altar, house. ALL PEOPLES.



*In today's Gospel reading, a foreign woman was asking Jesus to cure her daughter. But Jesus said that He was sent to care for the children of Israel, not foreigners.*

*The woman replied to Jesus, "But even the \_\_\_\_\_ eat the scraps that fall from their master's table!"*

*What did she say she was like? Connect the dots to find out!*

**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)  
**TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**  
**AUGUST 20, 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

**8/23 Wed. 8:00 AM** –  
† Paul Hundt (AH)  
**8/25 Fri. 8:00 AM** – † Harold Muenzenberger (SBM)  
**8/26 Sat. 8:00 PM** –  
† Marcella Hundt (MLH)  
**8/27 Sun. 10:00 AM** –  
† Judy (Kick) Murphy (MAS)



School will be starting again soon along with Religious Education classes here at St. Peter's around the middle of September. Please keep all of the students and teachers in your prayers for a safe & productive year!!

**Pray Often & Daily!!!**

Parish Finances (Fiscal Year Budget)

Weekly Target -	\$1,700.00
Last Week's Total -	\$1,615.00
	-\$85.00
Year to Date Target -	\$11,900.00
Year to Date Total -	\$9,559.23
	-\$2,340.77

Readings for August 27, 2023

**First Reading:** Isaiah 22:19-23

**Second Reading:** Romans 11:33-36

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 16:13-20

**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 26 – 8:00 PM**

Servers: Matthew & Andrew Schaub

Ushers: Tom Schaub & Phil Gronemus

Lector: Melissa Schaub

**Sunday August 27 – 10:00 AM**

Servers: Arnie Nicolai & Kate Gronemus

Ushers: Peter Benzing & Leo Leis

Lector: Pam Benzing

**\*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.

**8 Ways to Pray During Eucharistic Adoration –**

- Read Spiritual Books - Ask for Intercession - Meditate
- Offer a Holy Hour - Write a Prayer Journal - Read the
- Pray Spontaneously - Ask the Saints for help Scriptures

Parish Calendar of Events

**Tues. Aug. 22** – Parish Finance meeting @ 6:30 PM

**Fri. Sept. 1** – Anointing of the Sick Sacrament available; contact Fr. Biju to schedule

**Sun. Sept. 3** – Rosary in church @ 7:30 PM



**\*NOTE\*:** When sending money for flowers, mass intentions, church support or special collections PLEASE make out separate checks or cash as these things go into different accounts and it is easier for bookkeeping purposes. Thank you.

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

**Jesus heals the daughter of the Canaanite woman**

Today's readings speak to us strongly about universal salvation: the hope that every person will be saved. This was a huge controversy at times in the early Church and even today. The Prophet Isaiah in today's first reading speaks of God's salvation for all those who honor the name of God, joining themselves to the Lord and becoming His servants. This was a huge breakthrough in the history of understanding God's love for us. Even those who were not "the chosen people" could be saved.

The story of the Canaanite woman foreshadows the reception of the gospel among the Gentiles. The woman, who is not Jewish, approaches Jesus, requesting that he heal her demon-possessed daughter. At first Jesus ignores her; he says nothing. The disciples ask Jesus to send her away, and Jesus agrees, remarking that he was sent to minister to the Jews alone. The woman persists, paying homage to Jesus, and yet Jesus denies her request again. He even insults her. But the woman cleverly turns Jesus' insult into an affirmation of faith. The woman gets what she came for: her daughter is healed.

May our own faith grow as we reflect on these readings! May we grow in our respect and love for others who do not share our faith. May we find ways to speak about our own faith so that others may understand the incredible power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Have a blessed week.

Live Jesus, Fr Biju MSFS

Parish News

**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.

**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 September 1<sup>st</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 September 3<sup>rd</sup>.** Please plan to attend to pray as our Holy Mother has called us to do.

**Information Needed:** There are times that we find the need to contact parishioners by phone or email with important information (funeral plans, canceled masses or CCD, etc). We have found that many people have changed their phone numbers & emails without passing that information along to us. In an attempt to update our records please send an email to the parish office, drop a note in the mail or basket or call the office with your current information. Thank you!

**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.

**Diocese Of La Crosse Guidelines For Reporting Instances Of Child Abuse:** The Diocese of La Crosse, through its policies and procedures, seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown at 608.791.0179 or [intakeagent@diolc.org](mailto:intakeagent@diolc.org). The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: [diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting](http://diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting). Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local Parish and on the [diocesan website](http://diocesan website). If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679 or [tbrown@diolc.org](mailto:tbrown@diolc.org).