

St. Mary's Parish

900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, WI 54623

Phone: 608-452-3841

Website: stmarycv.org

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley>

Fr. Matt's Residence:

904 Central Ave

Coon Valley, WI 54623

Cell Phone: 608-738-6806

E-mail: frmattmarshall@gmail.com

Open office: Thursdays and by appointment. Off on Mondays.

Amy Stafslie, Admin. Assistant

Office: 608-452-3841

E-mail: stmaryscv@mwt.net

St. Mary's, Coon Valley

Weekend Masses

- 4:00 PM Saturday (max 30 people)

- 8:00 AM Sunday (max 30 people)

Weekday Mass:

Tues. - 6:00 PM and Thurs.- 8:00 AM

Area Parishes—Mass Times

Annunciation of the BVM, Viroqua

Sun. 10:30 AM and 5:15 PM

St. Peter, Middle Ridge

Sat. 8:00 PM and Sun. 10:30 AM

New Parishioners: Welcome to our parish!

Please introduce yourself to Fr. Matt and contact the parish office for registration and information. <https://www.stmarycv.org/visit-us>

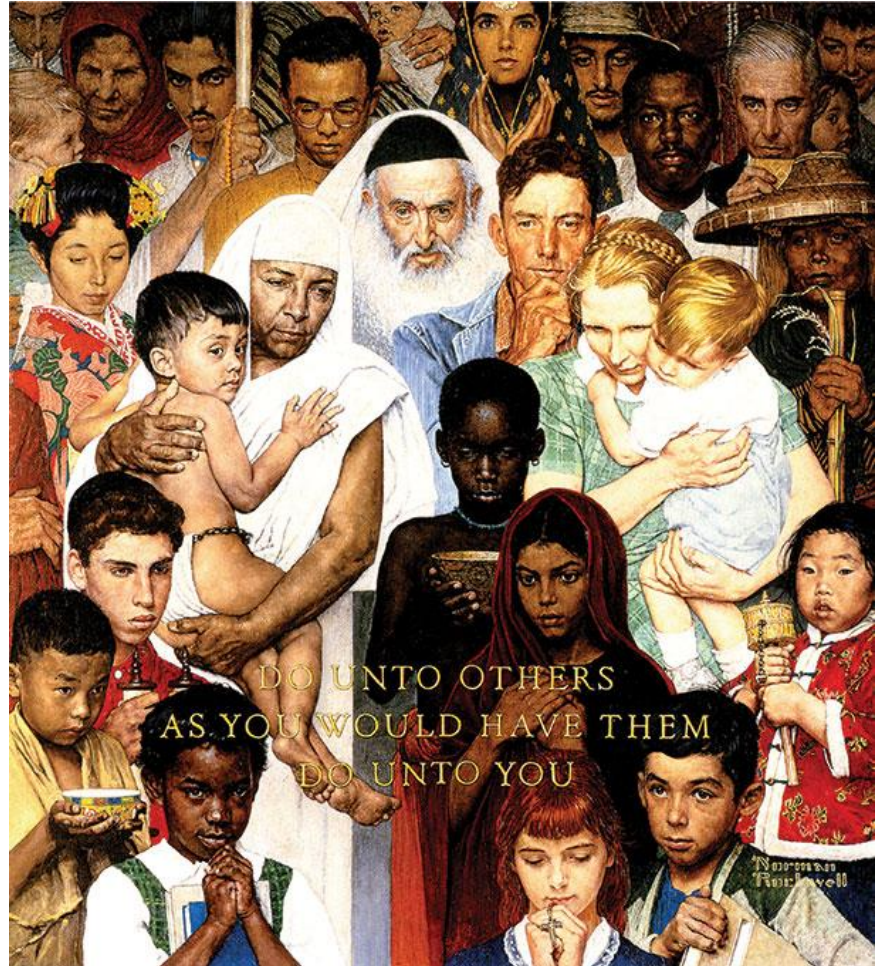
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Mass on Sat. or by appointment, call Fr. Matt or on our website under the Sacraments tab. <https://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments>

Sacrament of Baptism: Please submit a registration by mail, or e-mail to both stmaryscv@mwt.net AND frmattmarshall@gmail.com. You will be contacted by the parish office to finalize your requested date. The registration form at: <https://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments>.

Sacrament of Anointing / Visitation of the Sick: Please contact the parish office or Fr. Matt when someone you know is in need of a sacrament or a pastoral visit. Requests may also be made from our website under the Sacraments tab. <https://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments>

Mass Intentions: Please use the Mass Intention envelopes available in the church.

Book of Prayer Requests: Please call or email Fr. Matt to have an intention added during COVID time. General Book of Prayer requests will be included in the intercessions.



The Golden Rule by Norman Rockwell

Third Sunday
of Advent

Fr. Matthew Marshall
Pastor
December 13, 2020

St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley, WI

Third Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020

- 1) Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11
- 2) 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
- 3) John 1:6-8, 19-28

FOCUS: Advent is a season of waiting in joyful hope for the coming of the Lord.

Gaudete Sunday affirms the value of rejoicing and gives reasons for our rejoicing: God has given hope to his people waiting for redemption. We wait with rejoicing for what God has already accomplished and will yet accomplish through Christ.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Isaiah rejoices as he brings glad tidings of God's vindication for his people. In the second reading, Paul encourages rejoicing as God prepares his people for the return of the Lord. In the Gospel, John testifies to the light and cries out in the desert to make straight the way of the Lord.

Remember in your prayers our Jewish brothers and sisters celebrating Hanukkah this week. As those holy days celebrate so may it be...may all people enjoy the freedom to worship according to the light of their hearts!



Intentions

- | |
|---|
| Dec 12 ~ 4:00 PM - †Edward Kerska |
| Dec 13 ~ 8:00 AM - †Tom, Jim, and Dick Ruff |
| Dec 15 ~ 6:00 PM - †Sylvester Dowiasch |
| Dec 17 ~ 8:00 AM - †Verdel and Sara Holte |
| Dec 19 ~ 4:00 PM - †Helen Staflien |
| Dec 20 ~ 8:00 AM - †Stella Hohlfeld |

Annual Appeal 2020-21

As of 12/10/20	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$5,995.00	\$5,012.14
Target Amount	<u>\$12,925.00</u>	<u>\$12,925.00</u>
Over Target	(\$6,930.00)	(\$7,912.86)

Percent Pledged: 46.38%, Percent Received: 38.78%

Number Contributing:	19
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Next Week in Service — Dec 20th

If you are not able to be at the Mass scheduled below, please find a substitute. Thank you

Money Counters:	Randy Baranczyk and Leo Nickelotti
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Upcoming Events/Calendar

- **December 13** ~ NO RE Class for grades 5-10, off through January 2021. Feel free to pick up book from the basement for home use.
 - **December 15** ~ 6:45 PM Finance Council Meeting
 - **December 20** ~ Blue Christmas Service with Immanuel Lutheran 7PM Virtual on FB live <http://www.immanuel-lc.org/>
 - **December 24** ~ *Christmas Eve Mass* 4:00 PM-signup for attendance
 - **December 25** ~ *Christmas Day Mass* 8:00 AM-signup for attendance
 - **December 31** ~ Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God Mass at 4:00 PM, **no morning Mass** this day
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- Our Sunday Mass Streaming Live on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley>
 - **Church will be open for private prayer Tuesday through Friday from 9AM until 7 PM and Sunday Noon to 7 PM** (please practice good social distancing)

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Order Anything on Amazon? Use Amazon Smile!

You can help increase AmazonSmile donations to St. Mary Parish by shopping at smile.amazon.com/ch/39-1218730 or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon Shopping app.



Giving Last Week		Week 49	12/6/2020
Adult Env.(23)	\$1,280.00	Needed Weekly	\$1,900.00
Offertory	\$49.00	Received This Week	\$1,329.00
Total	\$1,329.00	YTD Needed	\$93,100.00
		YTD Received	\$84,698.57
		Difference	(8,401.43)

DID YOU KNOW?

If you are 70 ½ or older, you can do a **qualified charitable distribution (QCD)** of up to \$100,000 a year from your **IRA directly to a charity**. The distribution won't show up in your adjusted gross income and CAN count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD). The QCD allows you to be more strategic with your RMD. Consult your tax advisor before making any decisions. If a QCD is for you, please consider St. Mary's Parish as your charity of choice.

Parish Announcements

Christmas Mass Liturgical Ministry Sign Up

If you are an Usher, Reader, Communion Minister or Altar Server and are able to help with Christmas Mass, please sign up in the back of church. Thank you.

Christmas Mass Attendance

If you are planning to attend Mass for Christmas, please sign up in the back of church, call the Rectory, or email the parish office at stmaryscv@mwt.net.

For safety reasons we need to keep the main church to the 25% capacity.

Thank you for understanding. **Overflow options will be available for Christmas Mass.** We will stream each Mass live on Facebook with a monitor in the church basement for additional seating or you may watch it live from our church parking lot and *receive communion from*

Fr. Matt. **Wi-Fi has been installed for use.** Please let us know if you are amenable to the overflow option when calling the Rectory at 608-452-3841 or emailing.

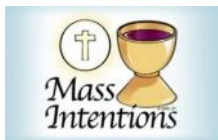


Christmas Flower Donations

If you wish to donate toward the Christmas Flowers, please use the envelopes located at the church entrances/exits. Return the envelope by dropping in the collection.



Advent Reflection Books are available in the back of church. Parishioners from both Coon Valley and Viroqua contributed as authors. Thank you to our neighbors for generously sharing from their own hearts. We hope they are a wonderfully helpful resource for your prayer in Advent!



If there is a special weekend date you would like, please get your request(s) in early. **Sunday Masses** are booked through May 23, 2021.

Saturdays are booked through July

24th. **Weekdays**, Feb 2nd is open, then next date is March 16th, after that, there are more weekdays available. If you have questions feel free to email the parish office at stmaryscv@mwt.net or call on a Tues. or Wed.

Staying Connected

- The parish bulletin will continue to be available on our Website—www.stmarycv.org
- We are mailing the bulletin to those over the age of 80 (if their age is recorded in our database)
- Copies of the bulletin will also be available in the church for pickup during private prayer times.
- **If you know of someone who does not have internet and could benefit from having the bulletin mailed to their home, please contact the parish office with the person(s) name(s).**

2021 Contribution Envelopes

The newly designed envelopes are now available for pickup in the church. These envelopes are designed for ease of tracking your contributions and for mailing directly to the parish. Please pick up your booklet after Mass or stop by the church during any of the open prayer times. Thank you for your continued support of St. Mary's.

Financial Support Options

- US Postal Service: mail directly to the parish office.
- Bill Pay through online banking, add St. Mary's as contact (if possible, use your envelope number as the account number).
- Use our online service at: diolc.org/st-mary-coon-valley (a 3% fee will be assessed by the provider of the giving portal, your contribution will be recorded for the full amount).
- Drop you contribution envelope off at either church, Coon Valley or Viroqua and the funds will be directed to St. Mary's

Make a difference.

"Every dollar make a difference in covering our expenses," says a Tappist abbot. Hundreds of US religious communities struggle to provide for aging members because most senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little pay. Your gift to the **Retirement Fund for Religious** helps these communities bridge the gap, offering support for medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

Diocesan/Local Announcements

Advent Virtual Mission

Prepare for the Birth of the Christ Child through the eyes of St. Joseph. There will be four presentations, one each week of Advent visit diolc.org/advent

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.

In Search of Young Adults!

SPIRITUS is seeking Catholic young adults, 21 -29 years of age, to join the SPIRITUS missionary team this August. SPIRITUS ignites the faith in thousands of young Catholics through retreats and parish youth ministry each year! Missionaries live in community and travel to parishes and schools throughout Wisconsin; they receive training, formation, spiritual direction, lodging, food, a monthly allowance, health insurance and a \$2,000 stipend upon completion of the 9-month program. It is a unique opportunity



Diocesan/Local Announcements (cont.)

to serve our Lord and help young Catholics grow in faith. Visit www.spiritusministries.org/beamissionary, contact Rachel at recruiter@spiritusministries.org, or (920) 722-8918 x113 for more information.

Donate to Project Milk-Help the Children of Casa Hogar

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 more than 40 sites and hundreds of people received nutritious milk from Wisconsin. For more information and to give, visit diolc.org/project-milk.

Spiritual Practices for Living With Depression: A Retreat with Monica A. Coleman (via Zoom)

January 9, Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon, Investment: \$30 to register call 608-791-5295. This virtual retreat will discuss how living with depression challenges common notions of faith, spirituality and religious teachings. During our time together, we will redefine faith in the context of depression. We will discover beliefs and spiritual practices that support and empower individuals who experience depression. If cost is a barrier to attending, please call our office manager Laurie Swan at 608-791-5279 to request a confidential scholarship. This event is sponsored by The Mental Health Coalition of the Greater La Crosse Area.

A VIRTUAL WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS (VIA ZOOM)

JANUARY 6 • Wednesday, 6-8 p.m. **Presenter:** Deb Hansen. **Investment:** Supplies are included in the price and can either be picked up at our FSC location or mailed to your address if out of town. • **Curbside pickup:** \$25 **OR Supplies shipped:** \$30. **Registration deadline:** December 23. Women's Christmas is rooted in a delightful Irish tradition. On the Feast of Epiphany, the celebration of the coming of the Wise Men to the Infant Jesus, Irish women left the care of their households to the men for a few hours so they could enjoy each other's company away from their domestic responsibilities, especially after the busyness of Christmas preparations. At the FSC, we bring together the tradition of Women's Christmas and the Feast of the Epiphany for this special program, offered this year through Zoom videoconferencing and with a theme of *Tending Our Hearths and Gladdening Our Hearts*. You are invited to leave behind your responsibilities to enjoy the companionship of other women gathered virtually at our home hearths for a time of ritual and reflection for light, healing and gladness.

OVERCOMING CHALLENGES WITH GRIT AND GRACE (VIA ZOOM)

JANUARY 16 • Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. **Presenters:** Kao Kalia Yang, Lisa McCormick, Carolyn Bostrack and Sarah Johnson **Investment:** \$50. Our second annual celebration of inspirational, resilient and spiritual women features keynote speaker Kao Kalia Yang, an award-winning Hmong-American writer, teacher and public speaker based in Minneapolis. Kalia will reflect on her spiritual journey into writing and explore what it means to reclaim something that is no more, in an entirely new language and in a new land, as well as how her journey has helped situate herself in the pains and sorrows of 4

others. This virtual retreat day also will include talks by three local women whose powerful stories offer lessons for all of us. Lisa McCormick of Tomah will share her story of hope and anti-trafficking advocacy in response to her teenage son's tragic death. Carolyn Bostrack of the La Crosse area will offer inspiration for moving from fear into focus to transform your life. Sarah Johnson of Winona will explore the benefits of mindfulness on quality of life, both professionally and personally. **Note:** This event was rescheduled because of COVID-19. Previous registrations will be honored. If this new date doesn't work for you, please call 608-791-5295 to request a refund or to gift your registration to a friend.

VIRTUAL POETRY CAFÉ (VIA ZOOM)

FEBRUARY 25 • Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m. **Facilitator:** Sarah Hennessey, FSPA **Investment:** \$5 **Registration deadline:** February 24 Bring your beverage of choice and your favorite poetry, either written by you or by another author, for a time of sharing and reflection. During this dark time of winter, poetry can bring a little light and hope into our lives.

KIDS CORNER

The Messenger of Peace Word-find

V Y E A R P O O R B
I C S P I R I T R O
N A A N N O U N C E
D P K G F C E S L N
I T G O A L H E I T
C I L D V A E N B I
A V A N O I N T E D
T E D A U M R T R I
I S L O R D E D T N
O R E L E A S E Y G
N P R I S O N E R S

See if you can find the words in CAPITALS from today's first reading in the puzzle. Use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks in the reading.

The SPIRIT of the Lord God is upon me,
because the LORD has ANOINTED me;
he has SENT me to bring GLAD TIDINGS to
the POOR, to heal
the _____,
to PROCLAIM LIBERTY to CAPTIVES



and RELEASE to the PRISONERS,
to ANNOUNCE a YEAR
of FAVOUR from the Lord
and a day of VINDICATION
by our GOD.

Answer to word-find: Brokenhearted

Week of Dec. 13th Readings

by Kieran O'Mahony, OSA

Monday 14 December

St John of the Cross, religious, priest and teacher, Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17 Balaam was a prophet in Moab. When the king of Moab tried to get him to curse Israel, he uttered instead a remarkable blessing. He resembles the Magi, also asked to bring disaster on Israel. The last lines speak of a star and a sceptre, symbols of the coming Messiah, picked up in Matthew 1-2.

Matthew 21:23-27, Jesus counters a trick question and yet it is obvious that he thinks John the Baptist came from God—and that he is to be listened to.

Tuesday 15 December

Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13, Both praise and blame are found in this reading. In these days, when affirmation is considered so healthy, we can listen to *both*! The promise at the end is certainly welcome these days.

Matthew 21:28-32, This is one of the blindingly obvious parables. The closing identification with the acceptance or rejection of John should not leave us off the hook. Are there people today whose uncomfortable word I resist?

Wednesday 16 December

Isaiah 45:6-8, 18, 21-2, We all have various images of God, taken from our past and our experiences. The reading speaks beautifully of nature. At the same time, this reading is a challenging: God alone is the transcendent one, greater than our minds and even our hearts.

Luke 7:19-23, John's question is our question today too. How would I express my own faith in Jesus as "the one who is to come"? It is a really good question.

Thursday 17 December

Genesis 49:2, 8-10, The great patriarch Jacob is about to die and he gathers his sons around him for a final blessing. The blessing to Judah (= son, tribe and tribal area) includes a reference to the scepter—pointing to the much later Davidic dynasty. God's fidelity to David's line is fulfilled in Jesus. It thus prepares for the Gospel, which is the genealogy in Matthew.

Matthew 1:1-17, The genealogy locates Jesus in real time with real people, warts and all. Neither the men nor the women were particularly moral—think only of David and the wife of Uriah. Matthew 1:1-17 is a kind of Gospel in miniature: God writing straight with crooked human lines. The figures in the last two generations are consciously ambiguous: Jacob and his son Joseph, evoking the earlier father and son.

Friday 18 December

Jeremiah 23:5-8, The memory of the past can give us energy in the present. In today's reading, this happens *twice*: the memory of God's faithfulness to the David is evoked and the Exodus is recalled with a view to a new liberation, this time from the Exile in Babylon.

Matthew 1:18-24, This passage continues after the genealogy which opens Matthew's Gospel. God-with-us—*Emmanuel*—reminds us of God's word to Jacob, Moses, Joshua, David, Solomon, Jeremiah and so forth. Also to us, if we reflect deeply.

Saturday 19 December

Judges 13:2-7, 24-25, The birth stories of Jesus in Matthew 1-2 and Luke 1-2 often echo highly significant accounts in the Old Testament. Today's reading from Judges is an example: an annunciation to a woman who is childless. There is even a similarity between the word *nazirite* (a kind of prophet) and Nazareth (or Nazarene).

Luke 1:5-25, Our Gospel is also an annunciation but this time to a childless father, to Zechariah the priest who is to become the father of John the Baptism. The key elements are what is said of the child to be born, who would announce "the coming one."

Advent 2020

Confession Opportunities in the La Crosse Area

Mary, Mother of the Church *2006 Weston Street, La Crosse*
Wednesdays 4:00 – 5:00 PM & 7:00 – 8:00 PM (Advent only)

Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman *530 Main St, La Crosse*
Mondays – Fridays 11:30 – 11:55 AM
Saturdays 9:00 – 9:30 AM & 3:45 – 4:15 PM
Wednesdays 5:00 – 6:00 PM (Advent only)

Roncalli Newman *1732 State St, La Crosse*
Tuesdays 4:15 - 5:05 PM
Wednesdays 11:00 - 11:50 AM
Thursdays 6:00 - 6:50 PM
Fridays 11:00 - 11:50 AM
Saturdays 4:00 - 4:50 PM
Sundays after the 8:30 PM Mass

St. Patrick Parish *1031 Main St, Onalaska*
Mondays 6:30 PM (Advent only)
Saturdays 8:30 AM

Blessed Sacrament Parish *130 Losey Boulevard South, La Crosse*
Wednesday December 16th 6:00 – 8:00 PM (Advent only)
Saturdays 3:30 – 4:15 PM

Holy Trinity Parish *1333 South 13th Street, La Crosse*
By appointment. Call office: 608-782-2028

St. James the Less *1032 Caledonia St., La Crosse*
First Fridays of the month after the 8 AM Mass
Every Saturday after the 8 AM Mass

Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe *5250 Justin Rd, La Crosse*
Weekdays: 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM
Saturdays: 11:45 AM - 12:45 PM; 2:15 - 3:15 PM
Sundays: 9:00 - 9:30 AM; 10:30 - 11:00 AM; 12:00 – 1:00 PM

St. Charles, Genoa *701 Walnut Street, Genoa*
Fridays 6:30 – 7:30 PM (Advent only)
Saturdays 3:15 – 3:50 PM