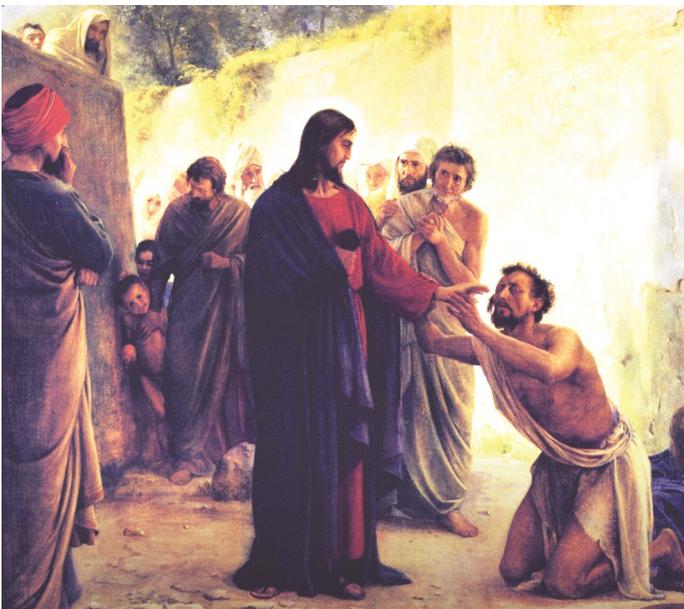


March 22, 2020



# MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH



4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

## OUR MISSION

Mary, Mother of the Church parishioners are called to be the People of God, formed by the Holy Word and nourished by the Holy Eucharist. We joyfully share our faith and gifts of time, talent, and treasure. We are committed to serve all God's people in the building of the Kingdom.

### PARISH STAFF

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La Crosse WI 54601

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Organization  
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La Crosse, WI  
Permit No. 575

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

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La Crosse WI 54601  
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mmoc.mobi  
mmoclacrosse.org

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March 19, 2020 – Solemnity of Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Dear Friends in Christ,

Life has changed so much in so little time! For public health safety, new guidelines are being instituted every other day which makes me wonder how much will have changed by the time you read this letter.

On March 13 (Friday), Governor Evers mandated all schools to close by Wednesday, March 18. On Monday, March 16, Governor Evers prohibited gatherings of more than fifty people and Bishop Callahan responded by cancelling all Masses effective March 20. On Tuesday, March 17, Governor Evers prohibited gatherings of more than ten people and closed restaurants and bars (except carry outs and deliveries). Will there be local, state, or national curfews or quarantines? Much will depend on how seriously we take this health concern.

My goodness, to think we mailed a parish letter on March 13 focusing on our building process and reminding people about the schedule for Holy Week liturgies and Easter Sunday!

For so many, our church building is Home. Worshiping God together and receiving Jesus in Holy Communion are joy and comfort for our souls. Now that all Masses are cancelled, sadness and isolation can strike the heart... We are “exiled” from our Home.

Scripture tells of an exile more radical than ours when God’s Chosen People were removed from their land by a foreign power and their only “church building” for sacrificial worship – the Temple in Jerusalem – was destroyed. It was the only place they could fulfill essential parts of the Law of Moses. From this foreign land, a believer prays:

*We have in our day no prince, prophet, or leader, no burnt offering, sacrifice, oblation, or incense, no place to offer first fruits, to find favor with you. But with contrite heart and humble spirit let us be received; as though it were burnt offerings of rams and bullocks, or thousands of fat lambs, so let our sacrifice be in your presence today as we follow you unreservedly for those who trust in you cannot be put to shame. And now we follow you with our whole heart.*

–Daniel 4:38-41a

Did we catch this insight? God desires our hearts. We can still give God this gift! It doesn’t depend on our church building.

The public health safety surrounding COVID-19 can be so disorienting. So, we need to give ourselves permission to be a little confused, worried, sad, restless, frustrated, and alone. Whatever is in our hearts, let’s choose to give them to Jesus. Each one of us only has one heart to give. Don’t try to wipe away the confusion, fears, and sadness before giving your heart to Jesus. That’s the hard way to live! Give Him the heart you have right now...with all that’s in it.

Lent reminds us of the value of prayer (i.e. talking with God), fasting (i.e. sacrificing the things we would like to experience), and almsgiving (i.e. helping those in need). Even in this time of “exile” there are things we can do to live our faith, to trust in God’s goodness, and to make a difference in the lives of others. I hope this bulletin will give you some parish information and some suggestions to help you.

Yours in Christ,

*Father Konopa*

## *TV Masses*

The Eucharist will be recorded at MMOC – in private – with a skeletal number of liturgical ministers.

- Tuesday-Friday Masses will be posted at 7:30 AM on the corresponding day.

- Sunday Masses will be posted at 4 PM on Saturdays.

These Masses will be on the parish website at [www.mmoclacrosse.org](http://www.mmoclacrosse.org) and on the parish app via smartphone or tablet, which can be downloaded at our mobile website: [mmoc.mobi](http://mmoc.mobi). Also, our Sunday Masses will be broadcast on KQEG-TV on Saturdays at 4 PM and Sundays at 10 AM.

Over-the-air antennae: Channel 23.1

Charter: Channel 5

CenturyLink: Channel 4

AcenTek (La Crescent): Channel 12

Midwest Tel Net (Stoddard/Chaseburg area)

For those who scheduled Mass intentions, the Saturday 4 PM intention will be offered and the Sunday intentions will need to be re-scheduled.

## *Other Sacraments*

- Baptisms, Funerals, and Weddings will be asked to follow the mandate of Governor Evers: reducing the number of attendance to 10 or less. Many may choose to delay until the mandate is lifted.

- Baptisms will be held “in private.” Families who have already contacted the parish will receive a call.

- The Easter Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil) will only be offered to those in RCIA who plan to join the Catholic Faith. We hope to record and post these, like the daily Masses.

- Penance Services are cancelled but opportunities for Individual Confession will be expanded.

- Confirmation (April 15) is yet to be determined. Families will be contacted via email.

- First Communion (May 3) is yet to be determined. Families will be contacted via email.

## *Private Prayer*

The Church will be unlocked and available for prayer:

Tuesday-Friday from 9 AM – 5 PM

Saturday from Noon – 5 PM

Sunday from 7 AM – Noon

Individual Confessions will be available in the Mother’s Room from now until Wednesday, April 8:

Wednesdays at 4–5 PM

Saturdays at 3–4 PM

Sundays at 9–10 AM

Church door handles will be sanitized twice a day. Bulletins and hand sanitizers will be available.

## *Parish Events*

All scheduled events are cancelled, including Stations of the Cross, Lectio Bible Studies, Soup Supper, Blessing of Marian Window, Fish Fry, Penance Services, Spring Rummage Sale, and Deanery Marriage Prep Weekend (April 24-25). Religious Education has been cancelled and families have been contacted for educational faith formation support.

## *Homebound*

Many more people find themselves homebound, at least temporarily.

-If you would like to receive regular phone calls OR would like to make phone calls...

-If you need help with simple errands like groceries or medicines OR would like to run errands...

-If you would like to help mail bulletins to all who are 80+ years old...

Please contact Sr. Kathy at 788-5483 ext. 5 or [kathy@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:kathy@mmoclacrosse.org).

Let’s be aware of our neighbors and support one another, especially through phone calls.

Due to hand-to-hand contact with the sacred Host, Holy Communion will not be offered.

## *Office Hours*

The Parish Office continues to be open Tuesdays – Fridays from 8 AM – 3 PM; however, for the sake of our employees and those for whom they care, we are encouraging phone and email contact as much as possible. Having said this, Scrip is still available, especially on Fridays.

## *Bulletins*

This bulletin has been mailed to each parish household. From time to time, we may mail some future bulletins to every parish household. In the meantime, all bulletins will be mailed to those who are 80 years old or older, unless contacted otherwise. If anyone else would like to receive a weekly bulletin, please contact the parish office at 788-5483 ext. 2.

## *Finances*

These are difficult times on all households as well as the parish household. We appreciate your kind efforts to maintain your generosity. For some, this might be a good time to try WeShare online giving. For assistance, contact Holly Gorman at 788-5483 ext. 3 on Tues-Thurs at 8 AM – Noon.

## *A New Deacon*

Like other universities, seminaries are also closing and are offering education online. Transitional

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deacons who are to be ordained priests on June 27, 2020 have received parish assignments until their priestly assignments begin on July 2. We welcome Deacon Sam McCarty to Mary, Mother of the Church for this 3 ½ month period. You will be able to see him on some of our recorded Masses

**Lent Collection** This year's donations will support Freedom Honor Flight and the Archdiocese for the Military. We will serve those who served...and who are serving.

30% of the collection will support the Archdiocese of Military Services, which receives no funding from the U.S. Government or the U.S. Military. This Archdiocese serves almost 1.8 million people throughout the world: all who are enlisted in U.S. Armed Services, enrolled in U.S. Military Academies, undergoing treatment at 153 Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, as well as their families and those working in civilian jobs for the federal government beyond U.S. borders. Full-time military priest-chaplains come from all Dioceses and religious orders to serve those who come from our parishes throughout the United States.

70% of this collection will support the local Freedom Honor Flight for its 2020 flights on May 9 and Sept. 12. The May 9 date will be the 25<sup>th</sup> flight taking veterans from La Crosse to Washington, DC to visit war memorials that honor their service.

#### **Letter from a Veteran**

I had about 40 members of my family show up at La Crosse airport at 5:30 am and they were back at 11pm when the plane returned.

We had a band playing for us in Washington D.C. airport. Then escorted on four busses to see all the monuments in D.C.

A guardian is needed for every two vets. I was lucky enough to have my son Joe accompany me. The whole day is very well coordinated.

I would highly recommend the trip for every veteran in the Parish. It was one of the best days of my life, and made me proud to be a veteran.

-Ron Kaiser, MMOC Parishioner

## *Family Life*

**Requiescant in Pace** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Edwin "Ed" Garbers. Our prayers and sincere sympathy are extended to the family and friends who mourn their loss. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him.*

## *Men's Club*

**Hoops Mania** Due to the unusual cancellation of the NCAA tournament, Hoops Mania winners will be selected using a previous years result. We are working with Charity Mania (our ticket vendor) in determining a random number that will be used to select a tournament year to use - from 2010 thru 2019. The number will be generated on Thursday,

March 19 and winners will be calculated in the days following. More information will be supplied in next week's bulletin. Remember the real winner is the MMOC Building Fund, which will receive 70% of all entry fees.

## *PCCW*

Attention Ladies, the following two positions for PCCW officers will be open for the upcoming year President-Elect and Secretary. If you are interested in either of these positions or have questions about them, please contact Mary Schaub at 788-9306 or email - [sschaub9306@charter.net](mailto:sschaub9306@charter.net).

## *Social Justice*

**MOBILE MEALS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
Volunteers needed to deliver meals for April 6-12. If you never delivered meals but would like to try it, I could go with you or meet you at the pick up site to explain the procedure or talk with you after church, just contact me-Sue Moyle at 7870076 or at [Wsmoyle@gmail.com](mailto:Wsmoyle@gmail.com). Those who receive the meals are so grateful. Please consider this as we are in need of volunteers! Thank you.

## *Finance*

**2019 Diocesan Annual Appeal** MMOC is only \$6,392 from reaching our \$100,690 target. Please consider an extra gift so we can reach our goal. There are extra pledge cards available on the Usher's Table in the gathering space of the church.

## *Religious Education*

**FORMED** is an online Catholic library that allows you to watch, listen, and read. Anywhere, anytime. --Pulling together the best in Catholic movies, children's programming, audio dramas and books, FORMED provides a trusted and engaging entertainment alternative in support of a Catholic lifestyle.

--FORMED has Bible studies, sacramental prep materials, documentaries, books and audio talks from leading Catholic experts.

--Material is accessed through our parish subscription – without any additional fee – via your mobile (iOS or Android), tablet, or connected TV device (Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire, OBOX, Chromecast, etc.).

A few easy steps from your laptop or desktop to register:

1. Visit FORMED.org
2. "How would you like to sign up?" Select: "I belong to a Parish or Organization."
3. It will ask you to "Create a new Account." As you type our parish name, you will see a pop up: "Mary Mother of the Church." Please click the option with our address: "2006 Weston St. La Crosse WI."
4. Enter your NAME and your personal EMAIL ADDRESS.

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### Weekly Mass Intentions

**Tuesday, March 24, 2020**

7:30 AM † Robert Meyer  
by LuAnn Miller

**Wednesday, March 25, 2020**

7:30 AM † Jerry Sokolik  
by Betty Koenen

**Thursday, March 26, 2020**

7:30 AM † Rheta Rogneby  
by Glenn Rogneby

**Friday, March 27, 2020**

7:30 AM † John Schumacher  
by Ralph and Ruth Wettstein

**Saturday, March 28, 2020**

4:00 PM † Clifford Tomsicek  
by His Nieces

**Father will be saying the Masses privately. Your Mass intentions will be remembered.**

**Hillview has canceled Masses until further notice, those Masses will be rescheduled for another time.**

Prayer recited by Pope Francis on March 11 asking Mary to protect Italy and the world during the coronavirus pandemic:

O Mary, You always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of the People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mary, Mother of the Church, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection.  
Amen.

### **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.



Public Service  
Announcement

Google

**DO THE FIVE**  
Help stop coronavirus

- 1 HANDS** Wash them often
- 2 ELBOW** Cough into it
- 3 FACE** Don't touch it
- 4 FEET** Stay more than 3ft (1m) apart
- 5 FEEL** sick? Stay home

General public health information

