

March 29, 2020



MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil 4pm
Sunday 8am & 10am
Tuesday–Friday 7:30am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:15-3:45 pm or by appointment

Contact the parish office to register, schedule a baptism, schedule a wedding (six months notice required), and to request the Sacrament of the Sick.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday–Friday 8am-3pm

FINANCE OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday and Thursday 8am-Noon

SCRIP

Scrip is sold before and after all weekend Masses and in the parish office on Fridays from 8am-3pm.

PARISH STAFF

788-5483

Rev. Brian D. Konopa ext. 7

Pastor
frkonopa@mmoclacrosse.org

Rev. Mr. Richard Sage ext. 8

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Sr. Kathy Stuttgen, FSPA ext. 5

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Finance Assistants
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Parish Secretary
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AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Ted Knutson 784-8585

President

Patty Gallagher-Kosmatka 782-5998

Principal, Cathedral School

Kay Berra 782-5564

Principal, Blessed Sacrament School

Sue Amble 783-5483

Principal, St. Patrick School, Onalaska

Denise Ring 784-0156

Principal, Aquinas Middle School
Principal, Aquinas High School 784-0287

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.

Fifth Sunday of Lent



2006 Weston Street
La Crosse WI 54601
608-788-5483
mmoc.mobi
mmoclacrosse.org

March 25, 2020 – Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

Dear Friends in Christ,

The public health safety directives surrounding COVID-19 have been disorienting. While we might be tempted to call it “life changing,” it’s more fair to say it’s “lifestyle changing.” Our life is Jesus Christ, and He is never changing. Always loving, always redeeming, and always hearing the cry of the poor.

However, the impact on singular, momentous life-events have also been felt.

Last Monday, our parish offered Catholic Funeral Rites at St. Joseph Ridge Cemetery for Jamie Tennant. She was 35 years-old and was diagnosed with cancer 2½ years ago. With her husband Phil, she lovingly and courageously continued to raise her children Kennedy (6) and Savannah (3). In order to keep the gathering to ten people, there were 6 others joining the four of us graveside: Jamie’s parents Brian and Debbie Korth; siblings Jessica, Justin, and Jacey; and Jessica’s husband Chuck Neubauer. A memorial Mass will take place at a later date.

In the last week, Derek Weinmann and Faythe Bauer cancelled their May 9 wedding plans and rescheduled for July 3, so family could be in attendance.

We still need others...even MORE in these times! We need to be attentive to each other as true Christians, for God the Father regularly chooses to give us life through our brothers and sisters in Christ. Our new “phone ministry” and TV/online Masses have this goal in mind. Many words of gratitude have been expressed and I’d like to share one from a member of our parish family:

“I was in the process of getting a notebook out to write you a note and then decided that I should send it in email form instead to eliminate any chance of transmitting the virus. Thank you for all the work you and the other key members are putting into making services available online and on TV. I can only imagine the vast behind-the-scenes work to make this happen. With my schedule, and any semblance of normalcy for the foreseeable future going right out the window, my ability to attend a regularly scheduled Mass would be a challenge. We were able to sit down and replay the Sat/Sun Mass on Sunday evening, and I was able to watch Tuesday’s weekday Mass this morning when I got up. I hope to be able to watch this morning’s Mass yet today to get caught up, if all goes well!

“As humans, we all need contact and in-person interactions with others. Being in one another’s physical presence enhances every interaction, but I know that is not possible right now. Despite not being able to sit in the pew and be present with you, Deacon, and our entire church family, I do not feel as great the loss I had anticipated. Your ability to connect with us via the internet is awesome, and I hope you feel that same spiritual connection as you remotely come into our homes. We were fortunate to have brought home 2 of the old green Gather hymnals that were offered to families when MMOC switch to the new blue ones. When we learned that you were planning on recording and televising the services, we pulled them off the bookshelf and they now take their residence next to the television. It is nice to be able to follow along with the readings and songs. Just one more thing that blunts the physical separation.

“As I listened to Tuesday’s message of the man who had been crippled for 38 years (John 5:1-16), I could not help but think the next 38 days our nation lies in need may very well feel like 38 years. I look forward to God’s healing presence when He tells our entire world to pick up our mat and to walk with Him as the virus has been washed away.

“Again, THANK YOU to you and the critical few that are joining you daily, to make the message available.

“See you in church soon.”

What a great way to conclude this letter. Yours in Christ,

Father Konopa

Mary Mother of the Church

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 and on the parish app via smartphone or tablet, which can be downloaded at our mobile website: mmoc.mobi. Please subscribe to our channel so you will be notified when we post a new video. 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 limit the attendance to 9 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 Individual Confession will be available.

-Confirmation (April 15) has been cancelled by Bishop Callahan and will be rescheduled.

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

Private Prayer

The church will be 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 until Wednesday, April 8:

Wednesdays at 4–5 PM

Saturdays at 3–4 PM

Sundays at 9–10 AM

Bulletins and hand sanitizers will be available.

Blessed Palms will be available in the Gathering Space on Saturday, April 4.

Parish Events

All scheduled events have been cancelled, including Spring Rummage Sale and Deanery Marriage Prep Weekend (April 24-25).

Homebound

Many more people find themselves in this situation, at least temporarily.

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

-If you need help with simple errands like groceries or medicines...

Please contact Sr. Kathy at 788-5483 ext. 5 or kathy@mmoclacrosse.org.

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

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. No more than 2 people are allowed inside the office lobby for social distancing. Scrip is still available.

Bulletin

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.

Do We Have Your E-Mail?

With gathering-size and social distancing restrictions in effect, we have been looking for additional ways to keep in touch. One quick, efficient, and inexpensive way is via e-mail. On March 18 we sent an e-mail to all the email addresses we have. If you did not get a recent e-mail from the parish, *we do not have your e-mail address!* To receive future e-mails, please send an email to: secretary@mmoclacrosse.org. Simply type in the subject line: “Send me e-mail.” Thank you!

A New Deacon



Hello, my name is Deacon Sam McCarty and I'm a seminarian for the diocese. I'm in 4th Theology and am finishing up my classes at Mundelein Seminary online while I live here at Mary, Mother of the Church. I'm scheduled to be ordained a priest this summer in La Crosse. I'm the oldest of six, and

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grew up in Wausau where we went to St. Michael Parish. I studied philosophy, Catholic Studies, and classical languages at the University of St. Thomas, and lived in Chicagoland for four years for my theology studies. I enjoy being outdoors (camping, canoeing, fishing), I love to play sports, and also like to cook. Although the circumstances are pretty strange, I'm glad to be at your parish, and even if I can't meet you right now, please know I'm praying for you, especially at Mass!

Family Life

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

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, just contact me-Sue Moyle at 787-0076 or at wsmoyle@gmail.com. Those who receive the meals are so grateful. Please consider this as we are in need of volunteers!

Lent Collection This year's donations will support Freedom Honor Flight (70%) and the Archdiocese for the Military (30%). We will serve those who served... and who are serving.

Men's Club

Hoops Mania Since this year's NCAA tournament was cancelled, our ticket vendor - CharityMania - used a random number process to select 2019 as the year to complete the 2020 brackets. Their system did the calculations for us and we have been notified of the winning tickets. We matched these tickets to our customers and the prizes for the contest will be mailed out shortly. The Men's Club appreciates all of the sales and the patience demonstrated in this unusual year for the tournament. THANK YOU!

FORMED

As a parish we have been promoting FORMED.org for use in various ways to grow your faith at home. Now, more than ever, we are grateful for these resources. FORMED has structured their website to help you to continue "Living Out Mission at Home." They have collected resources for "Faith at Home," "School at Home," "Prayer at Home" and so much more. If you have never signed up, now's the time to discover all that FORMED.org has to offer.

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.

That's it! No password is needed! An extra option: add an app to your mobile device!

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. Thank you!

WeShare 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

"Please prayerfully consider giving to our parish community online as it does benefit our parish in many important ways."



HOW TO CREATE YOUR ONLINE GIVING ACCOUNT

It's as easy as 1-2-3 to create your account online right on our parish website

1 Visit your church website and click **Give Online.**

2 Select the collection or event of your choice.

3 Set up your donation or payment. That's it!

It's that easy! Your account will be created and you can start giving online.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Tuesday, March 31, 2020

7:30 AM † Jerry Sokolik
by Virginia Horstman

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

7:30 AM † Rheta Rogneby
By Glenn Rogneby

Thursday, April 2, 2020

7:30 AM † Richard Grosskopf Jr.
by Richard Grosskopf Sr.

Friday, April 3, 2020

7:30 AM † George Vadnais
by His Family

Saturday, April 4, 2020

4:00 PM † Ken Kavanaugh
by Shirley Kavanaugh

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.

COVID-19: A Prayer of Solidarity

For all who have contracted coronavirus, we pray for care and healing. For those who are particularly vulnerable, we pray for safety and protection. For all who experience fear or anxiety, we pray for peace of mind and spirit. For affected families who are facing difficult decisions between food on the table or public safety, we pray for policies that recognize their plight. For those who do not have adequate health insurance, we pray that no family will face financial burdens alone. For those who are afraid to access care due to immigration status, we pray for recognition of the God-given dignity of all. For our brothers and sisters around the world, we pray for shared solidarity. For public officials and decision makers, we pray for wisdom and guidance.

Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of hope, comfort and love to all. Grant peace. Grant comfort. Grant healing. Be with us, Lord. Amen.

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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.

Building Our Future Together

Even though so much has happened recently regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, the re-roofing work has remained on schedule and work has begun on the project at MMOC. Ledegar Roofing's crew completed their set-up on Monday working until 5:30 pm. On Tuesday, they unloaded 5 semi-trailers full of insulation (see picture below) and began stripping the old roof off. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate and any future COVID-19 restrictions won't inhibit their work. If things can progress without delays, the roofers hope to be completed with the church, rectory, and office roofs near Memorial Day.

This past Monday we also received word that HSR Architects has completed the plans and bid documents for the HVAC replacement project. They were being prepped to be sent out to the following prospective bidders: Bernie Buchner Mechanical, Coulee Region Mechanical, Modern Mechanical, S&S Mechanical, and Winona Heating & Ventilation.

We anticipate receiving bids around mid-April. Once bids are received we will make a decision based on our anticipated cash availability to meet the project cost this calendar year. Our cash projections are heavily dependent on BOFT pledges being honored in a timely manner.

We offer our sincere gratitude to all of you who have made sacrificial pledges/gifts to the capital campaign.

Please remember to keep the safety of the roofing project workers, as well as our parish, in your prayers

as we continue to Build Our Future Together.

