April 28, 2024





5th Sunday of Easter

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil 4 PM Sunday 8 AM & 10 AM Tuesday–Friday 7:30 AM

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 PM or by appointment.

HEARING ASSISTANCE

Hearing devices are available. See s for additional information, especially for hearing aids paired with Bluetooth.

THE ROSARY

Prayed before each weekday Mass Tuesday - Friday beginning at 7:05 AM.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday—Friday 8 AM - 3 PM Contact the parish office to register, schedule a baptism, schedule a wedding (six months notice required), and to request the Sacrament of the Sick.

SCRIP

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

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Requests are due to the office by Monday in written format.

PARISH STAFF

788-5483

Rev. Brian D. Konopa ext. 3

Pastor

frkonopa@mmoclacrosse.org

Rev. Mr. Terry Bell ext. 6 Deacon - Adult Faith Formation & RCIA/OCIA tbell@mmoclacrosse.org

Sr. Kathy Stuttgen, FSPA ext. 7 Ministry with the Elderly and Sick *kstuttgen@fspa.org*

Kristin Johnson ext. 4

Director of Family Faith Formation *kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org*

Samuel Obert ext. 5 Director of Youth Faith Formation sobert@mmoclacrosse.org

Therese van Oss ext. 0 Funeral Coordinator *tvanoss@mmoclacrosse.org*

Andy Foley ext. 9 Buildings and Grounds afoley@mmoclacrosse.org

Mary Jo Lium ext. 8 Sacred Music mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org

Mike Juran ext.2 Finance Assistant finance@mmoclacrosse.org

Sr. Meg Earsley, FSPA ext. 2 Bookkeeper bookkeeper@mmoclacrosse.org

Jenn Burchell ext. 1 Office Assistant secretary@mmoclacrosse.org

AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Ted Knutson 784-8585 President

Tara Key 782-5998 *Principal, Cathedral School*

Kate Moll 782-5564 Principal, Blessed Sacrament School

Angela Koblitz 783-5483

Principal, St. Patrick School, Onalaska

Andrew Bradley

Principal, Aquinas Middle School 784-0156 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.

May Crowning

On Mother's Day weekend (May 11-12) the parish will celebrate a May Crowning ceremony in honor of Mary the Mother of God (and our mother). This will occur during each of the



weekend Masses. How will this work? A statue of Mary will be in the sanctuary. After Communion, someone will crown Mary while we begin to sing a Marian hymn. After the crowning, children and adults alike will bring their flowers forward and lay them at the feet of Mary. In a special way, children are encouraged to bring flowers from home – anything will work, even dandelions! (Mary is a mom and moms understand this to be a precious gift, too.)

Called and Gifted

Did you know God gave you spiritual gifts to be a more effective witness to your faith? If you wonder how you are called to be a channel of His love and provision at work or in your community, come and begin to discern your unique



mission in life. We are all called to help build the Kingdom and the Holy Spirit endows us with unique gifts to support us as we answer the Lord's call.

We are excited to offer this opportunity at MMOC, and everyone is invited to start this journey to discover the unique call God has for you and the gifts He gives you to fulfill your mission in life.

Our team, trained by the Catherine of Sienna Institute, will offer the Called & Gifted workshops and discernment groups from May 14 to September 17. Ten meetings will be held on Tuesdays from 6:00 PM -

8:00 PM in the Parish Hall on the following days: May 14, May 21 May 28, June 4, June 11, July 9, July 23, August 6, August 20, and September 17.

Call Linda Schwartz at 608-792-0351 or email lschwartz@mmoclacrosse.org. for info and to register.

Save the Date

May 16 will be the Spring Pot Luck for the Silver Circle. Watch for more details in the next bulletin.

MMOC Eucharistic Adoration

On May 2, Mary, Mother of the Church will host its monthly Holy Hour at 4:45 PM to accommodate work schedules and adult faith formation opportunities.

Men's Club Hoops Mania Winners:

We had 31 winners in the Men's Club

Hoops Mania fundraiser. Winners include: Gary Heilman, Kathy Klos, Shelley Shaker, Kaleb Weissenberger, Pat Muehr, Robin Kadrmas, Father Konopa, Aiden Wiessenberger, Liz Umberger, Grace Marco, Linda Gillette, Sue Pretasky, Evan Mahr, Mike Allen, Mike Vogel, Larry Trussoni, Tom Curran, Andrew Strasser, Andy Schwartz, Richard Pacl, Rob Roley Jr., Jim Rady, Alice Flock, Garold Becker, Amy Sutton Rose Barton, Dan Wilhelm, Carol Bakkum, Nancy Misch, Joan Koelbl, John Menard. Thanks to everyone who participated!

Chicken-Que

The Spring Chicken Q will be held on Thursday, May 9. Tickets are \$12.00 are available for purchase after Masses. Volunteer sign up sheets are available in the Gathering Space. For ticket reservations, please call 608-518-6145. Please support this major parish fundraiser.

Family Life

Wedding Banns III

Dalton Kerns and Jordyn King on May 4, 2024. Keep them in your prayers as they prepare for their wedding.

Wedding Banns I

Kyle Malin and Abby Knutson on May 18, 2024. Keep them in your prayers as they prepare for their wedding.

Faith Formation

Family Faith Formation

Family Faith Formation meets this Wednesday, May 1 from 5:30 PM-6:45 PM at Mary, Mother of the Church. We have a special night of activities planned for parents and children to explore all that we have covered during the past seven months. Contact Kristin with any questions kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org 608-788-5483 Ext. 4

Steubenville High School Youth Conference: July 26-28, 2024

So many young men and women lack a sense of identity and purpose. Steubenville is a weekend Catholic conference that evangelizes, equips, and empowers high school youth to become radical, joyful disciples of Jesus. They will enjoy keynote speakers, praise and worship, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, and much more. Please consider registering your current 8th-12th grade teens for Steubenville. We'll be attending the St. Paul conference July 26-28. Contact Samuel Obert for more information or to sign up your highschooler to-day. sobert@mmoclacrosse.org

"the Answer" Eucharistic Rally: This is EPIC! June 7 La Crosse

Chris Stefanick is an internationally acclaimed author, speaker and television host who has devoted his life to inspiring people to live a bold, contagious faith. Chris, a father of six children, speaks in a lively, honest, and uplifting manner about the intersection of faith and everyday life. He will inspire you, as Chris is a man of God and speaks from his heart about his relationship with Christ. For further details and to register, visit diolc.org/the-answer,

Social Justice

Warming Center Volunteers on Tuesday, April 30

<u>Food & Milk:</u> (to be delivered to 413 S. 3rd St. by 6:30 PM): Pattie Nimock, Karla Hein, Natalie Solverson, Katie Ott, Ellen Degner (milk)

Intake: (6:30 PM - 9:00 PM) Mary Olson, Sarah Kopski, Terri Pedace, Nancy Imhoff, Charlene Krocker, Matt Deshler

Morning Volunteer: (6:00 AM - 8:30 AM Wed.) Help Needed!

Free haircuts by Dave Imhoff

Community Events

Knights of Columbus Tootsie Rolls

The Knights of Columbus Council 839 will be distributing tootsie rolls after all Masses on April 27-28 and accepting monetary donations, which will be distributed to programs assisting persons with intellectual disabilities within the Diocese of La Crosse.

Geranium Sale

44th annual MCHS-La Crosse Auxiliary Geranium sale with proceeds going to nursing scholarships, online store is open now until April 24th. You may pre-order at https://fhauxiliaryflowers.square. Flowers will be ready for pick-up at the garage on the corner of 11th and Ferry streets on May 1st and May 2nd. Additional flowers and garden decor will also be available on site on May 1st and 2nd questions call 608-392-2711.

Join us for 33-Days to Eucharistic Glory

33-Days to Eucharistic Glory is Matthew Kelly's unprecedented spiritual resource that will draw you closer to Jesus in the Eucharist, the single greatest source of grace in the world. It is an easy-to-follow daily format that takes just 15 minutes! As a group, we are begin reading the book May 1, the Feast of St. Joseph the Workman our Diocesan patron saint, and ending on June 7, the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, with the Consecration to the Eucharist at the Eucharistic Rally held at the La Crosse Center.

Read it on your own or there are 2 optional weekly meetings to discuss the daily readings.

Sundays - St. Patrick, Onalaska in church basement 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Mondays- Blessed Sacrament in Parish Hall 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Thursdays- Mary, Mother of the Church Classroom C 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Books are only \$10 each (retail value \$24.95) and can be purchased in the parish office or after weekend Masses or by contacting Amy Capelli 608-783-0847 or amy capelli@charter.net.

Global Outreach Catholic Exchange Student

Hosting an exchange student is an amazing experience for you and for the student. Aquinas Catholic High School would like to welcome a Global Outreach exchange student for the 2024-2025 academic year. Global Outreach is a Catholic exchange program with the mission of building a civilization of love by forming young dynamic Catholic servant leaders for the 21 st century. Students come from six countries in eastcentral Europe (Czech Republic, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, and Ukraine) and study in Catholic high schools in Wisconsin and eastern Nebraska for one year. Hosting opportunities are available to both families and individual host parents There are students who are waiting for their "Good News! Please contact Barbara Tota-Boryczka, Executive Director, 920-540-3085 barbara.tota-

<u>boryczka@globaloutreachprogram.com</u> or Fr. Larry Seidl, Spiritual Director, <u>liseidl1949@gmail.com</u> (920) 412-0320 for further information.

Learn more at - www.globaloutreachprogram.com

Easter Flowers

Dorothea Buisse Al and Rose Cremer, Dorothea

Buisse Family

Dr. Jeff & Sandy Thomp- Rachel Thompson-Fleming

son

Albert Trussoni David and Beatrice Trussoni

Karen Ulrich Barb and Jack Noll

John and Elizabeth

Umberger

Gift

La Verne & Barbara

Urbanek

David Urbanek

Theresa Vick Gift

David and Laura Wagner Poellinger Family, Brillin Family,

Wagner Family

Rich and Emily Waller Bernard & Marcella Gillitzer, Patri-

cia Prochaska, Robert A. Waller

Carolyn Wavra Don Wavra

Jean Weber Queto and Caroline Weber, Rossi

Weber

Steven and Vickie

Weiland

Edward and Dorothy Weiland, Walter and Lela Goldsmith

Linda Werner Servais and Werner Families

Wade and Vickie Woods

Richard and Judith

Wuensch

Aimee Marie Wuensch, Robert and Anna Meyers, Walter and

Clifford Johnson, James Woods

Emma Wuensch

Joe & TeresaZnidarsich Znidarsich & Rauterkus Families

Organ Concert at the Shrine

Visit the Shrine of our Lady of Guadalupe on **May 11**, **3:00 PM to 4:00 PM** to hear the young and talented organist, Henry Dangerfield. His concert is free and open to the public.

More information at guadalupeshrine.org/events.

A Minute with Jesus:

Confession – a preparation for receiving the Eucharist

The best way to prepare to receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist is by going to Confession (also known as the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Penance). We want to receive Him with a clean heart. If it is not possible to go to Confession before receiving Jesus, make a sincere Act of Contrition in your heart, and as always pray with sincerity the prayer at Mass, "I confess to Almighty God..." A sin that is mortal – serious or grave – requires Sacramental Confession before receiving Holy Communion. If you are not sure about this, speak with a priest.

Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, please give me the grace to be truly sorry for my sins.

This week read how God calls us out of darkness into His own wonderful light in 1 Peter 2:9-10.

Part Time Housekeeper Needed

Housekeeper position for the Offices and Rectory will open June 1. \$16-17/hour; approx. 4 hours/week. Main areas of focus include floors, surfaces, and bathrooms [e.g. vacuum, mop (no heavy buckets), and dusting]. No dishes or laundry. Rectory is maintained well so cleaning is NOT heavy on a weekly basis. Some cyclical cleaning such as baseboards and ceiling corners. On the job training provided if requested. Flexibility offered but scheduling during office hours is necessary. Arranged time off is allowed. If interested, contact Fr. Konopa at 788-5483 x. 3.

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Please Come Join us with your Family and Friends!

Prayers for Peace, Penance, Conversions and

Divine Intervention for the World!

America Needs Fatima - Public Rosary Rallies

Saturday, May 11th after 8 AM Masses - starting Rosary by 9:00 AM on the Plaza at Cathedral of St Joseph the Workman and On Main Street Lawn at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Onalaska

And

Monday, May 13th after 8 AM Mass on Losey Boulevard

- Blessed Sacrament Parish, La Crosse

Feast day of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament! for More Information call Amy 608-783-0847

Weekly Mass Intentions

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

7:30 AM † Christopher & Frances Marx

By Anita Olson & Family

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

7:30 AM † Paula Heiderscheit

By Family

Thursday, May 2, 2024

7:30 AM † William Doskocil

By Family & Friends

2:00 PM Word Service at Hillview Healthcare

Friday, May 3, 2024

By Barbara Stetzer

Saturday, May 4, 2024

4:00 PM † Lois Guggenbuehl

By Paul & Ann Henrickson

Sunday, May 5, 2024 8:00 AM Pro Populo 10:00 AM † Alan Bennet

By Wilhelm Family

Liturgical Roles May 4-5

Minister of Holy Communion

4:00 PM Dawn Kutt, Steve Lefever, John Klouda 8:00 AM Deacon Terry Bell, Hailey Woods, Tom Reichenbacher

10:00 AM Deacon Terry Bell, Lindsay Hammes, Jo Beth Gaul

Lector

4:00 PM Mark Outzen, Chris Schlegel 8:00 AM Fran Ortmeier, Pattie Nimocks 10:00 AM Sally Egan, Barbara Stetzer

Server

4:00 PM Izzy Schelfhout, Zeke Schramm
8:00 AM Kaitlin Ortmeier, Ryann Klar
10:00 AM Isabella Neubauer, Olivia Neubauer

Cantor

4:00 PM Linda Kloet

8:00 AM Hayley Pagenkopf

10:00 AM Mary Kulas

Musician

4:00 PM Mary Jo Lium 8:00 AM Mary Jo Lium 10:00 AM Mary Jo Lium

Sacristan

4:00 PM Mike Wuensch 8:00 AM Jane Vogel 10:00 AM Anne Kernan

Gift Bearer

4:00 PM Stephanie Schmitt, OPEN8:00 AM David Ortmeier, Fran Ortmeier10:00 AM Manu Parker, David Parker

Greeter

4:00 PM Mark Misch, Patrick Hogan, OPEN, OPEN, OPEN, OPEN, OPEN, OPEN (Lead)

8:00 AM Sue Groetsch (Lead) Kerry Groetsch, Cindy Klar, Bob Klar, Deke Stanek, Erica

Stanek, Kylie Ortmeier, Neil Krumm OPEN (Lead), Charlene Krocker, Jerry

10:00 AM OPEN (Lead), Charlene Krocker, Jerry Kernan, Mason Klar, Marcus Klar, Mary

Jothen, Lydia Bell, Felicity Bell

Scrip Seller

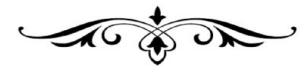
4:00 PM Heidi Schlegel, Vickie Kloss8:00 AM Bob Jansky, Charlene Jansky10:00 AM Kathy McGettigan, Sheri Skelton

Hospitality

8:00 AM Dave Ortmeier, Fran Ortmeier 10:00 AM Mary Snider, Johanna Bell

Live Streamer

4:00 PM OPEN



April 28, 2024

Mosaic of Mary, Mother of the Church

As mentioned in last week's bulletin article, Fowler & Hammer is working to prepare the northwest niche for the installation of our mosaic of Mary, Mother of the Church. While they work behind their sheets of poly, a series of articles will explore questions about this addition to our church.

Nearly every Catholic Church has a piece of Marian artwork, such as a statue, painting, mural, or mosaic. We have a statue of Mary at a side altar which honors Mary and stained glass windows. However, we don't have a prominent image depicting our Mother as patroness of the Church. In 2015, the Building Commission held numerous Listening Sessions, and based on the feedback received, the desire for a prominent image of Mary, Mother of the Church, was added to our "wish list."

As a parish, the Lord has shown us how Mary is to be our mother and our example

of discipleship by providing us with various images of her life.



First, on the heels of the creation of Mary, Mother of the Church (formed when St. Thomas More and St. Pius X joined), on April 9, 2000, Ted & Irene Banasik gifted the parish an outdoor statue of Mary and the Children. This statue, located west of the rectory, shows Mary's motherhood reach-

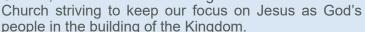
ing beyond her own Son. In John 19, we hear Jesus, from the cross, declare to Mary, "Woman, behold, your son," and to the Beloved Disciple, "Behold, your mother." Thus, we – disciples of Jesus – are her beloved children, too.

After we completed our storage shed in 2016, a beautiful statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary was placed on its west side. This statue was a gift from Barbara Stetzer and her late husband, Jim Shay. Jim initially placed Mary (on a pedestal with greenery and night lighting) on a lot he owned in the 1000 block of Rose Street, where it stood for several years as a witness to faith and holiness -- and as a protector of the neighbor-

hood he lived in for almost 50 years. He was devoted to the 'Blessed Mother' and treasured his earthly mother. Now, she stands on our lot as our protector and mother.



Building Our Future Together ushered in a new parish logo. In 2016, La Crosse Sign Company, along with the help of over 200 parishioners, created our new logo. Today's logo reflects our parish's new life, energy, and spirit. In the logo, Mary focuses on Jesus, who established the Church, and we are the living



Then, in 2018, Pope Francis inserted the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, into the Roman Calendar on the Monday following Pentecost Sunday. We officially had a Feast Day! In Acts 2, Mary is with the Apostles when the Holy Spirit descends upon them on Pentecost, and the Church is born. Therefore, she becomes the Mother of the Church, the mystical

body of Christ.

In 2020, we were blessed to have the restored, original stained-glass window of the Immaculate Conception of Mary installed in our Parish Hall. This window was from La Crosse's first Catholic Church – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – also known as St. Mary's. At the very moment of her conception, God chose Mary to bring His Son into the world. Therefore, through this moment in her life, we are reminded that we, too, are called to bring Christ to the world.

In 2022, someone asked Father Konopa, "Why don't we have an image of Mary, Mother of the Church?" This question began a conversation about the 2015 Wish List item. The inquirer became an anonymous

benefactor who generously offered to cover the entire cost of a mosaic. Then, the journey began to contact artists and create a design.

Step by step, the Lord has been providing our parish with beautiful images of Mary to deepen our relationship with Him through His mother. We have existed as Mary, Mother of the Church, for 24 years.

This year, on our Patronal Feast Day – May 20, 2024... the day after Pentecost Sunday – we will bless our beautiful mosaic depicting Mary as Mother of the Church.







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