

July 5, 2020



# MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH



## 14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### MASS TIMES

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

### CONFESSIONS

Wednesday 4pm-5pm 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 - Thursday 8am-Noon

### SCRIP

Scrip is sold before and after all week-  
end 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](mailto:frkonopa@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Rev. Mr. Richard Sage** ext. 8

Deacon  
[rsage@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:rsage@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Rev. Mr. Samuel McCarty**

Deacon  
[smccarty@usml.edu](mailto:smccarty@usml.edu)

**Sr. Kathy Stuttgen, FSPA** ext. 5

Ministry with the Elderly and Sick  
[kathy@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:kathy@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Therese van Oss** ext. 4

Religious Education and Pastoral Minister  
[tvanoss@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:tvanoss@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Andy Foley** ext.6

Buildings and Grounds  
[afoley@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:afoley@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Mary Jo Lium** ext.2

Sacred Music  
[mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Holly Gorman** ext.3

Finance Assistants  
[finance@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:finance@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Laura Boden** ext.2

Parish Secretary  
[secretary@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:secretary@mmoclacrosse.org)

### 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**

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.

## The Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Dear Friends in Christ,

June 25, 2020

Statues once standing in prominent places are being removed across our nation. Some are removed after much thought, much discussion, and a vote by elected officials. Some are removed with less thought, less discussion, and no voting.

Every statue honors an imperfect person, including statues of saints (outside of the Blessed Mother). Right now, the statues that have been violently torn down or respectfully removed are being judged by one standard: today's understanding of racism.

I think of my maternal grandpa who would be over 100 years old if he were alive today. As an adolescent, I heard him use the word "colored" to describe an African-American. It was harsh to my ears, but I kept silent out of respect. What do I do with this information? Does this make him a bad person? Everything else suggested he was not! With a little more perspective, I realized there was a time when "negro" was considered the respectful term to use; then it became "colored." The NAACP which works for racial equality since its foundation in 1909 stands for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People – the term my grandpa was taught to use – yet "black" became the respectful term, then "African-American." Now the terms "Black Lives Matter" and "black and brown persons" are heard more frequently.

My grandpa may have been "stuck" in an era and used the term that was respectful in that era. I'd like to think he is in heaven using whatever term is most respectful and loving in the eyes of God. I should not judge him by today's standard if I'm going to understand his heart.

For me, his picture doesn't need to be removed from the mantle of my parents' living room.

If we are going to use a single litmus test – today's understanding of racism – to judge the people of the past, let's look at it from another perspective. Let's use an analogy: Some parishes have pictures of pastors in their parish halls. Imagine a certain pastor who accomplished 100 good things for the parish during his pastorate and one hurtful thing. Let's say he got drunk at a wedding reception and said some hurtful things and never apologized to those individuals while he was pastor but later repented. Today – decades later – there is a debate in the parish to remove his picture because some people find it painful to see his face and be reminded of that one event...never receiving an apology. Perhaps the rest of the parish never experienced it or saw it as a flaw that was not indicative of the full picture of the man. The debate is causing division and pitting the parish into 3 factions: remove the picture, keep the picture, and "I'm staying out of this."

Let's imagine the pastor in heaven. Jesus informs him that his picture is tearing the parish family apart. Would the pastor likely ask Jesus to help his "defenders" to keep the picture in place? Or, would he likely say, "Please tell them to remove my picture. That public sin was a blight which my Heavenly Father removed from my soul even though I never apologized to the ones I hurt. Truly, I don't need earthly honors, and I don't want worldly honors to harm the unity of the parish family I once served?"

There are good reasons to remove some statues... maybe even to place some of them in museums. History cannot be re-written, but history can also teach us how our cultural values and/or priorities have changed.

Before removing statues, we should have thoughtful discussions and votes about these things. Are there other litmus tests to apply? Do we want to include other forms of discrimination like anti-Semitism, anti-Catholicism, and anti-immigration? Do we want to include the concerns of the #MeToo movement and also add marital infidelity to the list?

It's a very complicated process to evaluate these things and pass judgment on people. Ideally, we would try to judge as God would; yet only God knows the heart... the heart of my grandpa and the heart of everyone else's, too.

Happy Independence Day!  
Yours in Christ,

*Father Konopa*

### *TV/Online Masses*

KQEG will use our live stream of the 4 PM Mass and broadcasted it at 10 AM on Sunday. We will continue this and pay for this valued service. Also, the 7:30 AM weekday Masses will be live streamed on our website until they become public.

### *New Liturgical Ministries*

**Ministry of Greeter** A new ministry has been created to meet the diocesan regulations for safe, orderly movement in/out of church and for sanitizing the church after every Mass. This ministry will be simplified when these health directives are relaxed. This ministry is now open to those who are 65+ years old who do not have underlying health conditions. Greeters are willing to...

-arrive 45 minutes before Mass

-wear mask and gloves during active ministry times (supplied by parish)

-select among 3 kinds of Greeter options: Welcome (at doors), Worship Aid (distribution), and Seating

-remain after Mass to sanitize pews/chairs, door handles, bathrooms, etc.

We are blessed to have 58 volunteers trained and, we invite many more volunteers so we can lengthen the schedule rotation. A training session will be held at 6:30 PM on July 8 (Thursday). No registration needed.

**Live Streaming** The Sunday obligation is still suspended, at-risk people are encouraged to stay home, and daily Mass remains private (limited to 9 people) until Bishop Callahan allows them to be public. So we will continue to provide televised Mass on our YouTube channel for the foreseeable future. A new lay liturgical ministry has come up during the pandemic: Live-streaming video of celebrations at MMOC, including Masses, Baptisms, weddings, and funerals. This has been deeply appreciated by those who cannot attend. Right now we have two people serving in this role. It would be great to have a few more people to make sure we can cover all events. This ministry requires a bit of tech savvy to operate our AV system and our YouTube channel. Full training will be provided. To learn more about what is involved, please contact Joseph van Oss: [webmaster@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:webmaster@mmoclacrosse.org).

### *Helping Seminarian Joe Culligan*

Parishioner Joe Culligan will no longer be a seminarian for the Diocese of La Crosse but has joined the Central Province of the Dominicans. He has a student debt from his degree at UW-La Crosse totaling \$36,000. As of June 24, \$7,685 has been donated! The Parish has been extremely generous and

the final, total amount will be published in next week's bulletin. Thank you!

### *Ordination to the Priesthood*

Congratulations to Fathers Samuel McCarty, Joseph Richards, Levi Schmitt and Daniel Williams III who were ordained Saturday, June 27. God bless them for their commitment to serve us as priests!

Our Parish is very familiar with Father McCarty and Father Williams.

Father Sam McCarty is appointed Associate Pastor of Queen of the Apostles Parish in Tomah, where Msgr. David Kunz will be Pastor, effective July 30, 2020.

Father Daniel Williams is appointed Associate Pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish and Chaplain of Columbus Catholic Middle School in Marshfield, effective July 30, 2020.

### *Parish Study Addressing Racism*

In November 2018, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops approved a new pastoral letter against racism, *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love*. In their letter, they invited all people of faith to "join us in striving for the end of racism in all its forms, that we may walk together humbly with God and with all of our brothers and sisters in a renewed unity."

In light of recent events in our nation, sparked by the killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, are you feeling a desire to learn more about the effects of systemic racism in our nation or an urge to be part of a dialogue about racism grounded in the teachings of the Catholic Church?

Come join us in the Parish Hall for a 5-part learning and discussion dialogue beginning July 9th and continuing each Thursday until the final meeting on August 6th. Meetings will begin at 6pm in the parish hall and last for about one hour. All handouts will be provided but you may wish to bring a pen and paper. The evenings will be led by Peter and Kellie Schmitz who have been members of MOCC since 2001. They have worked with a wide range of individuals in their educational careers, have attended many conferences and trainings about social justice, and continue on their journey of learning, sharing, and working towards equity for all.

### *Elderly Abuse Awareness Day*

The ADRC of La Crosse County observed Elderly Abuse Awareness Day. 262 purple pinwheels were placed to represent the 262 elders who experienced abuse, neglect or exploitation in our county last year. Elder abuse is a "single or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust which causes harm or distress to an older person." Elder

abuse can be verbal, physical, emotional, sexual or financial. It can also be intentional or unintentional neglect.

To report elder abuse, call the Wisconsin Elder Abuse Hotline at 1-833-586-0107 or visit [reportelderabusewi.org](http://reportelderabusewi.org). As a resident of La Crosse County, you may also call La Crosse County Adult Protective Services/Aging and Disability Resource Center at 608-785-5700, all calls are confidential.

## SCRIP

**Drive-Up Day** On July 17 we will once again take to the sidewalk and sell scrip. Please place any pre-orders by Monday, July 13 to be assured of your purchase.

**Scrip Survey** We have added a brief survey to the scrip sheets. We are looking to add a few things and would appreciate your input. Please take a few seconds the next time you are ordering and let us know if there is anything you would like to see added to the form!

- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Panera</b>              | <b>Taco Bell</b>      |
| <b>Home Depot</b>          | <b>Fiesta Mexican</b> |
| <b>Old Navy</b>            | <b>Rudy's</b>         |
| <b>Noodles and Company</b> |                       |

Is there something we missed? What do you think we should add? Call or email Laura in the office and let her know what you would like to order. We cannot guarantee that all will be added. We are just looking to see if it would be prudent to add.

## Confirmation 2020

On April 15, our sophomore students were to receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit at the cathedral. Parishes throughout the Diocese who scheduled Confirmation during the Easter Season needed to cancel due to the coronavirus restrictions. These restrictions also cancelled the April 7 Chrism Mass at which Bishop Callahan blesses and consecrates the oils used for the year: Oil of Catechumens (Baptism), Oil of the Infirm/Sick (Anointing of the Sick), and Sacred Chrism (Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders).



On June 26, the bishop celebrated the Chrism Mass and gave permission to pastors to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation after this date.

A special Mass will be scheduled next Sunday, July 12 at 12:30 PM for Confirmation. Each family has been given a limited number of seats for this celebration and we hope to live stream the Mass. Please pray for our confirmandi.



## Liturgical Roles

July 11-12

### Lector

- 4:00 p.m. Peter Schmitz
- 8:00 a.m. Francesca Ortmeier
- 10:00 a.m. Terri Pedace

### Cantor

- 4:00 p.m. NOT FILLED
- 8:00 a.m. NOT FILLED
- 10:00 a.m. NOT FILLED

### Musician

- 4:00 p.m. NOT FILLED
- 8:00 a.m. NOT FILLED
- 10:00 a.m. NOT FILLED

### Welcome

- 4:00 p.m. Linda Gillette, Mike Juran, Martin Logue, Steve Schaub, Mary Schaub, Chris Schlegel, Jim Spielbauer
- 8:00 a.m. Allan Baumler, Peggy Baumler, Bob Klar, Cindy Klar, Kim Lansing, Paul Lansing, Deke Stanek
- 10:00 a.m. Chuck Berendes, Polly Berendes, Phil Klar, Robb Pretasky, Trisha Stratman, Jordan Stratman, Brenda Wintheiser

### Seating

- 4:00 p.m. Lisa Doering, Cathy Juran, Brian Logue, Joe Riemer, Sr. Kathy Stuttgarten
- 8:00 a.m. Christine Kainze, Neil Kumm, Kathy Skiles, Erica Stanek, NOT FILLED
- 10:00 a.m. Mike Wintheiser, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

### Worship Aid

- 4:00 p.m. Jon Mason, Kevin Moyle, Kellie Schmitz
- 8:00 a.m. Jonathan Baumler, Pattie Nimocks, Dan Skiles
- 10:00 a.m. Tammy Byington, Gabriella Stratman, Gavin Stratman

July 5, 2020

### Weekly Mass Intentions

**Tuesday, July 7, 2020**

7:30 AM † Lois Schumers  
by Ann Malin  
† Bob Steuck  
by Connie Marsall

**Wednesday, July 8, 2020**

7:30 AM † Leonard and Marion Koenen  
by Gloria Biesen  
† Marcella Weiker  
by Jeffrey and Deborah Covey

**Thursday, July 9, 2020**

7:30 AM † John Koenen  
by Betty Koenen

**Friday, July 10, 2020**

7:30 AM † Bill and Mary Lynaugh  
by Carol, Ruth and Gloria

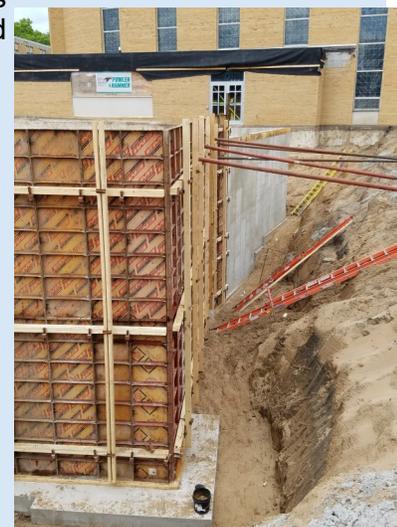
**Saturday, July 11, 2020**

4:00 PM † Bob Steuck  
by Bob and Pat Perlock  
† Gary Werner  
by Linda Werner

**Sunday, July 12, 2020**

8:00 AM † Ann Meyers  
by Gloria Biesen  
10:00 AM Pro Populo  
12:30 PM † Robert Stritmatter  
by His Family  
† Mary Plesha  
by Virginia Horstman

Father will be saying the weekday Masses privately.  
Hillview Masses will be rescheduled for another time.



### Building our Future Together

Where does the time fly? Here we are in the midst of summer; half of 2020 has past. It is good to occasionally take a moment and reflect a bit on where things are at and what has been accomplished. Looking back on some bulletins from 3 years ago, (July 2017) we were delightedly in awe of the enormous hole that was being dug and the foundation preparations that were underway for the construction of our Parish Hall and Religious Education Center. (See pictures.) It was just a bit frightening when the contractors said they would need to put in additional supports to hold back the soft dirt because they were digging so far below the church footings they didn't want to endanger the church structure. However, all went well and we were relieved when the backfill was compacted behind the poured concrete lower level walls.

Then there was the mid-July overnight HEAVY rain that washed out the curb along Horton Street and flooded the excavation site. The joke of the day was, "We didn't know we were going to have a swimming pool in the new building!"



Nonetheless, everything turned out beautifully. Three years later, we are still moving along making improvement to our buildings. With trust in Jesus to guide us, and Mary our mother to protect us we have been blessed to accomplish so very much.

THANK YOU to everyone for your generosity and for fulfilling pledged support. Please remember to keep our parish in your prayers as we continue to Build Our Future Together.