

June 20, 2021



**MARY
MOTHER
OF THE CHURCH**



12TH 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 weekend Masses and in the parish office on Fridays from 8am-3pm.

PARISH STAFF

788-5483

Rev. Brian D. Konopa

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Rev. Mr. Richard Sage

Deacon

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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.

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

Dear Friends in Christ,

June 16, 2021

Bishop Callahan has reinstated the Church's obligation to attend Sunday Mass (and Holy Days) beginning next weekend: June 26-27. The best way to consider this obligation is like a personal invitation to Thanksgiving Day dinner from Grandma: you would do everything you can to come! ...to honor her and because you love her!

In the Eucharist, we encounter Christ Himself. In the Eucharist, we join Jesus in giving praise and thanks to our Heavenly Father. In the Eucharist, the Holy Spirit strengthens our bonds of love and unity. In the Eucharist, we petition God for a variety of favors. While all of these actions – encountering, praising, thanking, strengthening, and petitioning – can happen in other ways, there truly is no higher way than the Eucharist. This is our greatest prayer, bar none.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (paragraph 2181) reads: “The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reasons (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin.”

The obligation is dispensed whenever we have “a serious reason.” “Being on vacation” is not a serious reason; however, “the closest Catholic church was 100 miles away” is a serious reason. The most common “serious reason” is due to personal illness or the need to stay home and take care of someone who is ill and cannot be alone.

These “serious reasons” are not easy to define in every situation. For example, someone who is unsteady on his/her feet may decide not to attend Mass during the winter months. That is a “serious reason.” A person in a similar situation may say, “I make it to Mass even during the winter unless my son or daughter isn’t available to pick me up and help me into church.” This person recognizes the obligation is dispensed without the necessary assistance.

In the past, a cold was not a reason to skip Mass if they were healthy in all other ways. We were simply counseled “not to shake hands at the Sign of Peace nor to receive the Blood of Christ from the communal cup.” While the current pandemic is heading in the right direction, we are now being counselled to remain at home if we have some covid-like symptoms. We don’t want to spread the coronavirus! So, that would be a “serious reason” which dispenses an individual.

Others might say, “It’s allergy season, and this always happens to me. So I’m going to attend Mass.” Good! A lot of this is the Honor System, just like wearing masks if we’re not fully vaccinated.

How does TV/online Mass fit into this? The Code of Canon Law provides the answer: “If it is impossible to assist (i.e. attend) at a Eucharistic celebration...for some grave reason, the faithful are strongly recommended to take part in a Liturgy of the Word...or to spend an appropriate time in prayer, whether personally or as a family” (canon 1248).

In other words, TV/online Masses do not fulfill the Sunday obligation. However, if a “serious reason” dispenses someone from the obligation, then it’s good to set aside time for extra prayer, especially reading through the Scripture for the day’s Mass. In this circumstance, TV/online Mass can be of great assistance, as well as making a Spiritual Communion.

Those who have a permanent health condition that regularly dispenses them from Mass, please contact Sr. Kathy so monthly reception of Holy Communion can be part of your life: 788-5483 x5.

By the way, there’s still a one-hour fast before receiving Communion. (You can observe it as one-hour-before-Mass-begins if you wish, but the precept is one hour before receiving Holy Communion.) So! For all those people who have suggested we should add coffee cup holders to the refinished pews because you got used to drinking coffee while watching Mass at home... Not going to happen! ☺ (But I appreciate the humor.)

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Father Konopa".

Father Konopa



Volunteers for TV Masses The Diocese will be recording Masses at the Cathedral on Friday, July 9. MMOC has been asked to assist with two Masses beginning at 2:15pm. The Cathedral staff will supply the music and our parish will supply the priest, the lector, the server, and the congregation for both Masses. Ideally the congregation would have 20+ people. These Masses for the homebound are an important apostolate to those who are unable to attend Mass in their local parish churches throughout the Diocese. All participants – both liturgical ministers and assembly – are asked to be present prior to the filming of the first Mass. Filming will not begin until all are comfortable with the role they will perform in the Mass. Servers and Lectors are asked to volunteer online. Sign-ups for the assembly are on the hospitality counter inside the Parish Hall.

Guidelines for Mass

Weekend Masses

- Masks are highly encouraged unless fully vaccinated
- Doors are unlocked 30 minutes prior
- Entrances: main doors across from Trane parking lot and Parish Hall doors
- Accessibility entrance: side door from Weston St. (near tabernacle)
- Communion on the tongue is an option beginning July 3-4. Communion distributors will sanitize their hands immediately following.
- Seating: follow directions of Greeters
- Dismissal: wait for direction of Greeters

TV/Online Masses

TV Mass: Saturday 4pm Mass is broadcast live on KQEG and rebroadcast on Sunday at 10am.

Online Mass Saturday 4pm Mass is live streamed on our website. The 7:30am weekday Mass will not be live streamed during our church renovations.

Family Life

Communion Calls Now that we have hit some kind of normalcy in the pandemic, Sr. Kathy will be starting monthly communion visits. She still has those she used to visit, but if you are housebound for any reason and would like a visit please call 788-5483 ex. 5 and Sr. Kathy will get back to you. She usually does these visits the first week of the month.

If anyone in your home has not been able to get the Covid Vaccine and would like it please call Sr.

Kathy as she is coordinating visits. Thank you and enjoy this beautiful weather.

United in the Bonds of Marriage Congratulations to Clancy Smith and Renee Strack who were married on June 12, 2021. May the love they share be a living witness of how much God loves the world.

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

Memorial Mass Jeanne Sauer passed away on July 8, 2020. She was buried alongside her husband of 57 years, Raymond, at the Northern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Spooner, WI. Due to the pandemic, her memorial Mass was postponed and has now been scheduled for 1:00 pm on Saturday, June 26, 2021. After the Memorial Mass, the family will be hosting a reception in remembrance of Jeanne. They invite family and friends to join them for a Celebration of Jeanne's life at the Waterfront Restaurant between 2:30 pm and 4:30 pm.

SCRIP

Scrip Sales We begin selling SCRIP after Masses in the Mother's Room THIS weekend. SCRIP is also available in the office on Fridays.

Deacon Sage Health Update

On June 10 Deacon Sage received a pathology report on all the items surgically removed on May 19, including his bladder, prostate, and localized lymph nodes. Cancer was found in these areas, including 4 of the 25 lymph nodes. The surgeon did an exam at the June 10 appointment and did not find any suspicious signs. So, Deacon is cancer-free! Because it was an aggressive form of cancer they recommended a new drug treatment that addresses his specific condition: post-surgical patients with urothelial carcinoma. It's an immunotherapy which strengthens his natural immune system in order to fight future recurrence. It's not chemotherapy. FDA approval is pending on the application of this drug, so Mayo is working to have permission to begin this. Deacon and his wife Mary are very grateful for the support and prayers they have been receiving.

La Crosse Events

Movie Time at MMOC Dad's gather your family and join us for a Catholic movie called PRAY.

Kids, want to give your Dad a gift for Father's Day? Tell him you will bring him to a movie (it's FREE).

ALL are welcome to come for an entertaining hour on the power of family prayer. Walk away with stories to tell of the miracles that happened in the life of the priest who wanted to become a millionaire but instead of dollars God gave him millions of people all

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desiring to pray together as families. God even gave him famous people like Bing Crosby, James Dean, Lucille Ball, and Frank Sinatra to help promote the message of family prayer. Fr. Peyton is the priest who coined the phrase "The Family that Prays Together, Stays Together". Who needs millions of dollars when you have God's help?

All are welcome so bring your family and/or a friend. PRAY: THE STORY OF PATRICK PEYTON will be showing at...

Mary, Mother of the Church in the Parish Hall
Monday, June 21 1:30 pm and 6:30 pm
Tuesday, June 22 8:30 am, 1:30 pm & 6:30 pm

Ongoing Catholic Christian Outreach

Thank you to the CCO participants who attended the first workshop of our summer series, "The Temperament God Gave You: Gaining Self Knowledge to Grow Spiritually."

If you were unable to make the first meeting, you should have received an email with the handout, video link, and temperament quiz. If this has sparked your interest, please join us for the remaining sessions scheduled for June 23, July 7 and July 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall. If you have any questions or would like to join the workshop, please contact Linda Schwartz at alrzschwartz@gmail.com or Sue Halter at skhalter@gmail.com.

Unable to attend the workshops? That is ok! Remember to pick up your complimentary copy of the book, *The Temperament God Gave You*, in the parish office (Tues- Fri 8am-3pm) or on the hospitality counter in the gathering space of the church.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Weekday Masses are in the Parish Hall.
Please enter through the main entrance.

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

7:30 AM † Rita Berendes
by Dick Berendes

Wednesday, June 23, 2021

7:30 AM † Jim Sauer
by Dee Sauer

Thursday, June 24, 2021

7:30 AM † Norman and Ethel Biebel
by Their Family
2:00 PM † Joan Blenka
by Her Family
(Hillview is not open to the public)

Friday, June 25, 2021

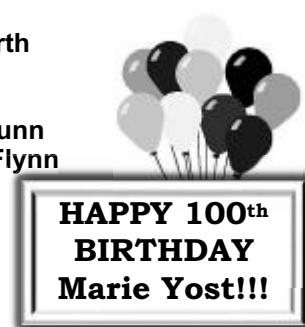
7:30 AM † Norbert Hagenbarth
by Marie Meyers

Saturday, June 26, 2021

4:00 PM † Clarice (Norby) Dunn
by Don and Helen Flynn

Sunday, June 27, 2021

8:00 AM † Rudolph Strasser
by His Family
10:00 AM Pro Populo



Liturgical Roles

June 29-27

Minister of Holy Communion

4:00 p.m. Kevin Moyle (**Deacon**)
Linda Gillette (**Parish Hall**)
Joseph van Oss, **NOT FILLED**

8:00 a.m. Nick Berry (**Deacon**)
NOT FILLED, NOT FILLED

10:00 a.m. Rita Sanchez (**Deacon**)
Terri Pedace (**Parish Hall**)
Anne Kerman, Linda Schwartz

Lector

4:00 p.m. Linda Gillette Joseph van Oss
8:00 a.m. Nancy Misch **NOT FILLED**
10:00 a.m. Barbara Stetzer Mary Jo Swartout

Server

4:00 p.m. Sophia Schmitz (sub req.) **NOT FILLED**
8:00 a.m. **NOT FILLED NOT FILLED**
10:00 a.m. Brodyn Byington **NOT FILLED**

Cantor

4:00 p.m. Mary Kulas
8:00 a.m. Haylee Pagenkopf
10:00 a.m. Rick Wilson

Musician

4:00 p.m. Christopher Carskadon
8:00 a.m. Jenny Nielsen
10:00 a.m. Jenny Nielsen

Sacristan

4:00 p.m. **NOT FILLED**
8:00 a.m. Jane Vogel
10:00 a.m. Linda Schwartz

Welcome

4:00 p.m. Mike Juran Peter Schmitz Kellie Schmitz Elizabeth Solverson Jim Spielbauer Lisa Doering
8:00 a.m. Kathy Skiles Mary Lawrence Dave Lawrence Cindy Klar Kerry Groetsch Peggy Baumler
10:00 a.m. Mike Wintheiser Brenda Wintheiser Robb Pretasky Jon Mason Jerry Kerman Carol Forer

Seating

4:00 p.m. **NOT FILLED** Mary Schaub Virginia Horstman Joe Riemer (sub req.) Lead :Chris Schlegel
8:00 a.m. Mike Weissenberger Joan Weissenberger Allan Baumler Sandy Pitsch (sub req.) Lead :Bob Klar
10:00 a.m. Andrew Schwartz Chuck Berendes Emily Krejchik (sub req.)Keith Krejchik (sub req.)Kimberly Krejchik (sub req.) Lead :Polly Berendes

Worship Aid

4:00 p.m. Steve Schaub Larry Weibel
8:00 a.m. Dan Skiles Sue Groetsch
10:00 a.m. Nathan Wintheiser Lizzie Wintheiser Charlotte Berendes

Scrip Seller

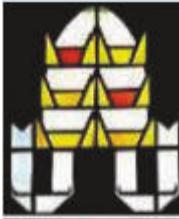
4:00 p.m. **NOT FILLED NOT FILLED**
8:00 a.m. Charlene Jansky Bob Jansky
10:00 a.m. **NOT FILLED NOT FILLED**

Building Our Future Together

As of this writing, the south half of our refinished pews should be back! Half of our church is completed! Well, except for the stained glass windows, which won't be returned until August. Now it's time to do the same for the north side of church.

Cathedral Crafts (Winona) has the majority of our stained glass windows; they will remove the remaining windows when a crew is available.

At the end of March, we advised that some people had expressed interest in donating special gifts in support of the window project. The answer was "Yes!" The parish has been blessed with a generous response of gifts and pledges totaling \$137,555! Our original goal was \$142,000 for the windows with a single pane of glass to replace the clear glass we currently see in church. Cathedral Crafts suggested a different framing system with a 2-paned protective glass to decrease the heat exposure to the stained glass windows and to increase energy effi-



St. Thomas More Window (#17)

The Papal Crown is a symbol of More's fidelity to the apostolic lineage, whose authority was inconvenient to King Henry VIII. In 1527, Henry instructed Thomas Cardinal Wolsey to petition Pope Clement VII for an annulment of his marriage to Catherine of Aragon. The pope steadfastly refused such an annulment. Henry reacted by forcing Wolsey to resign as Lord Chancellor and by appointing Thomas More in his place in October 1529. (More accepted reluctantly, as he was the first layman to hold the post.) Henry then began to embrace the belief that the Pope was only the Bishop of Rome and therefore had no authority over the Christian Church as a whole. The stage was set for More to be compelled to make a terrible yet glorious choice.

The laurel wreath represents the victory of the martyr over death. The sword symbolizes the manner of More's execution. On July 6, 1535, he was beheaded at the Tower of London.

The sword represents the manner of More's death. The Cross is symbolic of his faith and the reason for his martyrdom. The inverted crown suggests that in ordering the death of Thomas More, King Henry VIII perverted any and all of his claims to ecclesial leadership. More's first wife died in 1511. More remarried almost immediately so that his children would have a mother. His second wife, Alice Middleton, was a widow seven years his senior. The intertwined rings and water jars (as at Cana) are symbols of marriage. In 1505, aged twenty-seven, Thomas More married his first wife, Jane Colt. The marriage was happy and they had four children; Margaret (known as Meg), Elizabeth, Cicely, and John. Unusual for the time, he put as much effort into educating his daughters as he did his son, declaring that women were just as intelligent as men.



happy and they had four children; Margaret (known as Meg), Elizabeth, Cicely, and John. Unusual for the time, he put as much effort into educating his daughters as he did his son, declaring that women were just as intelligent as men.

ciency by 30-50%. This is likely to cost \$60,000. (Details are in the May 23 bulletin.)

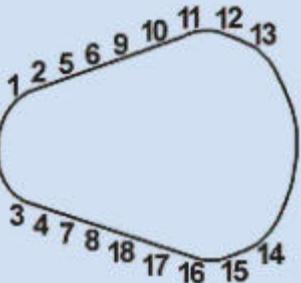
So the recent donations have been an extra blessing to help with these costs.

Donations have been in varying amounts and some have chosen to sponsor specific windows. Remaining windows include...

- 1 Large Window (\$9,000): St. Thomas More (#18)
- 3 Small Windows (\$4,500/each): Eucharistic window (#1), From-Death-to-Life window (#6); and a Music window in the balcony (#13)
- 4 small windows in the vesting sacristy (\$3,200 each)

Because the Feast of St. Thomas More is on Tuesday (June 22), highlighting the story of the two St. Thomas More Windows is most fitting.

Thank you for the generosity which is accomplishing these projects. Please keep our parish and the success of this year's projects in your prayers as we Build Our Future Together.



St. Thomas More Window (#18)

The Tower of London was a royal prison in which Thomas More spent over a year because he refused to take an oath of allegiance to an Act of Parliament called the Law of Succession. St. Thomas More would not accept language in the law's preamble which denied the authority of the pope. In July, 1535 he was tried for high treason, convicted on the basis of perjured testimony, and sentenced to death.

The scroll represents Thomas More's most famous work, the novel *Utopia* written in 1515. The cap above the book is a style then popular among scholars.

Pictured here is the necklace of the Lord Chancellor, an external sign of the office Thomas More held from 1529 to 1532. The pendant is a Tudor Rose, representing the House of Tudor, of which King Henry VIII was a member. Inside the necklace is a cross symbolizing More's unyielding adherence to his faith. In the end, St. Thomas More regarded loyalty to Christ and his Church, sealed in the authority of the pope, above his responsibilities as Chancellor, even above his own life.

The scepter, scroll, and official seal are additional symbols of Thomas More's office as Lord Chancellor of England.

In the scales of justice (doubly symbolic because Thomas More was trained in law), the authority of the King (represented here by a crown) is outweighed for St. Thomas More by the authority of the faith. St. Thomas More repeatedly denied any malice toward the king. Just before his beheading, he addressed onlookers, asking them to pray for the king and proclaiming, "I die the King's good servant, but God's first."

Pictures by Joseph van Oss

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