

August 27, 2023



# MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH



## 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### MASS TIMES

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

### CONFESSIONS

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

### HEARING ASSISTANCE

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

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday–Friday 8am-3pm

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 8am-3pm.

### 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](mailto:frkonopa@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Rev. Mr. Terry Bell** ext. 6  
Deacon - Adult Faith Formation  
& RCIA/OCIA  
[tbell@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:tbell@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Sr. Kathy Stuttgen, FSPA** ext. 7  
Ministry with the Elderly and Sick  
[kstuttgen@fspa.org](mailto:kstuttgen@fspa.org)

**Kristin Johnson** ext. 4  
Director of Family Faith Formation  
[kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Samuel Obert** ext. 5  
Director of Youth Faith Formation  
[sobert@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:sobert@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Therese van Oss** ext. 0  
Funeral Coordinator  
[tvanoss@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:tvanoss@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Andy Foley** ext. 9  
Buildings and Grounds  
[afoley@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:afoley@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Mary Jo Lium** ext. 8  
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[mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org)

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**Sr. Meg Earsley, FSPA** ext. 2  
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**Steve Young** ext. 1  
Office Assistant  
[secretary@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto: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.

## 21th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Fall Chicken-Que

The Fall Chicken-Que is on Thursday, September 14. Tickets are \$12 and are on sale after weekend Masses and in the parish office. Volunteer sign up sheets are available in the back of church.



Please support this major fundraiser. To reserve tickets contact by phone or text: 608-518-6145. Carry-outs can be delivered upon request.

### *Music Ministry Invitation*

#### MMOC Sunday Choir

Rehearsals for Sunday Choir will begin on Tuesday, September 19. The choir meets to rehearse every Tuesday evening from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Music Room. We are looking for new members to join -- vocal or instrumental! If you are interested or have questions please contact Mary Jo Lium at [mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org).

### *Faith Formation*

#### VBS Success!

For the first time since 2019 Vacation Bible School for the Catholic Parishes of La Crosse made it's return during the second week of August. Thirty-six children and twelve volunteers from all of the La Crosse parishes had a fun week learning how to dive deeper into their faith and love of Jesus. Due to its great success we hope to make this an annual event! Thank you to all the volunteers and to Holy Trinity Parish for hosting.

#### CCO Small Faith-Sharing Groups

Catholic Christian Outreach is a dynamic and life-changing faith study series which offers an opportunity to grow in relationship with Jesus Christ and fellow Christians. Over 36 weeks, you and 4-7 other group members will explore, discuss, and deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. You will discover the joy and freedom of letting Jesus be your primary relationship – your center.

Several opportunities are available starting in September. Identify your preference, and then contact the group leader with your name, contact information, and any questions you may have.

**Monday: 6:00-7:30 PM** Peter Schmitz (men only) [Schmitz.peter13@gmail.com](mailto:Schmitz.peter13@gmail.com) or (608) 780-4181

**Tuesday: 8:15-9:45 AM** - Sue Halter (men & women) [skhalter@gmail.com](mailto:skhalter@gmail.com) or (608) 769-4029

**Thursday: 6:00-7:30 PM** - Tammy Byington (women only) [tammybyby@gmail.com](mailto:tammybyby@gmail.com) or (608) 498-0175

**Open:** Want to participate in a CCO group this Fall but are challenged with what fits your schedule? Contact Pattie Nimocks [pattie.nimocks@gmail.com](mailto:pattie.nimocks@gmail.com) or (608) 385-0865 to discuss what works for you. She is flexible in regard to day/meeting times!

### Called & 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 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 September 5 to December 5. Nine meetings will be held on Tuesdays from 6:00 -8:00 PM in the Parish Hall.

Call or email Linda Schwartz at 608-792-0351 or [alrzschwartz@gmail.com](mailto:alrzschwartz@gmail.com) for more information and to register.

#### 2023 - 2024 Faith Formation Registration

The new school year is upon us, which means it's time to register your child/ren for their Faith Formation program. All families with youth in 1st grade through 12th grade should have received a letter and registration form in the mail.

Contact Kristin Johnson: [kjohnson@newmanlc.org](mailto:kjohnson@newmanlc.org) or Samuel Obert: [sobert@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:sobert@mmoclacrosse.org). Prices increase August 31.

#### Needed: Volunteers for Grades 1-5

Family Faith Formation meets approximately twice a month from 5:30-6:45 PM on Wednesdays at Mary, Mother of the Church. Catechists and assistants are needed to teach monthly topics to children in grades 1st-5th. We are also in need of adults willing to serve as small group leaders to facilitate discussions with parents. Contact Kristin if you are interested or would like more information 608-788-5483 Ext. 4. or [kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org).

#### Needed: Volunteers for Grades 6-12

Youth Faith Formation (middle and high school aged youth) takes place weekly on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30 PM at Blessed Sacrament Parish. If you are a faith filled person with a heart for young people your gifts are needed to serve as a small group leader for teens. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Samuel Obert at [sobert@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:sobert@mmoclacrosse.org) 608-788-5483 Ext. 5.

#### Two Minutes with Jesus for Eucharistic Revival

1. Jesus came into the world to save us.  
Jesus was born in Bethlehem, which means "house of bread." Because there was no room in the inn (motel) Jesus was born in a stable and laid in a manger, which is significant because it is a feeding trough for animals. This was all part of God's plan for His birth on earth, to point to the fact that Jesus came to save us. This is really the whole meaning of Christmas. Jesus came to give us Himself as food – He literally is the Bread of Life – supernatural bread

## Mary, Mother of the Church

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(this is Jesus Himself) that saves us, that spiritually nourishes and strengthens us with His grace. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, thank You for coming into the world as our Savior. This week, read how the birth of Jesus took place in Luke 2:1-7.

2. Jesus came to earth as an infant, born of Mary. Mary was prepared to be the Mother of our Savior; by God's favor she was created "full of grace" and free from sin. The Savior – Jesus – was to be called Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." Jesus will remain with us throughout our life as we receive Him in the Eucharist. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, thank You for the gift of Mary, Your Mother, through whom the world received You as our Savior. This week, read how this glorious news was revealed to the Shepherds in Luke 2:8-20.

### **OCIA/RCIA – Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (Formerly: RCIA)**

Are you seeking to know Jesus Christ more deeply or understand God and His plan for us more fully? Do you want to know why Catholics believe what they believe and do what they do? To learn more about deepening your relationship with Jesus Christ, becoming part of a warm and supportive parish community, and understanding more about the Catholic Faith, we invite you to journey together with us in OCIA. OCIA is tentatively scheduled to start in early September. For more info, please contact Deacon Terry Bell at [deacon@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:deacon@mmoclacrosse.org).

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

Mary, Mother of the Church will schedule a monthly Holy Hour -- typically on the first Thursdays of the month -- beginning September 7. The Holy Hour will begin at 4:45 PM to accommodate work schedules and adult faith formation opportunities.



### **Fall Adult Faith Formation Program**

Join us as hundreds of fellow parishioners learn about their faith in the **Lectio: Eucharist** bible study this fall beginning the week of Sept. 17 (10 sessions). Whether you know all about the Eucharist or you know nothing about the Eucharist, this bible study will open your heart and allow you to grow closer to Christ.

Have you already taken this course? Take it again but this time, bring a friend to join you! Let's help evangelize those around us and make the Real Presence known to all!

There are flyers at all church entrances and on bulletin boards. Cost to register is \$15 for those who need a workbook. Those who already have a workbook are free! Registration is available after all Masses next weekend. You can also register at our parish office, online at [stpatsonalaska.com](http://stpatsonalaska.com), or by contacting Amy Capelli at (608)783-0847 or [amycaPELLI@charter.net](mailto:amycaPELLI@charter.net). Home study is available.

Classes are available...

### **MONDAYS**

- Blessed Sacrament at 6:30-8:00 PM

### **TUESDAYS**

- **Mary, Mother of the Church at 8:15-9:45 AM**

- St. James the Less at 9:00-10:30 AM

### **WEDNESDAYS**

- Holy Trinity at 1:00-2:30 PM

### **THURSDAYS**

- St. Patrick, Onalaska at 9:15-10:45 AM

- St. Patrick, Onalaska at 5:00-6:30 PM

- **Mary, Mother of the Church at 6:00-7:30 PM**

### **FRIDAYS**

- Cathedral at 10:30-12:00 Noon

## *FORMED.org*

### **FORMED Book Club**

Join Catholic experts and book lovers with decades of experience in publishing for in-depth weekly discussions of relevant Catholic texts. Hosted by Fr. Joseph Fessio, SJ (Founder of Ignatius Press), Vivian Dudro (Senior Editor at Ignatius Press), and Joseph Pearce (Director of Book Publishing at Augustine Institute). These discussions are part of an online community that reads and discusses a different book each month.

Books discussed: *Chance or the Dance* by Thomas Howard.

*Real Philosophy for Real People* by Fr. Robert McTeigue S.J.

Go to [formedbookclub.ignatius.com](http://formedbookclub.ignatius.com) to sign up for free! Electronic versions are available.

## *Community Events*

### **Rural Life Day**

The 42nd Annual Rural Life Day will be held on Sept. 13, 2023, hosted by Ken and Joellen Heiman of Heiman Holsteins, at 11875 US Hwy 10 in Marshfield. The day begins with a 10:00 AM Mass celebrated by Bishop Callahan, followed by awards, recognitions, the blessing of crops and machinery and a catered meal. There will also be wagon rides to tour the ridge-top farm. All are welcome to this celebration of the uniqueness of rural life, giving thanks to God for the contribution of rural values to the life of the Church in the Diocese of La Crosse.

### **BIKING FOR ADOPTION**

On Tuesday, September 12, St. James the Less PCCW & the Knights of Columbus Council 2137 will host Fr. Dennis Mullen as he gives a presentation about his Adoption Initiative Bike Ride. Fr. Mullen is currently biking across Wisconsin to raise awareness about the need for adoption and to help families with adoption expenses. Please join us in the Church at 5:30pm for a Rosary followed by the presentation at 6pm. Refreshments will be served

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after the event in Murphy Hall. All local parishes are encouraged to attend to support this pro-life initiative.

### **Walking with Women, Praying with Scripture**

All women are cordially invited to attend Walking with Women, Praying with Scripture. We gather to be present to one another, leaving the world and the busyness of life behind. Our community strives "to love our neighbor as our self", while fostering a deeper relationship with God through meditation on His living word. At times, the busyness of life makes prayer a struggle. The struggle is worth it! Meditating on God's Living Word is life-changing and transformative -- bringing Jesus deeper into our hearts. The first meeting will be Thursday, September 7 (6 PM- 7:30 PM) in the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman Undercroft. Materials will be provided at the first meeting (\$15). Meetings take place every other Thursday (altered around holidays) from September through May. Consistent attendance is not required, as each gathering does not build on the other. Please contact Mari Erickson or Amy Mulhernat walking9praying8@gmail.com with questions. Come and enjoy encountering the Love of Christ! You may also invite women of other Christian faiths to attend.

### **Couples 500 Card Club**

If you enjoy playing 500 have you considered joining the parish 500 Card Club? If you don't know how, but you'd like to learn, we'd be delighted to teach you. Each couple plays one other couple, once a month at their convenience. Couples need not be married couples. For more information, contact Patty Kirchner at 608-792-1960 or at PatriciaJKirchner@gmail.com.

### **Weekly Mass Intentions**

#### **Tuesday, August 29, 2023**

7:30 AM † Karen Nordstrom  
by Paul & Kathy Chapiewsky

#### **Wednesday, August 30, 2023**

7:30 AM † Lowel Glowosky  
by Toni Weise

#### **Thursday, August 31, 2023**

7:30 AM † Madonna Elsen Leis Bahr  
by Tom & Diane Elsen

#### **Friday, September 1, 2023**

7:30 AM † Eileen Kirchner  
by James & Patricia Kirchner

#### **Saturday, September 2, 2023**

4:00 PM † Rose Moldenhauer  
by Judy Campbell

#### **Sunday, Sunday 3, 2023**

8:00 AM Pro Populo  
10:00 AM † Donald Bowman  
by Family



The Rosary is prayed before each weekday Mass Tuesday through Friday beginning at 7:05 AM.

## *Liturgical Roles Sept. 2-3*

### **Minister of Holy Communion**

4:00 PM Kelly Jakes, Mark Outzen, Mary Schaub  
8:00 AM Dcn. Terry Bell, Mary Jo Schumacher,  
Erica Stanek  
10:00 AM Dcn. Terry Bell, Shannon Klar, Mary Olson

### **Lector**

4:00 PM Therese van Oss, Joseph van Oss  
8:00 AM Linda Elsen, Barbara Stetzer  
10:00 AM Polly Berendes, Fred Berneking

### **Server**

4:00 PM Aubrey Jakes, Ellyana Jakes  
8:00 AM Porter Stanek, Lincoln Stanek  
10:00 AM Louie Berendes, Hank Berendes

### **Cantor**

4:00 PM Christine J Nelson  
8:00 AM Nancy Misch  
10:00 AM Mary Kulas

### **Musician**

4:00 PM Christopher Carskadon  
8:00 AM Jenny Nielsen  
10:00 AM Jenny Nielsen

### **Sacristan**

4:00 PM Linda Gillette  
8:00 AM Mike Keogh  
10:00 AM Mike Wuensch

### **Gift Bearer**

4:00 PM Erin Klar, Steve Klar  
8:00 AM David Parker, Manuokalewa Parker  
10:00 AM Chuck Berendes, Polly Berendes

### **Greeter**

4:00 PM Nora Dickinson, Linda Gillette, Kevin Moyle, Steve Schaub, Chris Schlegel, Peter Schmitz, Phil Watson, Kellie Schmitz-Lead  
8:00 AM Peggy Baumler, Jonathan Baumler, Bob Klar, Cindy Klar, Mary Lawrence, Dave Lawrence, Deke Stanek, Allan Baumler-Lead  
10:00 AM Marcus Klar, Elie Klar, Mason Klar, Jon Mason, Pattie Nimocks, Robb Pretasky, OPEN, Phil Klar-Lead

### **Hospitality**

8:00 AM Joan Weissenberger, Mike Weissenberger  
10:00 AM Charlotte Berendes, Polly Berendes

### **Scrip Sellers**

4:00 PM Vickie Kloss, Heidi Schlegel  
8:00 AM Mary Genz, Sue Moyle  
10:00 AM Tammy Byington, Sheri Skelton

### **Live Streamer**

4:00 PM Joseph van Oss





### CANDIDATES FOR MMOC PASTORAL COUNCIL

The election process will take place at the beginning of weekend Masses on Sept. 16-17. You are eligible to vote if you are a registered member and have received the Sacrament of Confirmation. At the time of the elections you will be invited to vote for two of the following candidates. (There will be no absentee ballots.) Thank you for giving this your prayerful consideration.

#### Nicholas R. Berry



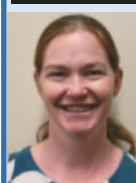
Nick and his wife Janice have five children and three grandchildren. They moved to the La Crosse area in September 2018 and joined MMOC the following spring. They usually attend 8AM Mass.

He is a Minister of Holy Communion and an altar server for funerals. He has been a catechist in the middle school faith formation (Edge) since arrival, and, currently, he is a catechist at the high school level (Life Teen).

Nick retired from the commercial line property and casualty insurance industry.

He is president of his condominium association and enjoys reading, gardening, and bicycle riding.

#### Kimberly Krejchik



Kimberly and her husband Keith have two children – Emily (1<sup>st</sup> Yr. college) and Ella (7<sup>th</sup> Gr. Aquinas MS). They attend 10 AM Mass.

Kimberly attended St. Thomas More Elementary, Aquinas Middle & High Schools. She became Catholic at MMOC in 2001 and they joined MMOC in 2008. Kimberly was a Physician's Assistant until 2015, when she made the transition to stay-at-home mom.

She is a Minister of Holy Communion, sacristan, Scrip seller, and front office volunteer. Kimberly participated in a Catholic Christian Outreach small faith-sharing group (2020-2021) and is starting Diocesan Lay Formation this September.

In her free time, she enjoys spending time with family and friends, traveling, crocheting, gardening, and reading.

#### Kevin Moyle



Kevin attended St. Thomas More Elementary and Aquinas High School. He became a member of MMOC when the parishes consolidated.

He is a Minister of Holy Communion, altar server, greeter, and Scrip seller. He also helps to deliver meals through the Mobile Meals Program.

When time permits he enjoys reading and playing cards.

#### Manu Parker



Manu has a daughter Maile who is a teacher at Longfellow Middle School and a grandson David (7<sup>th</sup> Gr. Aquinas MS). They typically attend Mass on Sunday mornings.

Manu moved to La Crosse two years ago, and immediately joined MMOC. Manu is an active member of PCCW, volunteers with rummage sales, Chicken-ques, cooking for the homeless on Thursdays with the Matthew 25 group, serving funeral dinners, and gift-bearer on Sundays with her grandson.

Manu spent her career in many fields: a journalist for the Washington Post, a teacher in English as a Second Language, a missionary in Costa Rica, and a job coordinator for Afghan refugees.

Manu is a member of the Friends of La Crosse Marsh and the Norskedalen Nature & Heritage Center. In her spare time, Manu is writing a series of cozy mysteries.

#### Natalie Solverson



Natalie and her husband Karl have two children – Harper (9<sup>th</sup> Gr. Central HS) and Tenley (6<sup>th</sup> Gr. Blessed Sacrament). Karl has an older daughter, Emma, who graduated from Westby HS ('23). They usually attend 10 AM Mass.

They joined MMOC in August 2020 when they moved to La Crosse from Westby.

Natalie is active in music ministry, primarily as a cantor. She has also been a catechist in the faith formation program for the past two years.

Natalie has spent most of her career in data analytics and business intelligence. While she worked at UWL for many years, she has recently joined Nesnah Ventures as a member of their IT leadership team.

Natalie and her family are county fair enthusiasts and their kids are involved in 4-H in Vernon County. They enjoy the outdoors at their family farm. Natalie also loves to read, play the piano, and compete in occasional 10K or half marathons.



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