# October 15, 2023





28<sup>™</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# **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

Pasto

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

**Steve Young** 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.

#### Visiting Seminarian

The Diocese of La Crosse has a Journey program that helps men discerning the priesthood and preparing for seminary life. This program is hosted at Mater Redemptoris House of Formation behind the Diocesan Center, and other dioceses have asked to be part of this. Part of the



program is to have parish experience on the second weekend of the month.

Hello, my name is Jesse Mayton. I am one of the 8 men discerning a calling to the priesthood in the Journey program. I am a parishioner at St. James the Less, and I help teach 2 days a week at the Aquinas Cathedral Elementary School.

I am the oldest of 8 siblings with one on the way. I have five sisters, 3 brothers, and two supportive and loving parents. I was homeschooled until 9th grade, when I attended Aquinas High School (Class of '21), where I first met Andrew Brueggen and Fr. Nate Kuhn who lead the Journey program. During my high school years I also attended Andrew's youth group at St. Patrick's in Onalaska, as well as a Life-Teen camp called Covecrest in Tiger, Georgia. I attended that camp with Andrew for 2 years, and one year with Fr. Nate.

It was at Covecrest where I first felt a calling to the priesthood. When we all arrived, we were handed name tags. Everyone's was normal, except mine. For some reason, mine read, "Fr. Jesse." Andrew and I thought the same thing, "Oh, someone must've filled out the wrong box on the form." NOPE! Everything said that I was a student except the big letters that read, "Fr. Jesse." It's no secret that I put that little "coincidence" to the side. It's obviously just a coincidence. Right?

After graduating from Aquinas in 2021, I tried going on with my life by becoming a shift lead at Kwik Trip, joining groups at St. James, and anything under the sun to avoid what that name-tag said. I realized that I wasn't at peace. I felt as if I was like Jonah, "Oh, that way to Nineveh? Ok, take me the opposite way."

I waited mostly because of my strong desire for marriage and a family, but I soon realized that I wouldn't make a great priest if I didn't have that desire. However, I'm glad I waited, because now I feel like I can discern much better this year, than right after I graduated, especially because I know that this is where God wants me.

I am excited for what this year has in store, to serve the parish family here at Mary Mother and to learn a lot from shadowing Fr. Konopa.

#### Handbell Group Rehearsals

Anyone in 3rd grade and older is welcome to give it a try. Our first rehearsal will be on Friday, October 20 from 3:45 PM to 4:30 PM, in the music room, lower level of the Parish Hall. No musical knowledge is required.

#### Time for a New Ministry Schedule

We will soon begin working on a new Ministry Schedule that will run from November 1 - January 31 for Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Sacristans, Cantors, Servers, Gift Bearers, Scrip Sellers, Live Streamers, Hospitality, and Greeters. Please submit any "Can't Serve Dates" through the online scheduling tab on the parish website, www.mmoclacrosse.org or by calling the parish office, 788-5483, ext. 1 by October 17 at the latest. If you are new to the parish or have been here for a while and are interested in participating in a Liturgical Ministry, please contact the parish office to find out more.

#### **Active Threat**

Greeters are being trained to address "Active Threat" scenarios as part of our desire for security. We recognize that an Active Threat is unlikely to take place -- and it's definitely our prayer -- but it's always best to be proactive. If you would like to participate, especially if you'd like to become a Greeter, you are welcome to attend one of the two training sessions provided by retired police officer Troy Nedegaard in the Parish Hall: Sunday, Oct. 15 at 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM and Saturday, Oct. 21 at 8:30 - 9:30 AM. Please thank our Greeters for the many ways they serve us.

Troy Nedegaard's was a police officer with the La Crosse Police Department for 30 plus years and retired in 2021, as a Captain and Director of Training. He was a member of the Emergency Response Team (SWAT) for 20 years and served as the ERT Commander for 9 years.

In 2020, he started working for Kwik Trip, and joined with two other coworkers in starting Kwik Trip's Security Team. For the last 18 years he has been involved in training and providing Active Threat to La Crosse PD and the La Crosse community. He has provided hundreds of presentations to businesses, government entities, school districts, private groups, and religious organizations.

#### World Mission Sunday, October 22

Next weekend, we will unite with the global Church in celebrating World Mission Sunday. This year, Pope Francis illuminates our path with the theme: "Hearts on fire, feet on the move." As we prepare to observe this special day, we are reminded to ignite our hearts with Christ's love and extend that warmth to the most vulnerable corners of our world. Your fervent prayers and upcoming generosity in the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith will bolster the missionaries working in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and certain regions of Latin America and Europe. Let us come together to support them in their mission of love and service. Thank you!

# Social Justice

#### **Catholic Charities Warming Center**

The Warming Center will again be serving homeless adults at 413 South 3rd St., downtown La Crosse from November 1 through April 30. The Warming Center depends on volunteers to fill a variety of functions. Some provide supper, others register the guests as they check in, check their belongings and get them settled for the night while others come on duty in the early morning as the guests have breakfast and prepare for their day.

Mary, Mother of the Church will provide volunteers for the first, third and fifth **Tuesday** evenings of the month. The following are the 14 nights of service: Nov. 7 & 21; Dec. 5 & 19; Jan. 2, 16 & 30; Feb. 6 & 20; March 5 & 19; and April 2, 16 & 30.

Each night we need volunteers for the following service and times: Food for 40 people plus milk to be delivered by 6:30 PM. Six intake people from 6:30 -8:30 PM. Two early morning people from 6:00 -8:00 AM. We will NOT be staffing the over-night hours.

The staff at the Warming Center is encouraging volunteers to attend one **orientation** and **training session:** Wed. Oct 11 from 8-10 AM; Monday Oct 16 from 5-7 PM, Thurs. Oct 19 from 6-8 PM. Every new and veteran volunteer needs to attend one of these training sessions.

Sign-up sheets are in the back of church until Oct 29. Thank you for considering this opportunity to offer food and hospitality to our homeless brothers and sisters. God Bless. --Mary Olson, MMOC Coordinator for the Warming Center, molsonon@mmoclacrosse.org.

# Family Life

#### Welcomed to the Waters of Baptism

Congratulations to Myla Marilyn Servais who was baptized on October 1, 2023. We welcome her to God's family with great joy!

#### Requiescat in Pace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Kay Garbers, Christine Tevis and Betty Shanley Butterfield. Our prayers and sincere sympathy are extended to the families and friends who mourn their loss. Eternal rest grant onto them, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them.

#### Coffee and Kids

Calling all parents, please join us on the third Friday of each month for coffee and conversation as our children play! We will meet from 8:30-10:30 in the lower level of the parish hall Room E. Coffee and snacks will be provided. If you have any questions please call BrieAnn McKenna 319-230-0895. We're looking forward to seeing you Friday October 20!

# **Finance**

#### **Diocesan Annual Appeal**

"Where one alone may be overcome, two together can resist. A three-ply cord is not easily broken." Every household should have received a mailing to support the needs of the local Church and beyond. Please take a moment to read the material and say the prayer. Then make your decision on this year's effort: Let's act quickly and do our part as Mary, Mother of the Church!

#### MMOC 2022 - 2023 Annual Report

The Annual Report has been mailed out. If you have not received one and would like one, contact Steve at secretary@mmoclacrosse.org or 608-788-5483 ext. 1.

# Men's Club

#### **Pancake Breakfast**

The MMOC Men's Club is hosting a pancake breakfast Sunday, October 22 from 8 AM - Noon. The breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, fruit cocktail, milk, juice and coffee. \$5.00 per person; \$4.00 seniors (60+) and kids (6-12); Free for kids 5 and under. Come join us in the Parish Hall for great food and fellowship!

# Faith Formation

#### **Family Faith Formation**

Family Faith Formation meets this Wednesday October 18 from 5:30 PM-6:45 PM at Mary, Mother of the Church. At least one parent/guardian must attend along with their child(ren). Contact Kristin with any questions kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org 608-788-5483 Ext. 4.

#### **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a program for the religious formation of children rooted in the Bible and the liturgy of the Church.

In this program, the 3-6 year old child will encounter Jesus as the Good Shepherd; who loves them, cares for them, and knows them by name. This is accomplished through prayer, listening to Scripture, and giving the child time to work with hands-on materials. Each of the materials presented are linked to either a specific part of the Mass or the Bible, which help to make the mystery of God concrete for the child. To participate, children must be at least three years old by November 1, 2023. Space is limited to 10 children per session. Registration is \$50 per child. If this is a burden, please reach out!

Choose the session that best fits your schedule:

**Fridays:** 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

starting Nov. 3, 2023 - May 17, 2024.

**Saturdays:** 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

starting Nov. 4, 2023 - May 18, 2024. Sessions will not meet for major holiday breaks: Nov. 24/25, Dec. 29/30, and March 29/30.

If you have a love for sharing the faith with the younger members of our parish family, please consider volunteering as an aide during sessions. Training will be provided.

Registration is available on our parish website (under the Education-Preschool tab), via the QR code, or you may contact catechist Sarah Scarlet at 608-406-7686 or sscarlet@mmoclacrosse.org.

Made for More: High School Retreat Young people all over the world are giving up on their faith and the Church. As a result, they are finding themselves



deeply unsatisfied with life. Generation Z is the most anxious, depressed, and despairing generation to walk this Earth. Now more than ever young people need to re-learn who God is, who they are, and their purpose in life. The things of this world will never truly satisfy us...we are 'made for more'. All high school youth (9th-12th grade) are invited to attend this transformative retreat! It will take place at Mary, Mother of the Church, on Oct 28, beginning at 9 AM and concluding after the 4 PM vigil Mass. The cost is \$20 a person and includes lunch and a T-shirt. Registrations close on Oct. 22. Scan the QR code above to register.

#### Matthew 25:38—Lord, when did we see you hungry?

So how does Matthew 25 work? Each Thursday (beginning on November 2 this year) we gather in the Parish kitchen at 1 PM. for 2 to 3 hours and we put the Gospel (Matthew 25) into action as we work together to prepare one big meal which gets delivered to the Warming Center. No one needs to participate every week; and no one is asked to do things they can't or don't want to do. (continued)

#### **Weekly Mass Intentions**

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

7:30 AM **† Edna Spohn** 

By Family

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

7:30 AM **† Jim Volden** 

By James & Donna Omernik

Thursday, October 19, 2023

7:30 AM **† Deacon Sage** 

By Friends

2:00 PM Word Service with Communion at Hillview

**Health Care Center** 

Friday, October 20, 2023

7:30 AM **† Gary Werner** 

By Linda Werner

Saturday, October 21,2023

4:00 PM **†Mary Lou Clark** 

By John Clark

Sunday, October 22, 2023 8:00 AM Barbara Starsky

By Ruth Lawrence

10:00 AM Pro Populo

You will meet some of the kindest people in La Crosse, and you will know in your heart that you are doing God's work. For more info: Matthew25-@mmoclacrosse.org.

# Liturgical Roles Oct. 21-22

## **Minister of Holy Communion**

4:00 PM Chris Schlegel, Mark Misch, Kevin Moyle Deacon Terry Bell, Gloria Biesen, Erica 8:00 AM

Stanek

Deacon Terry Bell, Carol Forer, Lisa 10:00 AM Doering, Kathy McGettigan

Lector

Nancy Misch, Mark Outzen 4:00 PM 8:00 AM Pattie Nimocks, LuAnn Miller 10:00 AM Mary Jo Swartout, Sarah Scarlet

Server

4:00 PM Sue Ernster, Madison Schlegel 8:00 AM Porter Stanek, Lincoln Stanek Louie Berendes, Isabella Neubauer 10:00 AM

Cantor

4:00 PM Peter Schmitz 8:00 AM Dawn Mazzola 10:00 AM Sunday Choir

Musician

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

Sacristan

4:00 PM Mike Wuensch Jane Vogel 8:00 AM 10:00 AM Linda Gillette

**Gift Bearer** 

4:00 PM OPEN, OPEN

8:00 AM Ken Morrison, Michelle Morrison 10:00 AM Jim McGettigan, Kathy McGettigan

Greeters

4:00 PM Arian Arens, Nora Dickinson, Ryan Riebel, Harper Solverson, Jim Spielbauer,

Therese van Oss, Phil Watson, Kellie

Schmitz - Lead

8:00 AM OPEN, Dave Lawrence, Mary Lawrence, Rosie Pennebecker, Deke Stanek, Mike Weissenberger, Joan Weissenberger, Al-

lan Baumler - Lead

Shannon Klar, Marcus Klar, Elie Klar, Ma-10:00 AM son Klar, Riley Klar, Cullen Pittman, Kyle

White, Polly Berendes - Lead

Hospitality

Nancy Pederson, Jeff Pederson 8:00 AM Kathy Houlihan, Pat Houlihan 10:00 AM

**Scrip Sellers** 

4:00 PM Vickie Kloss, Heidi Schlegel 8:00 AM Bob Jansky, Charlene Jansky 10:00 AM Tammy Byington, OPEN

**Live Streamer** 

4:00 PM Joseph van Oss







**Complete!** Last week Winona Nursery and Fowler and Hammer finished the Weston Street sidewalk and boulevard restoration along with replacing 3 trees and adding 4 trees at the shed.

The idea behind a complete sidewalk overhaul was due to the fact that over time the sidewalk was cracking, not shedding water properly especially in the winter months and showing its age of over 30+ years. Fowler & Hammer designed the sidewalk so that it now crowns in the middle and all "stones" (i.e. concrete squares) pitch towards the road. This also allowed for new ADA compliant ramps near our sign/flag pole and at the corner of Weston and 19th Street. The new ramps will allow snow removal to be more efficient and remove nearly all trip hazards.

Winona Nursery installed 5" of black dirt in the boule-vard and shaped the soil on the field side to match the contours along with the sidewalk and then added hydro-seed. This summer was a challenge with the minimal rain we received since May. 2 Maple trees perished due to the drought and 1 pine tree was removed near the shed in order to maintain the slope for drainage away from the shed's concrete apron. Winona Nursery replaced the former Maples with a Princeton Elm and an Espresso Kentucky Coffee Tree - Maple hybrid (No, this will not produce coffee beans!) and installed a new pine tree to the northwest of the dumpster enclosure. Lastly, 4 narrow juniper trees were added behind the statue of Mary west of the shed.

MMOC is thankful to have completed this final project and are grateful to Winona Nursery and Fowler & Hammer's crew for their commitment to quality and pride in their work -- it shows!

We thank God who has brought to completion the good work He has begun in us. Thank you to all who have prayed and donated so generously over the years!

Andy Foley Director of Buildings & Grounds







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