

December 3, 2023



# MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH



1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### 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 us 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 re-  
quest 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

### 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

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Funeral Coordinator

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**Andy Foley** ext. 9

Buildings and Grounds

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### 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.

# 1st Sunday of Advent

## Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

This holy day of obligation will have Masses offered on Friday, Dec. 8 at noon and 5:30 PM. There will be no 7:30 AM Mass at MMOC.

### Thursday, December 7

- 5:10 PM Cathedral
- 5:30 PM Holy Trinity  
St. James the Less
- 6:00 PM St. Patrick, Onalaska
- 6:30 PM St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Holmen
- 7:00 PM Roncalli Newman

### Friday, December 8

- 6:30 AM Cathedral  
St. Patrick, Onalaska
- 8:00 AM Blessed Sacrament  
Holy Trinity Parish  
St. James the Less  
St. Patrick, Onalaska
- 8:15 AM St. Charles Borromeo, Genoa
- 8:30 AM St. Teresa of Kolkata, West Salem  
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Holmen
- Noon Mary, Mother of the Church**  
Roncalli Newman
- 12:10 PM Cathedral  
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Holmen
- 5:30 PM Mary, Mother of the Church**
- 6:00 PM Blessed Sacrament  
St. Joseph Parish, St. Joseph Ridge
- 6:30 PM St. Teresa of Kolkata, West Salem
- 7:00 PM St. Charles Borromeo, Genoa

## NEEDED: Liturgical Ministers

Liturgical positions need to be filled for the Immaculate Conception on Friday, Dec. 8 including Sacristans, Ministers of Holy Communion, Greeters, Gift Bearers, and Servers. Please consider filling in if you are available. Go to [www.mmoclacrosse.org](http://www.mmoclacrosse.org) and click on the Ministry Scheduler link at the top of the page, or call Steve at 608-788-5483, ext. 1.

## Eucharistic Adoration

Mary, Mother of the Church will host its monthly Holy Hour — Thursday Dec. 7 at 4:45 PM.



## Communion Calls

The following parishioners will receive Communion in their homes this week: Gerald Sheehan; Rosemary Boland; Carol Weis; Dick Rady; Pam Badger; Tom & Gloria Hundt; Shirley White; Shirley Marson.

If you know of someone who would like to receive the Eucharist in their home, call the parish office at 788-5483 ext 7.

## Early Bulletin Deadlines

It is that time of the season when all bulletin items are due earlier than Mondays. Bulletin for:

- Dec. 17 due by Wednesday Dec. 7
- Dec. 24 due by Wednesday Dec. 13
- Jan. 7 due by Tuesday Dec. 26



## A Night with St. Nicholas

Join us for an evening with St. Nicholas. This family event will be held on the eve of the feast of St. Nicholas, Tuesday December 5 from 6 - 7pm at Mary, Mother of the Church in the parish hall. The evening will include singing, crafts, games and treats along with a visit from St. Nicholas himself! All children ages 3 to 7 are welcome to attend with their families. Older siblings are welcome too! There is no cost to this event but to help us better plan, please let us know how many children are coming by registering using the QR code below. Contact Kristin with any question [kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org) 608-784-5483 Ext. 4.

## Children's Christmas Choir

We are asking all children, 5K and older, to join our Sunday Choir in leading the music on Sunday, December 24 for the 4 PM Christmas Eve Mass (prelude music starting at 3:30 PM with the Sunday Choir). All music will be done from the choir loft.

Mrs. Marilyn Jensen-Henry, Cathedral's music teacher, and Mrs. Mary Jo Lium will be leading the music. We will NOT have a large group rehearsal. The music will be simple Christmas carols known to the kids. We are asking everyone to be in the choir loft, ready to go at 3:40 PM. To make sure we have enough music, please contact Mary Jo Lium if your child(ren) will be singing in the choir this year. Thank you! ([mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org))

## The New Life Choir

On Christmas Day, Monday, December 25 at the 9 AM Mass, the New Life Choir will perform. We will meet to rehearse on Tue., Dec. 12 at 9:00 AM in the music room (lower level of Parish Hall). Rehearsal will be about one hour. Email or call Mary Jo Lium if you are interested in joining the New Life Choir ([mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org) or 608-788-5483 ext. 8.)

## Angel Tree 2023

The tree is up and decorated with angels. This project is designed to help Catholic Charities provide for families in need during the Christmas season. As in the past, each angel will have a dollar amount attached. You have the opportunity to donate cash or check, or purchase scrip of your choice in that amount and place it in the box. All angels and donations need to be returned by TODAY, Dec. 3. Thank you for always being so generous.

## Christmas Flower Donations

We are receiving donations toward the purchase of flowers and decorations in memory of a loved one or as a gift. You can use the flower envelope in your Nov/Dec. packet or use a blank envelope with your donation and the name of the person(s) you would like to memorialize. A list of those who are honored and remembered will be published in January.

## Monthly Parish Social

Join us Thursday, December 7 after the 7:30 AM Mass in the Parish Hall for coffee, conversation and fellowship.

# Mary, Mother of the Church

## The Season of Advent

The word Advent means "comings," and it has a threefold character:

1. A season that directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time.
2. A season to prepare us for Christmas—Christ's first coming to us.
3. A season in which we seek a deeper awareness of Jesus' coming to us, present in each moment of every day—as indeed, He is Emmanuel, "God with us"; He comes to us most especially in the Holy Eucharist.



The readings from the Sacred Scriptures during the four Sundays of Advent assist us in focusing our attention on these "comings." The First Sunday of Advent emphasizes Christ's Second Coming (which is also the ongoing theme for weekday Masses until Dec. 16). The Gospel for the first Sunday of Advent is Mark 13:33-37, and we see the theme of the Second Coming in Jesus' words: "Be constantly on the watch! Stay awake! You do not know when the appointed time will come." His words call us to be watchful in prayer, ready for the Lord to come again. This is not meant to be about fear or worry, but we are to "wait in joyful hope."

## Advent Sacrament of Reconciliation

Penance Service with individual confessions

- MMOC: December 13 at 6 PM
- St. Patrick, Onalaska: December 17 at 7 PM

Individual Confessions

- St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral: Dec. 18 at 9 AM - 6 PM

## Pope's December Prayer Intention

For persons with disabilities. We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



## Family Life

### Requiescat in Pace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of John Grelle. Our prayers and sincere sympathy are extended to the families and friends who mourn their loss. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon him.*

### Welcomed to the Waters of Baptism

Congratulations to Harrison Robert Woods who was baptized on November 26, 2023. We welcome him to God's family with great joy!

### Mobile Meals Coordinator

Our parish is super-generous when it comes to food: Warming Center meals, Matthew 25 meals for homeless, food baskets, Men's Club food drive for Place of Grace (Lent), and more. One of those "and more" is Mobile Meals, which also deserves extra attention. Sue Moyle has coordinated this effort for 20+ years and we will need to find her replacement by Christmas

or contact Mobile Meals and let them know Mary, Mother of the Church is unable to provide for 2024. The main responsibility of this open position is to schedule volunteers from MMOC to deliver meals six weeks each year to elderly and shut-ins. Contact Sue at 608-787-0076 to learn more before making a commitment.

### Warming Center Volunteers on Tuesday, Dec. 5

Food & Milk (to be delivered to 413 S. 3rd St. by 6:30 PM): Virginia Horstman, Maureen Monk, Carol Forer, Elaine Becker

Intake (6:30 PM - 9 PM): Mary Olson, Karen Deshler, Sarah Kopski, Sue Halter, Matt Deshler, Patrick Stoffel

Morning Volunteers (6 - 8:30 AM Wed.): Maureen Monk, OPEN

Free haircuts by Linda Kuehl

--Mary Olson, MMOC Coordinator for Warming Center, molson@mmoclacrosse.org.

## Faith Formation

### Family Faith Formation

Family Faith Formation meets this Wednesday, December 6 at 5:30-6:45 PM at Mary, Mother of the Church. We will be exploring our next monthly topic: The Domestic Church. Families will also receive new packets with At Home lessons. Contact Kristin with any questions kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org 608-788-5483 ext. 4.

## Finance

### Diocesan Annual Appeal

The target goal for our parish is \$110,420. As of Nov. 29, parish participation is at 25% Please be generous. If you are unable to contribute financially, please return the appeal form to the diocese with \$0 written in the amount pledged line. Thank you.



## Eucharistic Revival

### Two Minutes With Jesus

1. The word Eucharist actually means thanksgiving. The Sacrament of the Eucharist is an action of thanksgiving to God. We want to thank our Heavenly Father for His works: creating the whole world and each one of us; sending His Son to redeem us through His Death and Resurrection; healing and purifying us

# 1st Sunday of Advent

through the grace of the Sacraments; and giving us the gift of Eternal Life with Him. At Mass, when we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, it is the most important time to give thanks. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). This week, read how Jesus gave thanks to God in Luke 22:14-20.

2. The Eucharist is called the Lord's Supper.

On the night before He was crucified, Jesus had a meal with His Apostles in the Upper Room. It was at this "Last Supper" before He died that He instituted the Holy Eucharist. This was Jesus' way of remaining with us throughout all time. During supper, Jesus changed the bread and wine into His Body and Blood, saying "This is My Body which is given for you" as He will be crucified the next day. "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My Blood" (Luke 22:19b-20).

Jesus offered His Body and His Blood on the cross so that we could be adopted into the family of God and live united with Him on earth and forever in Heaven. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, thank you for always remaining with us in the Holy Eucharist. This week, read how Jesus celebrated the Last Supper in Luke 22:7-20.



NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival**



## Weekly Mass Intentions

**Tuesday, December 5, 2023**

**7:30 AM † Andrew Coleman & Jim Arens**  
By Arian Arens & Family

**Wednesday, December 6, 2023**

**7:30 AM † Andrew Coleman**  
By The Family

**Thursday, December 7, 2023**

**7:30 AM † Deceased members of the Groetsch,  
Pahs & Pretasky families**  
By Kerry & Sue Groetsch

**Friday, Dec. 8, 2023 - Solemnity of the Immaculate  
Conception**

**12 PM † Howard Olson**  
By Anita Olson & Family

**5:30 PM † Edna Spohn**  
By The Family

**Saturday, December 9, 2023**

**4:00 PM † Phil Steinhoff**  
By John & Pat Stellflue

**Sunday, December 10, 2023**

**8:00 AM Pro Populo**

**10:00 AM Deceased & Living Members of the Peter  
& Anna Spaeth Family**  
By William Spaeth

## *Liturgical Roles Dec. 9-10*

### **Minister of Holy Communion**

4:00 PM Kevin Moyle, Mary Schaub, Chis Schlegel  
8:00 AM Deacon Terry Bell, Anita Olson, Charles Heiderscheit  
10:00 AM Deacon Terry Bell, OPEN-Choir, Kimberly Krejchik, Lori Hammes

### **Lector**

4:00 PM Mary Olson, Linda Gillette  
8:00 AM Bob Mahr, Francesca Ortmeier  
10:00 AM Mary Jo Swartout, Sara Scarlet

### **Server**

4:00 PM Sue Ernster, Keegan Gerling  
8:00 AM Jackie Taylor, Olivia Taylor  
10:00 AM Ella Krejchik, Abby Shelfhout

### **Cantor**

4:00 PM Christine Nelson  
8:00 AM Nancy Misch  
10:00 AM Sunday Choir

### **Musician**

4:00 PM Haylee Pagenkopf  
8:00 AM Jenny Nielsen  
10:00 AM Mary Jo Lium

### **Sacristan**

4:00 PM Mike Wuensch  
8:00 AM Jane Vogel  
10:00 AM John Conzemius

### **Gift Bearer**

4:00 PM Steve & Erin Klar  
8:00 AM Michael & Danice Taylor  
10:00 AM Jim & Kathy McGettigan

### **Greeters**

4:00 PM Phil Watson, Steve Schaub, Neil Kumm, Joe Riemer, Arian Arens, Olivia Rudie, Patrick Hogan, OPEN-Lead  
8:00 AM Jon Mason, Peggy Baumler, OPEN, Donna Burns, Pat Buns, OPEN, Jack Branson, Allan Baumler-Lead  
10:00 AM Keith Krejchik, Andrew Egan, Maddox Herlitzke, Kyle White, Isaac Schelfhout, Marcus Klar, Elie Klar, OPEN-Lead

### **Hospitality**

8:00 AM Bob & Cindy Klar  
10:00 AM Jim & Julie Wagner

### **Scrip Sellers**

4:00 PM Vickie Kloss, Dee Sauer  
8:00 AM Kerry & Sue Groetsch  
10:00 AM Sue Pretasky, Sheri Skelton

### **Live Streamer**

4:00 PM Joseph van Oss



# 1st Sunday of Advent

## 2023 Cookie Walk Hopes

As the day of the Cookie Walk draws near, it is our hope you are finding enjoyment in preparing for this event. It is our added hope you will stop by on December 9 in the Parish Hall to see your work and the work of others, our parish ladies (and men), at its best. Everything wrapped around this day, for many to enjoy, came from each of you. A committee, through its work, is always challenged to do its best for who it represents; it is our final hope as 2023 draws closer to its ending that we have done our very best for our parish family with this event.

Final signups for the Cookie Walk are in the back of church this weekend. With 15 days from our event to Christmas we want households to have a "taste" of MMOC within their surroundings. Please do remember to check the sign-up sheets as there are areas still needing help. Also, please review the sign-up sheets for workers needed the day before and the day of the Cookie Walk. This weekend is also the final weekend for raffle tickets to be purchased. Drawings will take place on Saturday at the Cookie Walk.

Drop-offs are scheduled to begin Thursday morning, December 7. Please label if your goodies contain nuts. Peanut labels will be furnished at the drop-off area to also assist with this. If you have not picked up a drop-off instruction card, they are available at the signup table. The Cookie Walk Committee wishes all a very happy and blessed holiday season.

## MMOC Cookie Walk 2023 Raffle Baskets

Raffle tickets are on sale with 2 locations available for purchasing tickets: the back of church (with a descriptive reading of each basket's contents) and in the Parish Hall where The Mystery Box, furniture and an assortment of raffle baskets will be show-cased. The following are brief snapshots of each basket:

#1 - **The Mystery Box:** This ???? is valued at \$350.00.

#2 - **Christmas Eve** highlighting that special evening of family time, whether putting a puzzle together, playing a game, reading a traditional favorite or even coloring Christmas stockings, topped off with a Domino's pizza gift card.

#3 - **Christmas Morning** featuring a waking up to breakfast basket of a waffle Nostalgia maker, pan-cake/waffle mix, syrup and a Walmart gift card.

#4 - **The Little Baker** (For the future Cookie Walk maker who needs a little of everything for starters) featuring her own nostalgia gingerbread maker (like Moms), cookie/cake mixes, a baking set, complimented by a Festival gift card.

#5 - **Relax and Rejuvenate** (Spa Basket) helping to pamper that someone special featuring a special RELAX candle, a bottle of River Gold wine, and gift cards to help with the pampering. Get that special manicure and pedicure at The Salon Professional Academy.

#6 - **Spirited Selections**, a "festive" and spirited wine basket featuring red and white wines from the Vernon Vineyards among a selection of chocolate goodies and complimentary gifts.

#7 - **Toasting Good Moments**, a wine basket that helps one when entertaining featuring tumblers, coasters, and an array of snacks paired with red and white wines from the Vernon Vineyards.

#8 - **Taste of Italy** featuring a basket that if one cannot go to Italy, you can experience Italy in your own home. Featuring a variety of wines, variety of pastas and sauce.

#9 - **Toddler, Youth and Adult chairs** each uniquely complimented.

Raffle tickets are \$1 each, 6 for \$5, 12 for \$10. Drawing at the Cookie Walk (need not to be present to win).

*Mary, Mother of the Church*  
**Cookie Walk & Craft Sale**

**Saturday, December 9th**  
**7:30 - 1:00 PM**


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