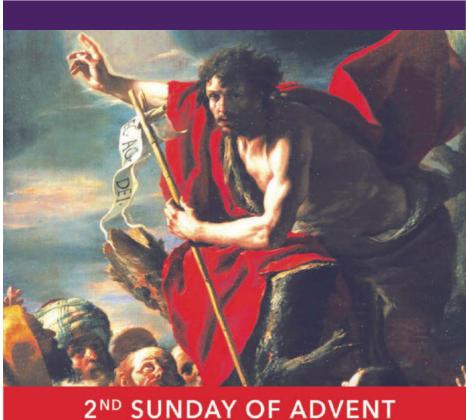
December 10, 2023





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.

SCRIE

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 Pastor

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

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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

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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.

Advent: Preparing Our Hearts for Christ's Coming

The Gospel for the Second Sunday of Advent is Mark 1:1-8, and the distinctive theme is John the Baptist. John was sent as a messenger to prepare for the coming of the Savior. John was "...a herald's voice in the desert crying, make ready the way of the Lord." A great way to prepare our hearts for Christ's coming is to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, i.e. confession. It brings peace to the mind and soul to set aside the busyness of the season, quiet down with an examination of conscience and receive God's grace through this sacrament of healing and forgiveness. This cleansing and "making room" for the Lord prepares us to receive all that He wants to give us.

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

Special Mass Schedule

This year, the Fourth Sunday of Advent lands on Sunday, Dec. 24; rather than having the usual 8 AM & 10 AM Mass schedule that day, there will only be one Sunday Mass at 9 AM.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

- Dec. 23 at 4:00 PM
- Dec. 24 at 9:00 AM

<u>Christmas</u>

- Dec. 24 at 4:00 PM & 6:30 PM
- Dec. 25 at 9:00 AM

Mary, Mother of God*

Jan. 1 at 9:00 AM

*Not a holy day of obligation this year, so there will be no 4 PM Vigil Mass on Sunday, Dec. 31.

NEEDED: Liturgical Ministers

Liturgical positions need to be filled for the Christmas Mass on Dec. 25 at 9 AM. Positions needed included Sacristans, Ministers of Holy Communion, Greeters, Gift Bearers, and Servers. Please consider filling in if you are available. Go to 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.

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. Marilynn 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! (milium@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 or 608-788-5483 ext. 8.)

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.

Early Bulletin Deadlines

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

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

Angel Tree 2023

A huge thank you for all the donations to the Angel Tree this year. Many families will have a brighter Christmas due to your generosity. May your faithful hearts inspire others to know Jesus and His wonderful works. The total amount raised will be published in a future bulletin.

St. Nicholas Thank You!

A big thank for all the people that volunteered their time, talent and treasure for making this evening an event to remember.

Religious Retirement Collection

The annual collection in parishes for the national Retirement Fund for Religious will be taken this weekend. Religious communities across the nation benefit significantly from this national collection. Thank you for your generosity.

Family Life

Wedding Banns (I)

Deven Nietzold & Lily Manning on December 30, 2023. Keep them in your prayers as they prepare for their wedding.



Coffee and Kids 12/15

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 AM 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, December 15!

Diocese of La Crosse Guidelines for Reporting Instances of Child Abuse:

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its <u>policies and</u> <u>procedures</u>, seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest,

deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local Parish and on the diocesan website. If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679 or tbrown@diolc.org.

PCCW

Cookie Walk Thank You

Everyone who donated cookies, candy, breads, pies, soup, chili, craft, time, talent, treasure to this year's Cookie Walk, thank you! Please keep an eye on upcoming bulletins for a profit report.

Social Justice

Warming Center Volunteers on Tuesday, Dec. 19

Food & Milk (to be delivered to 413 S. 3rd St. by 6:30 PM): Katie Ott, Robin Woodwick, Angela Schlack-Haerer (food & milk)

Intake (6:30 PM - 9 PM): Mary Olson, Sarah Kopski, Pat Korger, Terri Pedace, Heidi Korger

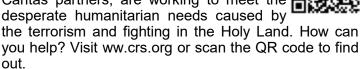
Morning Volunteers (6 - 8:30 AM Wed.): Brad & Lynn Sturm, Tracey Mullaney

Free haircuts by Linda Kuehl

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

Donate to Help the Victims of Violence in the Holy Land

Catholic Relief Services, in conjunction with Caritas partners, are working to meet the desperate humanitarian needs caused by



Eucharistic Revival

Two Minutes With Jesus

1. The Eucharist is called the Breaking of Bread. At the Last Supper, Jesus gave thanks, then blessed and broke the bread and gave it to the Apostles. Jesus repeated this action on the day of His Resurrection as He shared a meal with the disciples in Emmaus. The disciples had left Jerusalem, believing that Jesus was dead. As Jesus walked with the disciples to Emmaus, they did not recognize Him. It was in the "breaking of the bread" that He opened their eyes to recognize Him as the risen Lord. This transfigured Bread and Wine -

the Eucharist - is the Gift of Himself to them, and now to us. Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, please grant me the grace to recognize You in the Holy Eucharist – please reveal this reality to my heart! This week, read the passage of the disciples recognizing Jesus in "the breaking of the bread" in Luke 24:13-35.

2. The Eucharist is called the Memorial of the Lord's Death and Resurrection. Jesus instructed the Apostles at the Last Supper to "do this in memory of Me." The Eucharist is a memorial, but this means much more than recalling something to mind, or remembering an event from the past. At Mass, the Death and Resurrection of Jesus become present and real so that our lives may be conformed to them. "When the Church celebrates the Eucharist, She commemorates Christ's Passover [Jesus passing over from death to life], and it is made present: the sacrifice of Christ offered once for all on the Cross remains ever present" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraphs 1363, 1364). Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, please help me to prepare beforehand to enter into the Memorial – the making present – of Your Death and Resurrection at Mass. This week, read how St. Paul describes the Last Supper, capturing Jesus' words: "Do this in remembrance of Me" in 1 Corinthians 11:23 -26.

Finance

Plan Ahead For The Holidays

As Christmas approaches, please plan ahead for your Scrip purchases for all your shopping, baking, decorating and gift buying needs. You can buy Scrip in the office on Fridays from 8 AM to 3 PM. You can also buy scrip online, please call Mike or Sister Meg in the office for all the details at 788-5483, ext. 2.

Diocesan Annual Appeal

The target goal for our parish is \$110,420. As of December 5, parish participation is at 26% 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.



Faith Formation

Family Faith Formation

Family Faith Formation does NOT meet Wednesday December 13. Families should be completing At Home Lesson 3-1: Live Like Jesus and 3-2: Love Like Jesus. We will see you again on December 20. Contact Kristin with any questions kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org 608-788-5483 Ext. 4.

Community Events

The Solemnity of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Nearly 500 years ago, Our Lady of Guadalupe appeared to Saint Juan Diego in Mexico. The Solemnity of Our Lady of Guadalupe is December 12th. All are invited to celebrate at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, in La Crosse, WI. The day includes a Bilingual Mass offered by Cardinal Burke. Learn more at GuadalupeShrine.org/events!

Pilgrimage for LIFE – Let's Bear Witness!! | Jan. 17 -21 | Washington D.C.

Your pro-life witness is needed more than ever! Come with us by coach bus to Washington, DC, to participate in the annual March for Life. For ages 13 and up, \$400/person. Parish or school groups must have each participant complete the registration online, fill out the required forms and pay a non-refundable deposit of \$100. The remainder of the fee will be paid to the parish or school. For more information and to register, visit diolc.org/yya/youth-opportunities/pilgrimage-for-life or scan the QR code to the right.

"Do I Have To Do Everything Around Here?" Not only is this something you may find yourself thinking on a monthly/weekly/daily basis, but it is also the title of the newest "Coffee with Kevin" podcast episode presented by the Diocese of La Crosse premiering on December 11.



"Coffee With Kevin" Podcast Tells Listeners About Cathedral Inititatives



Liturgical Roles Dec. 16-17

Minister	of	Holy	Comm	union

4:00 PM Kellie Schmitz, Kevin Moyle, Mark Outzen

8:00 AM Deacon Terry Bell, Sue Moyle,

Charles Heiderscheit

10:00 AM Deacon Terry Bell, Mary Olson,

Lector

4:00 PM Peter Schmitz, Linda Gillette

8:00 AM Linda Elsen, Fred Berneking

10:00 AM Terri Pedace, Mary Jo Swartout

Server

4:00 PM OPEN, Sue Ernster

8:00 AM Nolan Richards, Olivia Taylor

10:00 AM Olivia Neubauer, Isabella Neubauer

Cantor

4:00 PM Linda Kloet 8:00 AM Sara Edman 10:00 AM Rick Wilson

Musician

4:00 PM Christopher Carskaden 8:00 AM Christopher Carskaden 10:00 AM Christopher Carskaden

Sacristan

4:00 PM Linda Gillette 8:00 AM Dan & Kathy Skiles 10:00 AM John Conzemius

Gift Bearer

4:00 PM OPEN, OPEN

8:00 AM Sandy Pitsch, Anita Olson 10:00 AM Jerry Kernan, Anne Kernan

Greeters

4:00 PM Patrick Hogan, Joan Weissenberger,

Nora Dickinson, Jim Spielbauer, Mark Misch, Phil Watson, Neil Kumm, Christ Schlegel-Lead

8:00 AM Kerry Groetsch, Donna Burns, Pat Burns, Rosie Pennebecker, Karen

Perry, Jon Mason, Peggy Baumler,

Sue Groetsch-Lead

10:00 AM Pattie Nimocks, Marcus Klar, Elie

Klar, Mason Klar, Nathan Wintheiser, Mike Wintheiser, OPEN, Rob Pre-

tasky-Lead

Hospitality

8:00 AM LuAnne Miller, Francesca Ortmeier 10:00 AM David Zoroufy, Tammy Zoroufy

Scrip Sellers

4:00 PM Heidi Schlegel, Kellie Schmitz 8:00 AM Bob & Charlene Jansky

10:00 AM Tammy Byington, Mary Schaub

Live Streamer

4:00 PM Joseph Van Oss



Bishop Callahan's Advent Message
Bishop Callahan's Advent remarks can be heard by visiting the Diocese of La Crosse's YouTube channel or by using your smartphone's camera to scan the QR code



Advent 2023: Resources for Meditation:

- Bishop Barron's daily Gospel reflections www.wordonfire.org/reflections/advent
- Fr. Joseph Mary Wolfe, MFVA Weekly Advent Reflection Videos (2 min.): What can we give Jesus for Christmas? www.ewtn.com/catholicism/seasons-and-feast-days/advent-14416
- Hallow's Advent Pray25 with C.S. Lewis https:// hallow.com/blog/pray25/
- Matthew Kelly: Best Advent Ever www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent.htm
- EWTN daily Advent Reflections www.ewtn.com/ catholicism/reflections/advent
- Seven Scripture Readings for Advent on a downloadable prayer card available under the title "Praying with Scripture - diolc.org/deeper.
- Scripture Readings from Mass each day during Advent - bible.usccb.org.

Advent on the myParish App

"Prepare Your Heart" is a series of daily video reflections by Fr. Agustino Torres, CFR. This video series, along with other Advent resources, may be found on the MMOC "myParish" app. Take a moment to install MMOC's free app on your phone or tablet. Visit mmoc.mobi and touch iPhone or Android. Once you've got the myParish app on your device, pop it open and look for the icon below to access the video reflection for the day.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 12, 2023 7:30 AM † Jerry Roesler

By Stefana Pretasky

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

7:30 AM † Donald Bowman By The Family

Thursday, December 14, 2023

7:30 AM + Luella Marx

By Rod & Bev Kadrmas

Friday, December 15, 2023

7:30 AM Mike & Eli Kirchner
By Joseph & Barbara Clements

Saturday, December 16, 2023

4:00 PM † Donald Bowman By Family

Sunday, December 17, 2023

8:00 AM Pro Populo 10:00 AM † Roland Lev

By Bill & Kathy O'Driscoll





Advent on Formed.org: Rooted

This new 22-episode series guides Catholics through a daily Advent re-flection using the Jesse Tree model traditionally practiced by families. Each seven-minute episode introduces the ancestors of Jesus Christ, shares a Scripture passage, and offers an engaging, practical reflection.

"Rooted" helps viewers apply the passage and related teachings to each day of Advent.

Advent on Formed.org: Behold

Let the Holy Family be your light through Advent as you receive the healing power of Christ.

In this beautiful guided video series, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT—author of the bestselling book Restore and co-host of the Abiding Together Podcast — walks with you as you explore familial wounds with the help of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.

Each week of Behold will focus on a different theme that you can connect to your life in a practical way:

Week 1: Motherhood—Receive Mary as your mother and let her tender love soften your heart toward your earthly mother.

Week 2: Fatherhood—Adopt Joseph as your father and embrace his loving strength as you seek healing in your relationship with your own father.

Week 3: Childhood—Become childlike with Jesus and remember the core of who you are as you release your inner joy and playfulness.

Week 4: Stable—Restore peace and unity in your family and regain hope.

Advent on Formed.org for Kid

Brother Francis: The Days of Advent

Brother Francis leads us on a daily journey in this special seasonal celebration of the coming of the Lord! Featuring meditations, prayers, and suggested activities to keep our focus on Christ this Christmas.

Christmas Eve | Catholic All Year At Home w/ Kendra Tierney

Combining the German traditions from her heritage and the Mexican traditions popular in her hometown of Los Angeles, Kendra shares her Christmas Eve menu. Learn about the luminaria tradition, too, to usher in the Light of the World!







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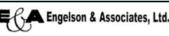


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