# February 4, 2024



MARY MOTHER of the church



# Fifth 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 Greeters 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 8am-3pm.

#### **BULLETIN DEADLINE**

Requests are due to the office by Monday in written format.

#### **PARISH STAFF** 788-5483

ext. 3

**Rev. Brian D. Konopa** Pastor frkonopa@mmoclacrosse.org

Rev. Mr. Terry Bellext. 6Deacon - Adult Faith Formation&& RCIA/OCIAtbell@mmoclacrosse.orgSr. Kathy Stuttgen, FSPAext. 7

Ministry with the Elderly and Sick kstuttgen@faspa.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 Ossext. 0Funeral Coordinatortvanoss@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 Parish Secretary secretary@mmoclacrosse.org

#### **AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

Ted Knutson	784-8585	
President Tara Key	782-5998	
Principal, Cathedral School	102-3770	
Kate Moll	782-5564	
Principal, Blessed Sacrament School		
Angela Koblitz	783-5483	

Principal, St. Patrick School, Onalaska

Andrew BradleyPrincipal, Aquinas Middle School784-0156Principal, Aquinas High School784-0287

#### **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.

# Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Super Bowl Sunday Pancake Breakfast

The Men's Club will be hosting a pancake breakfast on Sunday, February 11 from 8 AM - 12 noon. The breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, fruit cocktail, 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 some great food and fellowship!

### World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

This day of prayer is celebrated in parishes on the weekend of Feb. 3-4. Please pray for all those who have answered the call to consecrated life, aspiring towards joy-filled holiness in the service of the Church and world. Pray also for many more laborers to enter the vineyard so that Jesus Christ may be better known, experienced, and loved. We take this occasion to thank God for the lives of grace of Sr. Kathy Stuttgen, FSPA and Sr. Meg Earsley, FSPA who serve our parish.

### Ash Wednesday Schedule



7:30 AM NO Mass this day 12 Noon Mass (livestreamed) 5:30 PM Mass.

#### **Old Palms**

If you are looking for a way to dispose of blessed palms, there is a box in the gathering space for this purpose. We will dispose of them in a proper manner. Traditionally, the ashes from blessed palms are used for Ash Wednesday.

#### Silver Circle

B 2. O 63. BINGO!

Yes, come and enjoy your favorite 15 22 40 50 70 entertainment at the Silver Circle. Pot luck lunch will be served at noon on 10 27 39 59 75 February 15. If you are in need of a ride,



give Sister Kathy a call at 608-788-5483 ext. 7. And she will make it happen. What a way to start Lent!

### The Pope's February Prayer Intention

For the terminally ill: We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

#### Lenten Fish Fry Friday, February 16

4 PM—7 PM



Dine-in or Carry-Out Baked or Fried Cod, Coleslaw, Bread, French Fries

or Baked Potato,

2 Piece—\$12, 3-Piece \$14

\$5 Kids Menu: Grilled Cheese, Fries, Fruit

Dine-in includes milk or coffee

BEER, WINE and DESSERT available at dine-in for additional cost

# Family Life

#### **New Parishioners**

MMOC is delighted to welcome the Key family, Cody, Cassi, and Walker to the parish!

#### **Requiescat in Pace**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Doris Stuber, Colleen Vollenweider and Anatalia Slater. Our pravers 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.

# Faith Formation

#### **Family Faith Formation**

Family Faith Formation does NOT meet Wednesday February 7. Families should be completing At Home Lesson 5-1 The Holy Trinity and 5-2 The Holy Spirit at Work in Your Life. We will see you again on February 14ht, Ash Wednesday to celebrate the start of Lent with Mass followed by a little Family Trivia. Contact Kristin with questions at kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org 608-788-5483 Ext. 4.

#### Lenten Adult Faith Formation Program

Have you ever wondered...why we say and do certain things during Mass? What is the basis for our prayers, or practices, and our rituals during the Liturgy? You are not alone....so together let's learn about the Mass. YOU are invited to a 5-week Bible Study for everyone called "A Biblical Walk Through the Mass" beginning the week of February 18. See below for locations and start times.

- Tuesdays: 9:00-10:30 AM St. James the Less (basement)
- Wednesdays: 8:15-9:45 AM MMOC (parish hall) •
- Wednesdays: 1:00-2:30 PM Holy Trinity (Leo Hall) •
- Thursdays: 9:15-10:45 AM St. Patrick (basement) •
- Thursdays: 5:00-6:30 PM St. Patrick (basement)
- Thursdays 6:30-8:00 PM Blessed Sacrament (parish hall)
- Fridays 10:30-12:00 Noon Cathedral (Undercroft)
- OR you can do a Home Study Option

The cost for class materials is \$24.00 which includes a book, workbook, and access to online videos. Register participating parish office, any online at at www.stpatsonalaska.com, or by contacting Amy Capelli at (608)783-0847 or amy capelli@charter.net.

#### Women's Small Faith-Sharing Group Opportunity

Are you trying to figure out what it means to make Jesus' life and mission your focus or how to build a relationship with Him? Are you asking, "Where do I begin?" As with all great relationships, taking the time to get to know the person is best. The same is true with our relationship with Jesus Christ. To make His life and mission our focus, we must understand who Jesus is and how He wants to be a part of our lives. One dynamic way to begin this journey is to join a small faith-sharing group.

# Mary Mother of the Church

In the past, you may have felt the call to join one of the small faith-sharing groups the parish offers each fall, but the time commitment may have seemed overwhelming. Do you desire to experience being known, loved, and cared for by Christ? Are you longing to let Jesus into your heart? Do you sense something is missing in your life and think it might be Jesus? If these statements strike a chord in your heart, Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO) might be the next step on your journey to a deeper, more meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ, your Savior.

On <u>Mondays from 6:00-7:30 PM, beginning March</u> <u>4</u>, Tammy Byington will host a group focused solely on the series' first two books. During these 14 weeks, you will explore God's loving plan for your salvation and develop a deeper appreciation of the power of the Holy Spirit. If you want to join her group, please contact her at <u>TammyByBy@gmail.com</u> or 608-498-0175.

# Men's Club

#### Hoops Mania Kick-off

The Men's Club is sponsoring the Hoops Mania March Madness Basketball raffle! Game cards are \$10 each. Funds raised will



support the Building Fund, Vision Fund (youth/adult ministry), and Aquinas 7th grade Scholarships. Game cards are on sale until March 19 via several options:

1) The Men's Club will be selling game cards after all Masses on the weekends through Sunday 3/17

2) Online via the Hoops Mania website

http://www.charitymania.com/give/LE00D

3) At the men's club pancake breakfast on 2/11

4) Contact a Men's Club member for game cards. Thank you and good luck!

# Finance

#### **Diocesan Annual Appeal SUCCESS!!**

The target goal for our parish is \$110,420. As of Jan. 31, we have raised \$112,180 and parish participation is at 30%. Thank you to everyone who has responded!

# Social Justice

Warming Center Volunteers on Tuesday, Feb. 6 <u>Food & Milk (to be delivered to 413 S. 3rd St. by 6:30</u> PM): Natalie Solverson, Mary Schaub, Robin Woodwick, LuAnn Miller, Sue Groetsch (Milk)

Intake (6:30 PM - 9 PM): Mary Olson, Sarah Kopski, Matt Deshler, Karen Deshler, Dave Imhoff, Nancy Imhoff.

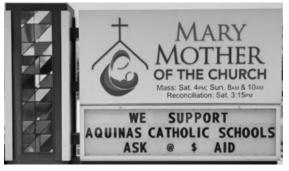
Free haircuts by Linda Kuehl

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

# Aquinas Catholic Schools

### ACS Enrollment

Aquinas Catholic schools welcomes you to enroll for the 2024-2025 school year. Aquinas is committed to providing a safe and structured learning environment for its students. There is much to be excited about with the launch of the Viterbo Education Program, new STEM lab, and over fifty extracurricular activities to get involved with. Call (608) 784-0287 to schedule a tour! Enrollment for Cathedral Elementarv School. St. Patrick Elementary School, Blessed Sacrament Elementary School, Aquinas Middle School, and Aquinas High School is open for new families. Contact info@Aquinasschools.org with any questions or visit www.aquinascatholicschools.org/enrollment.



# Eucharistic Revival

### A Minute With Jesus

There is a vital connection between the Eucharist and Confession. Part of the greatest preparation we can make to receive Jesus's Body and Blood is to experience His forgiveness and healing in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If there is sin in our heart, there is no room for Christ. Jesus forgives us of our sins in confession and this frees us, opens our heart to fulfill the deepest desire of our heart – to receive Him.

Receiving Jesus brings about a strengthening of faith, hope and charity - a desire to love Him, ourselves, and others.

- Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, please give me the desire to make a good confession, as soon as possible.
- This week, read how St. John describes the importance of confession in 1 John 1:9.

#### The Joy of Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist.

The world situation is grim these days. We see brutal terrorism and fighting in the Middle East, Russia's ongoing war against Ukraine, the continued scourge of abortion, painful confusion about gender identity, and the widespread conviction that our country is headed in the wrong direction. Our plea to Mary in the Memorare is especially appropriate right now: "To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears." It seems there is much misery in our world, and little

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cause for joy. But that's not true. Jesus has prepared us for this. It is a paradox that on the eve of His Passion and death, Jesus, in His farewell discourse to the apostles, picked that very occasion to speak to them – twice – of joy. First, after proclaiming that He is the vine, and we are the branches, and that we can bear fruit only in union with Him, he said: "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete." Later in the same discourse, He said: "You...are now in anguish. But I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you." Yes, Jesus has called us to take up our crosses and to follow Him on the path of suffering, and there must be no illusions about that; but the destination is Risen Life with Him in eternal joy! And that joy is available to us even now, if only we are united with Him, so that "His joy may be in us" and "our joy may be complete." How can that happen? Above all, it can happen when we receive the incredible gift of Jesus Himself – Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity - in Holy Communion. But not if we sleepwalk through it. We need to be wide awake. If we "recognize Jesus in the breaking of the bread," like the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, our "hearts will burn within us," as theirs did. And that is the point of the Eucharistic Revival, to awaken us to the joy of encountering and knowing Jesus in the Eucharist. That joy has tremendous depth and is not dependent on the circumstances of life. The situations we face in our lives and in the world may be like the roaring waves and wind of a storm at sea, but the joy of union with Jesus goes much deeper, like the still waters far below the ocean's surface. As the saints have attested, we find there a joy and a peace that is unshakable. So, receive Jesus in Communion with prayerful attention and gratitude, daily if you can. Kneel before Him in adoration and ask Him to flood your life with His grace. Do this, and as He said, "no one will take your joy away from vou."

Questions for reflection:

- 1. Recall a time when you felt special joy in prayer, or in an awareness of God's presence and grace in some moment or situation in your life. How was that joy different from worldly happiness?
- 2. Have you sometimes felt deep joy in receiving Jesus in Holy Communion? What steps can you take to help open yourself up to that grace and joy?

Ideas:

- 1. Pray before receiving Jesus in Holy Communion, asking Him to help you to experience the joy of being united to Him. Pray this on your way to Mass (even the night before). Take some time to pray in thanksgiving after Holy Communion, lingering on your knees after Mass has ended.
- 2. Adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, whether at one of the adoration chapels around the diocese (diolc.org/adoration), or before the tabernacle in your parish.

# Liturgical Roles February 10 - 11

Ministers of Ho	bly Communion
4:00 p.m.	John Klouda, Kelly Jakes, Mark Outzen
8:00 a.m.	Deacon Bell, Erica Stanek, Charles Heiderscheit
10:00 a.m.	Deacon Bell, Patti Sherry, Barbara Stetzer
Sacristans	
4:00 p.m.	Linda Kloet
8:00 a.m.	0
10:00 a.m.	Linda Schwartz
Lectors	
4:00 p.m.	Therese van Oss, Chris Schlegel
8:00 a.m.	Donna Keogh, LuAnn Miller
10:00 a.m.	Fred Berneking, Mary Jo Swartout
Servers	
4:00 p.m.	Aubrey Jakes, Ellyana Jakes
8:00 a.m.	Porter Stanek, Lincoln Stanek
10:00 a.m.	Christopher Hughley, Jesse Mayton
Musicians	
4:00 p.m.	Christopher Carskadon
8:00 a.m.	Haylee Pagenkopf
10:00 a.m.	Haylee Pagenkopf
Cantors	3 3 1
4:00 p.m.	Christine Nelson
8:00 a.m.	Pattie Nimocks
10:00 a.m.	Mary Kulas
Greeters	•
4:00 p.m.	OPEN, OPEN, Arian Arens, Jim
	Spielbauer, Patrick Hogan, Elie Klar,
	Kevin Moyle, Phil Watson-Lead
8:00 a.m.	Deke Stanek, Donna Burns, Pat
	Burns, Peggy Baumler, Jonathan
	Baumler, Rosie Pennebecker, Karen
	Perry, Allan Baumler-lead
10:00 a.m.	Charlene Krocker, OPEN, Andrew
	Schwartz, Matt Binsfeld, Elly Binsfeld,
	Megan Binsfeld, Robb Pretasky-lead
Gift Bearers	
4:00 p.m.	OPEN, OPEN
8:00 a.m.	Lance & Jennifer Miller
10:00 a.m.	Manu Parker, David Parker
Hospitality	
8:00 a.m.	Ken & Michelle Morrison
10:00 a.m.	David & Tammy Zaroufy
Scrip Sellers	
4:00 p.m.	Kellie Schmitz, Sue Olson
8:00 a.m.	Bob & Charlene Jansky
10:00 a.m.	Sheri Skelton, Tammy Byington



### February 4, 2024



# 2024 Iverson Freking Ecumenical Recognition Award

Parishioners Joe and Barb Kruse received this award, which recognizes their unselfish dedication to foster and promote ecumenical endeavors based on mutual respect of all faiths, highlighted by cooperation, communication and service to others. They share the love of volunteerism with each other and the community. They have merged family, careers and serving the community throughout their lives with organized and loving efforts for 44 years. Joe and barb raised four sons in La Crosse, including parishioners Ben, married to Nichole, with their children Lydia, Marvelle and Karina.

In 1994, they went on pilgrimage to Assisi, Italy. That life changing event was the impetus to the founding of A Place of Grace Catholic Worker House, along with other Assisi pilgrims and friends.

They have co-chaired the United Way Campaign and were the 2016 Oktoberfest Festmaster and Frau which keeps them active with the La Crosse Oktoberfest organization. They also served as the Mardi Gras Rex and Queen for Aquinas Catholic Schools and received the Catholic Charities In *My Name* recognition. More recently, they co-chaired a capital fund drive for the Franciscan Spirituality Center.

Joe's personal interests led him to be active on the Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse Board, St. Clare Health Mission Board, La Crosse Promise Board, La Crosse Area Chamber of Commerce, and Viterbo Ministries.

Barb has offered her talents and time to Coulee Region CROP walk. She also served on the boards of WAFER, Mobile Meals, Downtown Rotary Club of La Crosse, Mississippi Valley Conservancy, and Bethany Lutheran Homes.

Congratulations on this well deserved recognition Joe and Barb!!

#### 2024 Mardi Gras

Coulee Region Mardi Gras congratulates the newly crowned Rex and Queen of Mardi Gras 2024, Phil & Shannon Klar of MMOC! Phil and Shannon began their reign at the 2024 Mardi Gras Ball. We welcome all Mardi Gras supporters today at our 10 AM Mass. Coulee Region Mardi Gras raises community Spirit and funds to support Aquinas Catholic Schools' classroom needs, tuition assistance, technology, and fine arts programs.



Tuesday, February 6	i, 2024
7:30 AM	† Mary Ann Bornheimer
	By Family
Wednesday, February 7, 2024	
7:30 AM	† Steve Pitsch
	By Jim Finn
Thursday, February	8, 2024
7:30 AM	† Barbara Musgjerd
	By Mark & Susan Halter
2:00 PM	Word Service with Communion at Hillview Healthcare Center
Friday, February 9, 2024	
7:30 AM	† Iris Topp
	By Dave Schneider
Saturday, February 10, 2024	
4:00 PM	† Adrian Yeager
	By Dennis & Kathy Bissen
Sunday, February 11, 2024	
8:00 AM	Pro Propulo
10:00 AM	† John Ujda
	By Mark & Susan Halter



### Weekly Mass Intentions



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

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Mary Mother of the Church, La Crosse, WI A 4C 02-0155