September 15, 2024





24th 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 CONTACTS

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

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 Therese van Oss ext. 0 Funeral Coordinator tvanoss@mmoclacrosse.org

Sr. Kathy Stuttgen, FSPA ext. 7 Ministry with the Elderly and Sick *kstuttgen@fspa.org*

Jennifer-Marie Burchell ext. 1 Office Assistant secretary@mmoclacrosse.org

JOURNEY TOGETHER IN CHRIST FAITH FORMATION

Kristin Johnson ext. 4 Director of Family Faith Formation *kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org*

Samuel Obert ext. 5 Director of Youth Faith Formation sobert@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

Adam Poellinger

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.

Parish Photo Directory

MMOC 2025 Pictorial Directory will soon be off to the printer! All parishioners who are pictured in this directory will receive a copy.

We had wonderful participation. Thank you to all who made the 'sacrifice' to come in for a portrait seating. Many reported that it was a good experience. We anticipate a great directory which will represent a high percentage of our currently engaged MMOC families.

Thanks to Fr. Konopa for communicating the value of this directory for relationship building; to Jennifer in fielding all the administrative details and submitted photos to Betty Brendel for coordinating this entire project; to Joseph van Oss for providing the web page link to scheduling; to Andy Foley for providing for the room set up and clean up; and to Bill Brendel for being liaison for the photographers and late night lock up. Thanks to Matt and Rose from Harmann Studio for their professionalism and accommodation of our many schedule changes.

A special thank you to the parish women who worked at the Check-In area, working 1 to 5 shifts of 4 hours each shift over the 12 full days of scheduled pictures. Thank you to Mary Olson, Jo Beth Gaul, Dee Sauer, Vickie Kloss, Anita Olson, Anne Kernan, Nancy Steinhoff, Linda Kloet, Kathy Gillen, Linda Heilman, Kathy McGettigan, Rita Sanchez, and Donna Omernik. Their hospitality was important in this being a positive experience for all.

Thanks, also, to others who signed up to help and will be distributing the directories after Masses in late November or early December. Thank you, participating parishioners, for making this a positively enriching experience.

Coffee and Kids:

Calling all parents, please join us on the third Friday of each month for snacks and conversation as our children play! We will meet from 8:30-10:30 in Room E in the lower level of the parish hall. 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, September 20!

Fall Rummage Sale

The PCCW Fall rummage sale will be October 4 and 5. Donations can be dropped in the Parish Hall from 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM on October 3. Sign up sheets are in the gathering space in the back of the church. All help is appreciated. This is a great opportunity for students to get some of their service hours.

Kwik Trip Scrip

Kwik Trip has a short-term special rebate this month! That means every purchase of Kwik Trip scrip through September 29 will receive a 10% rebate. We have been experiencing some problems with Kwik Trip with orders and deliveries. Please be patient.

Sunday Choir

The Sunday Choir will start rehearsing on Sept. 24 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM in the Music Room. mail Mary Jo Lium mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org if you are interested in joining.

Welcome Father Woody Pace

Fr. Woody Pace, Director of the Missions Office for the Diocese of La Crosse, is beginning a medical leave for a number of months. He will be living in the rectory during this time and will be seen frequently at various times and Masses. Please give him a warm welcome which makes the whole person heal well.

Welcome to Fr. Dickman

Fr. Richard "Dick" Dickman, a senior priest of the Diocese of La Crosse, will be offering our weekend Masses on Sept. 21-22 while Father Konopa is attending a rare Fitzgerald Family Reunion. Please give Father a warm Mary, Mother of the Church welcome.

800th Anniversary of St. Francis' Stigmata

On September 14, 1224 -- Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross -- a seraph angel visited St. Francis of Assisi during his prayer: "O Lord Jesus Christ, before I die I ask you for two graces; first, that in my lifetime I may feel, as far as possible, both in my soul and body, that pain which you, sweet Lord, endured in the hour of your most bitter Passion; second, that I may feel in my heart as far as possible that excess of love which moved you, O Son of God, to suffer so cruel a Passion for us sinners."

When the vision ended, St. Francis realized that he had received the stigmata, the miraculous impressions in his own flesh of the wounds of Jesus Christ: the nail prints appeared in his hands and feet with the nails and a wound piercing his side from which flowed blood. These wounds caused St. Francis constant pain and would last two years until his death. The wounds helped him identify himself with the totality of Christ's salvific love, a merciful love with an intensity that was blinding, like looking into the sun.

With the possible exception of St. Paul who wrote, "Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus" (Gal. 6:17), St. Francis was the first known stigmatist. St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina and St. Faustina were some of the more recent saints who had received this grace.

Yet we all can learn to experience and to love the Cross in our ordinary lives whenever we unite our little pains and sufferings to the redemptive Cross of Jesus.

MMOC ALPHA Series: There's Still Time!

What is Alpha? Alpha is a free opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith, in a friendly, open



and the Christian faith, in a friendly, open and informal environment. Alpha is not so much a course, but an experience. Gathering once a week over an eleven week period, Alpha brings together people from every walk of life.

How does an Alpha session work? We eat together, we listen to a talk and then we gather in small groups for a discussion. During the discussion portion, you can ask any questions you want. The beauty of Alpha is that there are no questions too hostile, silly or simple. Alpha has no prerequisites; we come together with one another as we are, free to be ourselves. Your table host will ensure the discussion ends on time. Do I have to talk and share my thoughts? No, you may remain silent if

you wish.

Alpha has started and takes place on Tuesdays in the Parish Hall until November 19 from 6:00-8:00 PM. Dinner is provided so please sign up to ensure we have enough food prepared. We will have a retreat on October 25-26 which is an integral part (and a highlight) of the Alpha experience. It will be held at the Parish Hall on Friday 6 PM - 8 PM and The Franciscan Spirituality Center on Saturday 9 AM - 5 PM. No cost.

For more information contact Kimberly Krejchik at alpha@mmoclacrosse.org or call the parish office at 608-788-5483 ext. 1 to enroll.

A Friend Asks for Help: Jesse Mayton Dear MMOC parishioners,

A huge thank you for your support and prayers during my year of discernment last year! I can't put into



words how much I appreciate you! As you heard from my talk at the May 11-12 weekend Masses during my final visit, I did not enter seminary but was going to pursue a job in teaching. I am going to be teaching THIS year, but not in the way I expected. I will be doing mis-

sionary work with Life Teen in Georgia! I will be stationed at Camp Hidden Lake which is for middle school students. This is such a great opportunity, but being a missionary for a non-profit Catholic organization, I need a lot of fundraising help: mission partners. I have to fundraise \$33k. Most of this money will go towards Lifeteen's mission with weekend retreats and summer camps! As St. John Paul II says, "Some give by going to the missions, some go by giving to the missions. Without both, there are no missions." The Men's Club was very generous in my fundraising for SEEK24 in St. Louis last January, and I am very grateful because a lot of my discernment was done while I was there. If you are interested in mission partnering, email me at jessemayton@gmail.com and I'll send you the link to my fundraising page with more info. I'm looking forward to hearing from you and I will be sharing newsletters about what I'm doing and how God is working in my life and in the lives of the teens. Thank you in advance and God bless MMOC! Verso l'Alto. -Jesse Mayton.

Meals on Wheels.

A special thank you to Pattie Nimocks for delivering meals the week of Sept. 9 - 15. Our next week will be Oct 21 - 27. Volunteers will be contacted as it gets closer.

Faith Formation

Family Faith Formation Kick-Off

Our Family Faith Formation programming year kicks off this Wednesday, September 18 at 5:30 PM at Mary, Mother of the Church. A meal will be provided from 5:00 PM - 5:20 PM if interested. Children and parents will have an opportunity to meet the Catechists as well as other families in our program.

2nd Graders Preparing to Receive the Sacraments

All families with 2nd graders who attend Catholic School, Private School or who Home School should have been contacted by Kristin Johnson in regards to the Sacramental Preparation Program. If were not contacted please contact Kristin at kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org or 608-788-5483 Ext. 4.

In need of help with Family Faith Formation

Our K-5 th program needs the following volunteers for the upcoming year: 5th Grade Assistant. Contact Kristin at kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org or 608-788-5483 x 4.

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults)

Are you seeking to know Jesus Christ more deeply or understand God and His plan for us more fully? Do you want to learn more about what Catholics believe and why? Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Please know that you



are not alone and are invited to journey with us in OCIA. OCIA is an opportunity to come together weekly to learn about deepening our relationship with God. We will grow in our understanding of the Catholic Faith, discuss how of ADULTS to live the fullness of life in Jesus Christ, and adiscover how to enter more fully into Our Father's family: The Church. For more information

contact Deacon Terry Bell at deacon@mmoclacrosse.org or 608 788-5483 x 6.

Fall Adult Faith Formation Class

Beginning the week of September 15, Fr. Gaitley's "Consoling the Heart of Jesus" will be offered here at MMOC on Tuesdays from 8:15 AM - 9:45 AM and Thursdays from 6:00PM - 7:30 PM. It concludes the week of November 23. There are many other parish locations and times for you to attend the class that best fits your schedule. It can also be done as an individual home study. We will learn ways of living the Catholic faith daily and forming a relationship with Jesus. You can sign up online at www.stpatsonalaska.com or by calling Amy Capelli at (608) 783-0847. The cost is only \$20.00.

Around the Diocese

LIFE CHAIN - Stand Up for Life!

The La Crosse Life Chain will be held on Sunday, Oct. 6, from 2:00-3:00 PM along Losey Boulevard. Stand with thousands of pro-lifers throughout the USA in a peaceful

and prayerful public witness for 1 hour praying for our nation and an end to abortion. Please join fellow parishioners at the corner of Losey Blvd. and Madison St. where they will have signs for you (a suggested donation of 50 cents per person or



\$1 per family). As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend and protect those who are most vulnerable from the beginning of life to its end and at every point in between. Even if you only have a few minutes, please come and join us in standing up for LIFE.

The Exaltation of the Cross

A documented relic of the True Cross on which Jesus was crucified will be available for veneration before/after the 4 PM Mass on the feast day of September 14.



Our Lady of Sorrows

Sept.15 is the annual Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows. While the Cross was a place of victory over sin and the fear of death, it was also a place of tragedy and sorrow. The mother of Jesus was there. Mary always wanted what God wanted, so she accompanied His sacrifice by offering Her Son and her pain as a coredemptrix. Because Sept. 15 is a Sunday, it will not be celebrated liturgically, but can still be honored with our hearts. Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us

A Minute with Jesus

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

Weekly Mass Intentions

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

7:30 AM † Karen and Lois Guggenbuehl

By James Guggenbuehl

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

7:30 AM † Edna Spohn

By Family

Thursday, September 19, 2024

7:30 AM † Marie Yost

By Evelyn Hammes

2:00 PM Word Service at Hillview Healthcare

Center

Friday, September 20, 2024

7:30 AM † Richard Grosskopf Jr.

By Richard Grosskopf Sr.

Saturday, September 21, 2024

4:00 PM Carole Cade

By Family

Sunday, September 22, 2024

8:00 AM † Larry Springer

By Linda and Marvin Elsen

10:00 AM Pro Populo

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

Liturgical Roles Sept. 21-22

Minister of Holy Communion

4:00 PM Nancy Imhoff, Dave Imhoff, Kelly Jakes, John

Klouda, Steve Lefever, Kellie Schmitz, Dawn

Kutt

8:00 AM Mike Keogh, Tom Reichenbacher, Steve

Young, Sue Moyle, Erica Stanek, Francesca

Ortmeier

10:00 AM Chuck Berendes, Polly Berendes, John

Conzemius, Susan Halter, Lindsey Hammes,

Linda Schwartz

Lector

4:00 PM Chris Schlegel, Mark Outzen
8:00 AM Linda Elsen, Charles Heiderscheit
10:00 AM Mary Jo Swartout, Linda Gillette

Server

4:00 PM OPEN, Sue Ernster

8:00 AM Porter Stanek, Lincoln Stanek
10:00 AM Louie Berendes, Izzy Schelfhout

Cantor

4:00 PM Peter Schmitz 8:00 AM Haylee Pagenkopf 10:00 AM Christine J Nelson

Musician

4:00 PM Mary Jo Lium

8:00 AM Christopher Carskadon 10:00 AM Christopher Carskadon

Sacristan

4:00 PM OPEN

8:00 AM Mike Keogh 10:00 AM Anne Kernan

Gift Bearer

4:00 PM OPEN, OPEN

8:00 AM The McKenna Family

10:00 AM Nick Hammes, Lindsey Hammes

Greeter

4:00 PM Phil Watson (lead), OPEN, OPEN, Arian

Arens, Patrick Hogan, Kevin Moyle, Joe

Riemer, Steve Schaub

8:00 AM Allan Baumler (lead), OPEN, Pat Burns, Don-

na Burns, Cindy Klar, Bob Klar, Erica Stanek,

Deke Stanek

10:00 AM Polly Berendes (lead), OPEN, Gabriella

Stratman, Casey Horman, Terri Pedace, Gavin Stratman, Trisha Stratman, Charlotte

Berendes

Scrip Seller

4:00 PM OPEN, Vickie Kloss

8:00 AM Sue Moyle, Karen Perry

10:00 AM Tammy Byington, Kimberly Krejchik

Hospitality

8:00 AM Michelle Morrison, Ken Morrison

10:00 AM Pat Houlihan, Kathy Houlihan

Live Streamer

4:00 PM Dave Imhoff



The 4th Annual Pedev golf scramble celebrated another successful event for our men's club. It was our 4th annual golf scramble held at Forest Hills golf course. We had 140 golfers, even Father Konopa dusted off his clubs and for one day called himself a golfer! God blessed us with some of the best weather we could have asked for. We gave away nearly 100 free prizes along with 4 raffle items: 55" flat screen TV, Rangefinder/Bluetooth speaker, Freighthouse and cash. Several local restaurants donated gift certificates for giveaways and hole event prizes. We are thankful to everyone who joined us. The event raised over \$11,000.00.

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HELP SAVE LIVES IN LA CROSSE!

this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and unity outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 1,000,000+ volunteers!

With God's help, here are the proven results in 30 coordinated campaigns:

- Over 20,000 babies saved from abortion Over 200 abortion workers converted
- Over 100 abortion centers closed

Local contact: Marie Allen 608-784-5189 marie.v.allen@charter.net

You can protect mothers and children by joining Here's how to take part in 40 Days for Life in our community:

> Vigil location: Sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood, 1201 Caledonia St., La Crosse

Vigil hours: 7 am- 7 pm daily except Sun. Sept. 25 - Nov. 3, 2024

Opening Rally: Sunday, Sept. 15th 4:00 P.M at Northside Community Church, 1300 Caledonia St., La Crosse

Topic: Local ministries to those who have had abortions

40daysforlife.com/lacrosse

40 Days for Life is an internationally coordinated 40-day campaign that aims to end abortion locally through prayer and fasting, community outreach, and a peaceful all-day in front of abortion businesses.

Ways to participate in 40 Days for Life

Prayer and Fasting

Each day during 40 Days for Life, individuals, churches, families, and groups will be asked to join together in prayer to end abortion. People of faith are also invited to fast throughout 40 Days for Life. We believe that when God's people fast with a broken, repentant, and contrite spirit, our heavenly Father will hear from heaven and heal our lives, our churches, our communities, our nation, and our world.

Constant Vigil

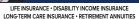
The visible, public centerpiece of 40 Days for Life is a focused, 40-day, non-stop, round-the-clock prayer vigil outside a single Planned Parenthood center or other abortion business in your community. This sends a powerful message about the tragic reality of abortion. It also serves as a call to repentance for those who work at the abortion center and those who patronize the business. Vigil times are 7 AM to 7 PM on the sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood, 1201 Caledonia St, La Crosse from Sept 25 - Nov 3.

Community Outreach

During 40 Days for Life, the message is taken proactively to every corner of your community. Media outreach is conducted through carefully targeted news stories, talk shows, and editorials. Church involvement begins by meeting with local pastors, other church leaders, and members of different congregations.

Opening Rally today at 4PM at Northside Community Church, 1300 Caledonia St. in La Crosse.



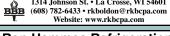




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