

December 29, 2024



MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH



The Holy Family

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 Mon-
day 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

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Mary Jo Lium ext. 8

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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

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sobert@mmoclacrosse.org

AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

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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

784-0156

Principal, Aquinas Middle School

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 joy-
fully 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.

The Holy Family

Mass Schedule

Mary, Mother of God:

- December 31 at 4:00 PM
- January 1 at 9:00 AM

Needed: Liturgical Ministers

Liturgical positions need to be filled for Dec. 31 at 4:00 PM and Jan. 1 at 9:00 AM. This includes Sacristans, Ministers of Holy Communion, Greeters, Gift Bearers and Servers. Please consider filling in if you are available. Go to www.mmoclarosse.org and click on the Ministry Scheduler link at the top of the page, or call Jennifer in the office at 608-788-5483, ext. 1.

Parish Office Hours

The office will be closed December 30 - January 1.

MMOC Eucharistic Adoration

On January 2, Mary, Mother of the Church will host its monthly Holy Hour at 4:45 PM. Come adore Him!

Monthly Parish Social

Join us Thursday, January 2 after the 7:30 AM Mass in the Parish Hall for coffee, conversation, and fellowship.

Cookie Walk Thank You

There were many blessings felt on Cookie Walk day at Mary, Mother of the Church - to the many bakers, makers, decorators, crafters and those who used their special skills as added touches to this day - a heartfelt thank you for sharing your gifts with many, for your caring hearts and for your continued support in a fundraiser that falls at such a busy time in one's family. The Net Profit after expenses was \$12,800.77. Next year the Cookie Walk will be on December 13.

Door Prize Winners: Kayla Houck, Candy Hefti, Catherine Harpenau, Nancy Davis, Olivia Golding, Kathy Gillen, Janice Berry, Rita Witt, Jean Ann Monsoor, Carol Peterson, Jean Amlaw

Raffle Winners:

How the Grinch Stole Christmas basket: Pat Hogan

Little Kitchen Helper basket: Curtis Bisek

Let's Celebrate basket: Bonnie Sokolik

Running Errands basket: Jessica Puls

Waiting for Santa basket: Abraham Goyette

Waking Up to Christmas basket: Kathy Chapiewski

Call of the Wild basket: Terri Nelson

Bedazzled basket: Sandy Roellich

Adult rocker: Jo Beth Gaul

Youth and toddler rockers: Meghan Servais

Mystery Box (\$500+ value): Steve Shaker

MMOC ALPHA - Come and See

Jesus' first words in his public ministry were "Come and See". We invite you to bring your friends, family, co-workers or anyone else who wants to explore the meaning of life and the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment.

ALPHA is a series of interactive sessions that will take place on Mondays from January 13 - March 24 from 6:00-8:00 pm. Dinner is provided each night! There are 11 sessions in the Parish Hall and a weekend away February 28 - March 1.

To sign up please email alpha@mmoclarosse.org



MMOC ALPHA - Feed My Sheep

ALPHA is in need of a special individual willing to serve as the meal coordinator for meals. This person would plan the meals, shop for food, and organize a group of volunteers to cook and serve the meals. An excellent and experienced team of volunteers is already in place and ready and willing to help. Providing a meal for our guests allows them the freedom to attend our program with less stress and provides an opportunity for fellowship and relationship building. Contact Kimberly Krejchik at alpha@mmoclarosse.org if you are feeling called to serve in this vital ministry.

Family Is Important at Christmas

We make an extra effort to be with family at Christmas time...often times leaving our own comfortable homes, grimacing a bit as we brace for a trip that might include snow and freezing temperatures, loading a trunk full of gifts and "just-in-case-items," and perhaps adding an overnight expense to our budget. We do all this to share conversation and meals with family...sometimes with the awareness that our family relationships aren't as good as we experience with our own neighbors and co-workers back home. And yet we travel, because family is important.

Our family of faith is also important...and imperfect. It can seem easier to stay at home and say a little prayer, but it's important to remain engaged in the family of faith. That's why we came to Mass for Christmas.

In heaven, there is only one family. God is shaping that family right here on earth. The start of a new year is a great time to renew our commitment to this family and our weekly family gatherings.

Being registered and being active in a local parish is important. It might not always be exciting, but it's important because it's important to be part of the family.

- ◆ If you're not registered in a parish, call your local church. First, you may need to spend a couple months visiting area parishes to find one you're most comfortable with. Consider Mary, Mother of the Church!
- ◆ If you're already registered in a parish but not the church-going type, make an extra effort...as you did today.
- ◆ If you're holding back because you were married outside the Church—whether it's your first marriage or not—contact a priest and he can guide you through the necessary steps.
- ◆ If you have been a faithful church-goer, perhaps it's time to be involved in some parish ministry.

May your New Year be full of grace, happiness, and family.

Yours in Christ, Father Konopa

Epiphany House Blessing

It is a time-honored tradition for Catholics throughout the world to bless their homes at Epiphany by "chalking the door" with an inscription symbolizing an open invitation and desire for the Lord's presence and blessing over the household throughout the upcoming year. On January 5, the Feast of Epiphany, blessed chalk will be available in the Gather Space and instructions for a house blessing will appear on back page of the bulletin.

Oremus

If you desire to meet new people from MMOC and build strong Christ-centered relationships with them while growing in your relationship with God through prayer - Oremus could be the answer to your prayers! The upcoming opportunity, **Oremus: A Guide to Catholic Prayer**, will teach you the skills and knowledge to grow in your relationship with God and a group of fellow Christians to be your companions on the journey.

The Christian journey is beautiful, sacred, refreshing, and yet challenging. As we seek to grow in our relationship with the Lord through prayer, we can stumble and grow frustrated with ourselves and the Lord. The Book of Ecclesiastes states, "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow; but woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up" (Ecc 4:9-10). The author shares the importance of Christian friendship to our growth in faith, hope, and love. We need individuals or groups to hold us accountable, show us love and respect, and encourage us to grow in holiness and the love of Jesus and one another.

Oremus will meet on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. (starting January 7) **or** Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. (starting January 9). The location will be determined based on attendance. To sign up for **one** of these sessions, please contact Sr. Meg at mearsley@mmoclacrosse.org or 608.788.5483 x2. All Oremus materials will be provided free of charge. Please bring your own Catholic Bible. If you need a bible, please let us know.



The 2024 Annual Report has been mailed to all households. If you have not received your report please contact the office at 608-788-5483, ext. 1.

Diocesan Annual Appeal

WE ARE THE DIOCESE
DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL 2024-2025

"For we are co-workers; you are God's field, God's building." 1 Corinthians 3:9

DIOLC.ORG/COWORKER

GOAL	\$116,570
PLEGGED AND RECEIVED	\$100,050
# OF DONORS	238

Social Justice

Warming Center Volunteers on Tuesday, Dec. 31

Food & Milk: Pattie Nimocks, Joan Weissenberger, Kellie Schmitz, Joan Buckley, Sue Halter (milk) (to be delivered to 413 S. 3rd St. by 6:30 PM)

Intake: (6:30 PM - 9:00 PM) Mary Olson, Sarah Kopski, Jennifer Burchell, Molly Sanford, Fr. Konopa, Jeremy Scarlet

Morning Volunteer: (6:00 AM - 8:30 AM Wed.) Neil Kumm, Carol Berra

Helping hands are always welcome. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Mary Olson at 651-301-0989 or Molson@mmoclacrosse.org.

PCCW and Men's Club

Christmas Social

You are invited to join the PCCW and the Men's Club as they host a social on Wednesday, January 15th at 6pm in the parish hall. Light dinner and beverages will be served. No meeting will be held. New members are always welcome! Come and check it out!!!

Faith Formation

Family Faith Formation

Family Faith Formation does NOT meet on January 1. Finish up any At Home Lessons that need to be completed and enjoy the Christmas season! We will see you again on January 8.

Finance

End of the Year Donations

Please have any donations you wish to be included for the 2024 tax year postmarked by **December 31, 2024**. Due to IRS requirements, anything sent through the mail postmarked after **December 31, 2024** cannot be posted to your 2024 contributions.

2024 Annual Report

Around the Diocese

Well-Read Mom Book Club

Would you like to dedicate more time to reading in 2025? Come join our Well-Read Mom book club! The mission of Well-Read Mom is to accompany women in the reading of great books and spiritual classics to encourage personal growth, friendship, and meaningful conversations in order to explore the human condition and reorient ourselves to what is good, beautiful, and true. Each month we read a piece of classic literature, then meet with other Catholic women to dive into the various themes presented in the book and discuss how they apply to our lives. All women are invited to join in, whether you are a mother or not. Our group has women from all ages and stages of life. You are most welcome!

Making Saints Campus Ministry Fundraiser

Dinner Registration Open Now! The Lord is doing big things in the lives of our La Crosse college students and we want to share our good news with you. You're invited to join us Saturday, February 1 at Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall for a night including dinner, student testimonies, a silent and dessert auction, and swing dance! Registration details coming soon. If you have any questions or are interested in donating an item to our silent auction, please contact Adele at media@newmanlc.org. Hope to see you there!

Mary, Mother of the Church

A Minute with Jesus

Jesus came into the world as part of a family. The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph allows us to see the Holy Family of Nazareth as the "true model of life" (cf. Opening Prayer) from which our families can draw inspiration and know where to find help and comfort. The kindness, respect, obedience, unity, charity, and every other Christian virtue that they lived must become the model for Christian living and for family life. The power of God's grace needed for family life comes to us through receiving Jesus in the Holy Eucharist every Sunday. Let us be faithful during this beautiful season of Christmas, and beyond, in attending Sunday Mass together as a family.

Join The March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Sign up for the Pilgrimage for Life, Jan. 22-26, our diocesan participation in the national March for Life in our nation's Capital. This is a wonderful opportunity for adults, families, and young people to bear witness to the sanctity of human life. To learn more, visit diolc.org/pilgrimageforlife.

U.S. Bishops' Action Alert: Urge the President to Commute all Federal Death Sentences

As President Biden prepares to leave office, please urge him to commute all current federal death sentences to terms of imprisonment before his term ends. He has an extraordinary opportunity to advance the cause of human dignity by doing so, sparing the lives of the 40 men currently on federal death row. The Catholic bishops of the U.S. have long called for an end to the use of the death penalty. Learn how to make your voice heard on this and other USCCB Action Alerts by visiting votervoicenet.org/USCCB/home.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

4:00 PM † Servais and Werner Families
By Linda Werner

Wednesday, January 1, 2024

9:00 AM † Paula Heiderscheid
By Family

Thursday, January 2, 2024

7:30 AM Gloria Hundt
By Dan Cavadini

2:00 PM Service of the Word at Hillview Healthcare Center

Friday, January 3, 2024

7:30 AM † Marilyn Servais
By Virginia Horstman

Saturday, January 4, 2024

4:00 PM † Colleen Vollenweider
By Whitney Cox

Sunday, January 5, 2024

8:00 AM † Mary Clements
The Clements Family

10:00 AM Pro Populo

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

Liturgical Roles January 4-5

Minister of Holy Communion

- 4:00 PM Nancy Imhoff, Dave Imhoff, Kelly Jakes, Chris Schlegel, Christine J Nelson, Kellie Schmitz
8:00 AM Deacon Terry Bell, Gloria Biesen, Mike Keogh, Sue Moyle, Mary Lawrence, Tom Reichenbacher, Anita Olson
10:00 AM Deacon Terry Bell, Chuck Berendes, Polly Berendes, Lisa Doering, Lindsey Hammes, Barbara Stetzer, Shannon Klar

Lector

- 4:00 PM Joseph van Oss, Therese van Oss
8:00 AM Pattie Nimocks, Bob Mahr
10:00 AM Sarah Scarlet, Bill Brendel

Server

- 4:00 PM Aubrey Jakes, Ellyana Jakes
8:00 AM Nolan Richards, Perrin Richards
10:00 AM Ella Krejchik, Isabella Neubauer

Cantor

- 4:00 PM Linda Kloet
8:00 AM Lisa Conzemius
10:00 AM Sunday Choir

Song Leader

- 10:00 AM Kimberly Krejchik

Musician

- 4:00 PM Mary Jo Lium
8:00 AM Mary Jo Lium
10:00 AM Jenny Nielson

Sacristan

- 4:00 PM Mike Wuensch
8:00 AM Sue Groetsch
10:00 AM Carol Forer

Gift Bearer

- 4:00 PM OPEN, OPEN
8:00 AM Michelle Morrison, Ken Morrison
10:00 AM Jerry Kernan, Anne Kernan

Greeter

- 4:00 PM Phil Watson (lead), OPEN, Jackson Harpenau, Patrick Hogan, Mark Misch, Peter Schmitz, Jim Spielbauer, Joan Weissenberger, Mike Weissenberger
8:00 AM Allan Baumler (lead), OPEN, Pat Burns, Donna Burns, Dave Lawrence, Mary Lawrence, Kathy Skiles, Dan Skiles
10:00 AM Linda Gillette (lead), Sam Horman, Casey Horman, Keith Krejchik, Terri Pedace, Trisha Stratman, Gavin Stratman, Gabriella Stratman

Scrip Seller

- 4:00 PM Dee Sauer, Kellie Schmitz
8:00 AM Bob Jansky, Charlene Jansky
10:00 AM Tammy Byington, Sheri Skelton

Hospitality

- 8:00 AM Cindy Klar, Bob Klar
10:00 AM Sue Pretasky, Robb Pretasky

Live Streamer

- 4:00 PM Dave Imhoff



BEHOLD

PRAYER OF THE SAINTS

01 25 25

Retreat for Young Adults 18-35
Blessed Sacrament Parish- La Crosse, WI
9 AM - 5 PM

Hear inspiring talks about the prayer of the Saints, foster deeper Catholic community with other young adults, and participate in the life of God via Mass, Confession, and personal prayer.

Optional Evening Socials:
Friday 1/24- 608 Brewing Co. 7pm
Saturday 1/25- Pizzeria Dolorosa 6pm

Cost is \$25 and includes a warm meal!

REGISTER @ tinyurl.com/beholdprayer
or scan the QR code below



Registration ends January 18th!



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