

January 26, 2025



# MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

# THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME.

LUKE 4:18

## The 3rd 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 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 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](mailto:frkonopa@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Rev. Mr. Terry Bell** ext. 6  
Deacon: Adult Faith Formation, RCIA/OCIA  
[tbell@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:tbell@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Andy Foley** ext. 9  
Buildings and Grounds  
[afoley@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:afoley@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Mary Jo Lium** ext. 8  
Sacred Music  
[mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Tammy Zoroufy** ext.2  
Finance Assistant  
[finance@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:finance@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Sr. Meg Earsley, FSPA** ext. 2  
Evangelizing Mission  
[mearsley@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:mearsley@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Therese van Oss** ext. 0  
Funeral Coordinator  
[tvanoss@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:tvanoss@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Sr. Kathy Stuttgen, FSPA** ext. 7  
Ministry with the Elderly and Sick  
[kstuttgen@fspa.org](mailto:kstuttgen@fspa.org)

**Jennifer-Marie Burchell** ext. 1  
Office Assistant  
[secretary@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:secretary@mmoclacrosse.org)

### JOURNEY TOGETHER IN CHRIST FAITH FORMATION

**Kristin Johnson** ext. 4  
Director of Family Faith Formation  
[kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:kjohnson@mmoclacrosse.org)

**Samuel Obert** ext. 5  
Director of Youth Faith Formation  
[sobert@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto: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.

## The 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Parish Directories

Parish directories are available for pick up after Mass this weekend for those who participated by either having a picture taken or submitting a photo. The next opportunity will be at the Men's Club Pancake Breakfast on February 9. For further information or if you have any questions please contact Betty Brendel at (608) 790-8054 or [brendelbill@gmail.com](mailto:brendelbill@gmail.com).

### Catholic Campaign for Human Development

Next weekend there will be a second collection to support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Nearly 38 million people in the United States live in poverty. This collection supports programs that empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face in bringing permanent and positive change to their communities. For more information visit [222.usccb.org/cchd](http://222.usccb.org/cchd).

## Men's Club

### Pancake Breakfast

Please join the Men's Club for fellowship on February 9 (Super Bowl Sunday) from 8:00 AM to Noon for a Pancake Breakfast. The breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, fruit cocktail, juice and coffee. The cost is \$5, \$4 for Seniors (60+) and for kids ages 6 - 12, Kids ages 5 and under are free. All are welcome.

### Italy Pilgrimage

2025 is a Jubilee Year – Pilgrims of Hope – and we will head to Italy! We will tour many holy sites and historic locations while visiting Rome, Assisi, and other cities. In addition to our pilgrimage to the Shrines of Italy, pilgrims should consider signing up for the pre-trip to Florence and Venice. Those attending the pre-trip will travel to Venice on September 25. Those partaking in the main portion of the trip will depart for Rome on September 30 and then travel by bus to Assisi, where they will meet up with the pre-trip travelers. On October 8, after an early breakfast, we will depart for the airport and return home. The pilgrimage costs \$5194/person, and the pre-trip costs \$1978/person. These costs include round trip airfare from La Crosse, 8 nights of hotel accommodations (+4 nights of accommodations for the pre-trip), breakfast and dinner daily, wine and mineral water with dinners, motor coach transportation while on pilgrimage, luggage handling, tips for hotel and restaurant staff, sightseeing and admission fees for all sights on the itinerary, and professional, local Catholic guides. Costs not included are lunches and beverages not mentioned, as well as tips for the guide and bus driver. To register for the pilgrimage and pay your deposit of \$500, visit [www.206tours.com/frkonopa](http://www.206tours.com/frkonopa). The trip balance is due 90 days before departure: July 1, 2025. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Schwartz at [lschwartz@mmoclacrosse.org](mailto:lschwartz@mmoclacrosse.org).

## Faith Formation

### Family Faith Formation

Family Faith formation does not meet this Wed. January 29. Families should work on At Home Lessons 4-2 What makes a Family? And 4-3 Love. We will meet in

person again on February 5.

## Family Life

### Welcomed to the Waters of Baptism

Congratulations to Mae Lynn Woods who was baptized on January 19. We welcome her to God's family with great joy!

### New Parishioners

MMOC is delighted to welcome Lauren Harris and family, Randy and Pat Baranczyk, Sabrina Servais, James and Kelli Lewis and family, Matthew and Jeanette Moyer and family and Christopher and Sarah Gregor and family to the parish.

## Diocesan Annual Appeal



## Social Justice

### Meals on Wheels

A special thank you to volunteers who will deliver meals the week of January 27: Steve and Joan Clements, Marc Wuensch, Stefana Pretasky, Martin Gaul, Ed and Patty Watson, Bill and Sue Moyle and Jane Broderick.

### Warming Center Volunteers on Tuesday, Feb. 4

Food & Milk: Joseph van Oss, OPEN, OPEN, Juli Jansen (milk) (to be delivered to 413 S. 3rd St. by 6:30 PM)  
Intake: (6:30 PM - 9:00 PM) Mary Olson, Nancy Imhoff, Tammy Byington, Fran Ortmeier, Manu Parker, Sarah Kopski, OPEN, OPEN (Two men are required to fill these open positions.)

Morning Volunteer: OPEN, OPEN, (6:00 AM - 8:30 AM Wed.)

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

## Around the Diocese

### Upcoming Pilgrimage to Medjugorje with Fr. Billy Dodge – May 28 – June 6, 2025

Medjugorje is not just a pilgrimage, it's an immersion experience into a rhythm of prayer in a setting steeped in the Lord's peace. Many have said it is the closest to

heaven on earth they have experienced. Pilgrims on this grace-filled journey will enjoy the guidance and leadership of Ann Vucic, early witness to the Medjugorje apparitions and very experienced guide.

If you are interested in receiving more information about the pilgrimage please email Angela Bujan at [ascapbujan@gmail.com](mailto:ascapbujan@gmail.com). Please note there are limited spots available and registration will be on a first come first serve basis.

### The RESCUE project

This is an 8-week Lenten religious education series is being held in several parishes beginning February 16 with a Retreat Day on March 29. The RESCUE project proposes a Biblical world view that if nothing else, will challenge you to re-think what is real, what is true, and what is most important in life. Why is there something rather than nothing: What is everything so messed up? What, if anything has God done about it? And if He's done anything, how should I respond? The cost for the course is \$35 which includes class materials and a meal on the Retreat Day. For more information contact Amy Capelli at (608) 783 - 0847 or email [amy\\_capelli@charter.net](mailto:amy_capelli@charter.net). Class locations and times are as follows:



Monday: 6:30 - 8:00 PM Blessed Sacrament  
Tuesday: 6:30 - 8:00 PM St. Patrick's Onalaska  
Thursday: 9:15 - 10:45 AM St. Patrick's Onalaska  
Friday: 10:30 AM-12:00 PM St. Joseph the Workman

### Catholic Homeschool Co-Op

Catholic Schoolhouse, a local homeschool program, is currently seeking interested families for the 2025-26 academic year. More than an academic co-op, Catholic Schoolhouse is a structured program meeting weekly for homeschoolers that includes chorus, two hours of classroom instruction, hands-on science, art projects and opportunities for socializing after class. Please contact Jamie Thompson at [lacrossecatholicsschoolhouse@gmail.com](mailto:lacrossecatholicsschoolhouse@gmail.com) for more information.

### Heritage Bake Sale

Blessed Sacrament PCCW is sponsoring a Heritage Bake Sale on Saturday, February 8 from 9:00 AM - Noon. Among the featured items are Polish Pierogies, Norwegian lefts, Bohemian Kolaches, Upper Peninsula Pasties, Baklava and a variety of other homemade baked goods..

### Calix:

#### A Catholic Substance Abuse Recovery Support

Calix is an association of Catholics wanting to live free of addiction to alcohol or drugs, and it is also for affected family members. It is not a substitute for AA or Al-Anon, which are strongly recommended, but it provides a Catholic perspective for these 12-step programs. "Calix" is Latin for "chalice," and it was founded in



The Calix Society

Minneapolis, MN in 1947 by a group of five men, all recovering alcoholics, who saw their Catholic faith as a sure path to serenity without alcohol. If you are interested in more information about a Calix group forming in the Diocese of La Crosse, you can email Christine at [healthandharmonywi@gmail.com](mailto:healthandharmonywi@gmail.com).

### Men of the Cross "Forgiveness and Freedom"

Save the Date of March 8 at Blessed Sacrament Church, La Crosse. There will be Mass with Bishop Battersby and the keynote speaker will be Bob Kroll. More information will be available soon.

### Consecrated Virginity Informational Weekend

"The rite for the consecration of virgins belongs to the treasures of Roman Liturgy. Jesus Christ left holy virginity as a legacy to His bride (the Church), one of His most precious gifts." Have you been given this gift? Join us Jan. 31 - Feb. 2 at Holy Cross Diocesan Center for an enriching, informational weekend about living in the world as a consecrated virgin. A registration form can be found by clicking at [diolc.org/events](http://diolc.org/events) or you can simply contact Barbara Swieczak at 608.788.7700 ext: 2271. For information in general about consecrated virginity you can visit [diolc.org/consecratedlife/consecrated-virgins](http://diolc.org/consecratedlife/consecrated-virgins).

### Help for those suffering from the wildfires in California

As fast-moving wildfires continue to engulf neighborhoods in the Los Angeles area, Catholic Charities USA (CCUSA) has launched a dedicated disaster relief donation campaign. All funds raised will assist those displaced or suffering because of the fires.

To donate, visit [ccusa.online/fires](http://ccusa.online/fires), scan the QR code or text "FIRES" to 20406.



### Help Defund Planned Parenthood

In just one year, Planned Parenthood, the largest abortion business in America, violently ends the lives of more than 390,000 unborn children. When a pregnant woman walks into a Planned Parenthood, 97% of the time she'll leave without her child. In 2023, Planned Parenthood received \$699 MILLION of taxpayer dollars, almost \$2 million per day. Please help end taxpayer funding. You can visit [sba-list.quorum.us/campaign/defund-planned-parenthood/](http://sba-list.quorum.us/campaign/defund-planned-parenthood/) or scan the QR code. Fill out the form to email your U.S. Representative urging them to support and cosponsor H.R.271, the Defund Planned Parenthood Act of 2025.



### World Day of Prayer for Consecrated life

World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life will be celebrated in parishes on the weekend of Feb. 1-2. Please pray for all those who have answered the call to consecrated life, aspiring towards joyful 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.



WORLD DAY  
FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

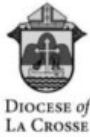
# Mary, Mother of the Church

## A Minute with Jesus

Why does Jesus want to live in your heart?

God has created each person absolutely unique - there is only one of you. Jesus knows you and loves you, and wants to be with you always. Jesus has a love in His Heart that only you can receive. If you don't receive Jesus' love for you, it will be "wasted." And likewise, you have a love in your heart that only you can give to Jesus. If you don't give that love, there will be an empty place in Jesus' Heart.

## Jubilee 2025- Pilgrims of Hope



This special Jubilee Year 2025 has been proclaimed by Pope Francis. A Jubilee Year has its roots in the Old Testament, with a focus on the opportunity to re-establish a more solid relationship with God and with one another.

The theme for the year is "Hope does not disappoint." These inspired words in the Bible were written by St. Paul, who endured many sufferings and trials. However, Paul knew that Jesus was always faithful and trustworthy, and never left his side. For us too, we will never be disappointed if we place our hope in Christ. He is always at our side, offering us His grace to strengthen us as pilgrims on our journey to heaven. The jubilee officially began in Rome with the opening of the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica and will conclude locally on Holy Family Sunday, Dec. 28. There will be further information forthcoming regarding exciting plans around the Diocese for Jubilee 2025.

## Weekly Mass Intentions

**Tuesday, January 28, 2025**

**7:30 AM † John Wiczorek**  
By Mike Wuensch

**Wednesday, January 29, 2025**

**7:30 AM † Gloria Hundt**  
By Virginia Horstman

**Thursday, January 30, 2025**

**7:30 AM † Maryann Baker**  
By Mary Schaub

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

**Friday, January 31, 2025**

**7:30 AM † Mildred Miller**  
By Lorraine Miller and Jerry Hegenbarth

**Saturday, February 1, 2025**

**4:00 PM † Jim Schumacher**  
By Ruthie and Paul Fairbanks

**Sunday, February 2, 2025**

**8:00 AM Pro Populo**

**10:00 AM † Guy Buckley**  
By Family



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

## Liturgical Roles February 1-2

### Minister of Holy Communion

- 4:00 PM Dawn Kutt, Nancy Imhoff, Dave Imhoff, Gary Heilman, Linda Heilman, Jim Klock, Christine J. Nelson
- 8:00 AM Deacon Terry Bell, Tom Reichenbacher, Sandy Poellinger, Erica Stanek, Gloria Biesen, Steve Young, Mike Keogh
- 10:00 AM Deacon Terry Bell, Susan Halter, Deb Hayes, Betty Brendel, Bill Brendel, Lori Hammes, Kelly Jakes

### Lector

- 4:00 PM Mark Outzen, Sue Ernster
- 8:00 AM Charles Heiderscheit, Donna Keogh
- 10:00 AM Mary Olson, Barbara Stetzer

### Server

- 4:00 PM Jack Thompson, Keegan Gerling
- 8:00 AM OPEN, OPEN
- 10:00 AM Jack Thompson, Louie Berendes

### Cantor

- 4:00 PM Therese van Oss
- 8:00 AM Natalie Solverson
- 10:00 AM Sunday Choir

### Musician

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

### Song Leader

- 10:00 AM Emily Krejchik

### Sacristan

- 4:00 PM Mike Wuensch
- 8:00 AM Sue Groetsch
- 10:00 AM John Conzemius

### Gift Bearer

- 4:00 PM Lindsey Goyette, Ben Gerling
- 8:00 AM Dave Ortmeier, Francesca Ortmeier
- 10:00 AM Teri Kendhammer, Mike Kendhammer

### Greeter

- 4:00 PM OPEN (Lead), Phil Watson, Joe Riemer, Neil Kumm, Arian Arens, Jackson Harpenau, Patrick Hogan, Olivia Rudie
- 8:00 AM OPEN (Lead), Allan Baumler, Peggy Baumler, Dave Lawrence, Isabel Harden, Karen Perry, Mary Lawrence, Rose Pennebecker
- 10:00 AM Linda Schwartz (lead), Rob Pretasky, Marcus Klar, Mason Klar, Andrew Schwartz, Jackson Massa, Keith Krejchik, Ella Krejchik,

### Scrip Seller

- 4:00 PM Kevin Moyle, Mary Schaub
- 8:00 AM Kerry Groetsch, Sue Moyle
- 10:00 AM Kimberly Krejchik, Sue Pretasky

### Hospitality

- 8:00 AM Donna Burns, Pat Burns
- 10:00 AM Debby Hayes, Trish Stratman

**Live Streamer** 4:00 PM Dave Imhoff



**Catholic Schools Week**  
January 26 - February 1, 2025

**Catholic Schools Week**

As we approach Catholic Schools Week 2025, you are invited to think about the unique advantages of a Catholic education. Aquinas Catholic Schools has a commitment to academic excellence, spiritual growth and community engagement that sets them apart from any other schools. ACS has a vibrant learning environment, dedicated educators, and a strong sense of community that fosters a love for learning and living out our faith. Your support of Aquinas Catholic Schools is an expression of your dedication to a vibrant and growing church.

**Mission Statement**

Aquinas Catholic Schools is a Christ-centered family devoted to nurturing students of all faiths through educational excellence in its vibrant Catholic Tradition.

**ACS Enrollment**

Enrollment is open. You can call 608-784-8282 to schedule a tour. Contact [info@aquinasschools.org](mailto:info@aquinasschools.org) with any questions.

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**BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> • LA CROSSE, WI

**AQUINAS**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> • LA CROSSE, WI

**AQUINAS**  
HIGH SCHOOL  
9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> • LA CROSSE, WI



FAITH



INTEGRITY



DIGNITY



EXCELLENCE



LEADERSHIP

**THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**



*Candlemas*

Blessing of Candles

FEBRUARY 2ND



**Candlemas - Blessing of Candles**

Next week is February 2 and is commonly known in the United States as Groundhog's Day. This may be celebrated by some, but this date has much greater significance in our liturgical calendar. It's the 40th day after Christmas.

In accord with the Law of Moses, Mary went to the temple in Jerusalem for the purification ceremony and to present baby Jesus to the Lord. Simeon, a devout Jew, was moved by the Holy Spirit to approach the Holy Family. He took Jesus into his arms and thanked God for seeing the "light" of salvation with his own eyes (Luke 2:22-40).

For centuries the Church celebrated this event by blessing and "light"-ing candles. As Dec. 25 became known as Christmas (Christ-Mass), so Feb. 2 became known as Candlemas (Candle-Mass).

Anyone who wants a blessed candle is welcome to bring them to church, place it on the table near the baptismal font before Mass begins, and retrieve it at the conclusion of Mass.

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