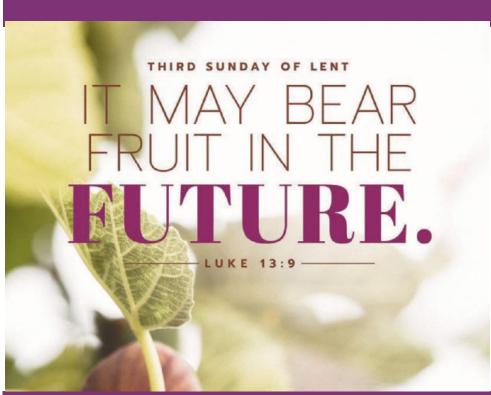
March 23, 2025





The 3rd Sunday of Lent

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

Tammy Zoroufy ext.2 Finance Assistant finance@mmoclacrosse.org

Sr. Meg Earsley, FSPA ext. 2 **Evangelizing Mission** mearsley@mmoclacrosse.org

Therese van Oss ext. 0 Funeral Coordinator tvanoss(a)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

Kate Moll

782-5998 Principal, Cathedral School

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.

Spiritual Renewal Days

Canticle of Creatures: St. Francis Still Sings 800 Years Later

St. Francis is the secondary patron of our Diocese, and our local community of friars will be here to pray and reflect upon the canticle-poem written by St. Francis in 1225, which inspired Pope Francis' encyclical "Laudato Si" (Praised Be) on the care of our common home. Join Fr. Conrad Targonski OFM, Fr. John Abts OFM, and Fr. Michael Weldon OFM on March 30 - April 1 (Mon - Wed) at 6 PM. The first two evenings will be in church; the final evening will be in the parish hall. Food hospitality follows each evening.

Special Collection for St. Francis de Sales Seminary

This week there is a special collection in support of renovation and restoration of the St. Francis de Sales Seminary in Milwaukee. This seminary has been preparing men to serve the Lord for 180 years, including seminarians from the Diocese of La Crosse. It has been 40 years since the last renovation and needs are significant. This is an opportunity to prepare the seminary for future generations.

Envelopes will be available at the end of the pews. Please use the general collection basket at any weekend Mass. Thank you for your generosity.

Silver Jubilee of our Parish

Mary, Mother of the Church was official established on April 9, 2000. We will celebrate this milestone on the weekend of April 5-6. On Saturday, the mosaic of Divine Mercy will be blessed at the 4:00 PM Mass. A celebratory dinner of meatballs and buttered noodles will be served after the Mass. The dinner is free and no reservations are required. On Sunday, free donuts and a continental breakfast will be served by members of Music Ministry in the parish hall after the 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Masses. Let's celebrate the good things that have happened during the past 25 years as Mary, Mother of the Church looks forward to our future as we focus on His Life and His Mission.

Parish Directories

Parish directories will be available for purchase in the Parish Hall during the Silver Jubilee celebrations after Masses on the weekend of April 5-6. The cost is \$20. Directories will be available to purchase in the Parish office after that weekend.

Penance Service

Join us on Wednesday, March 26 at 6:00 PM for our MMOC Penance Service. Individual confessions will be available.

Cathedral Individual Confessions

Priests will be available to hear individual confessions at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral on Monday, April 14 at 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM.

Stations of the Cross

Devotions are held at 4:00 PM every Friday during Lent through April 11. Eucharistic Exposition and individual confessions will take place prior to Stations of the Cross at 3:00 - 3:50 PM.

"Making a Good Confession" Booklets

There are many opportunities available during this season of Lent to receive the sacrament of reconciliation. Lent is a season of repentance, turning away from sin and preparing ourselves to celebrate the Resurrection. Jesus invites us to receive His mercy and healing. He is waiting for us to come to Him.

"Making a Good Confession" helps us understand the Sacrament in a new and deeper way using Scripture, engaging commentary, and questions for reflection. These booklets are available FREE at the main entrances of the Church.

Lenten Collection

The Lenten Collection this year will support Alliance Family Services, a state-of-the-art pregnancy resource center in La Crosse. Alliance is an interfaith organization that supports women and families facing unplanned pregnancies with medical, practical, emotional and spiritual support. The La Crosse area Alliance Family Services is located at 600 3rd St. N, Suite #201. They are available Mondays 10am-6pm, Wednesdays 9am-5pm, and Saturdays 9am-1pm.

MMOC Fish Fry

Our second and final Fish Fry will be on Friday, March 28 from 4:30 to 7:00 PM. Dine-in or carry-out. Choose from baked or fried cod served with coleslaw, baked potato or fries, and a roll. A two piece dinner is \$13 and three piece dinner is \$16. Kids Menu is grilled cheese, fries and fruit for \$5. Beer, wine and dessert will be available at dine-in for an additional cost. There are sign -up sheets for volunteers in the Gathering Space.

Easter Flowers

We are already receiving donations for Easter flowers in memory of loved ones. Flowers will be purchased throughout the Easter Season to add to our extended celebrations. You may use the special envelopes in your envelope pack for this. If you choose to use WeShare and donate



electronically, please contact the parish office so that your memorial intention can be recorded for the bulletin as there is no option to add this online.

New Life Choir

The New Life Choir will sing Easter Morning, April 20 at the 8:00 AM Mass. We will meet to rehearse on Tuesday, April 8 at 9:00 AM in the music room (lower level of the Parish Hall). Email or call Mary Jo Lium if you are interested in joining the choir mjlium@mmoclacrosse.org or 608-788-5483 ext. 8.

Children's Choir

We are asking all children 5K and older to join our Sunday Choir in leading the music on Easter Sunday, April 20 at the 10:00 AM Mass. All music will be done from the balcony. We are asking everyone to be in the choir loft ready to go at 9:45 AM.

Church Cleaning on April 5

We are looking for 25 volunteers and one hour of your time to clean the church on Saturday, April 5 at 8 AM. This is a good way for students to earn service hours and for parish members to work together to help keep

our church clean while getting to know one another! The parish will supply the rags and cleaning solution (an all-natural product). Volunteers are encouraged to bring a 1-gallon bucket. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board at the main entrance of the church.

Family Life

Requiescat in Pace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Kathleen Vehrenkamp and Verda Grabinski. Our prayers 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 meets this Wednesday, March 26 from 5:30 PM to 6:45 PM. All families with children in grades 2 - 5 will attend the Lenten Penance service at Mary, Mother of the Church and have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Children in grades PreK/K and Grade 1 will still have class to allow parents to attend the Penance service as well.

Overnight Retreat for Middle School Students

Youth in 6th-8th grades are invited to partake in a transformative overnight retreat their faith in fun and interactive ways! This is a great way for schoolers to make memories with their



friends all while being inspired to better love and follow Jesus. The retreat will take place at Mary Mother of the Church parish. To sign up, please scan the QR code. Registration deadline is March 28th- cost is \$20. Please Samuel Obert contact at sobert@mmoclacrosse.org for more information.

Please pray for our candidates who are preparing to enter into the full communion proper of of the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil: Ann Lorenz, Ashley Wateski, Braelyn Wateski, Scarlett Wateski, Corey Myers, of ADULTS Keila Ryan, Leah Brandner, and Sharyn Jordan.



Father of love and power, it is your will to establish everything in Christ and to draw us into his allembracing love. Please guide our candidates in the days and weeks ahead: strengthen them in their vocation, build them into the kingdom of your Son, and seal them with the Spirit of your promise. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for them!

Save the Date: Vacation Bible School 2025

As your plans start shaping up for the summer be sure to save August 4 - 8 for Vacation Bible School! Vacation Bible School is for children entering Kindergarten through 5th grade and will take place from

9:00am-Noon at Mary, Mother of the Church. More details and registration information to come! Adult and teen volunteers will be needed to make this a success. If interested in volunteering please reach out to Kristin Johnson 608-788-5483 ext. 4.

Social Justice

Warming Center Volunteers on Tuesday, April 1

Food & Milk: Mike Marco, Mary Schaub, LuAnn Miller, Patti Nimocks, Juli Jansen (milk) (to be delivered to 413 S. 3rd St. by 6:30 PM)

Intake: Mary Olson, Nancy Imhoff, Sarah Kopski, Matt Deshler, Karen Deshler, OPEN (6:30 PM - 9:00 PM) Morning Volunteer: Neil Kumm (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.

Meals on Wheels

Thank you to participants who delivered Meals on Wheels in March; Bill and Sue Moyle, Steve and Joan Clements, Martin Gaul, March Wuensch and Stefana Pretasky.

Men's Club

Men's Club Food Drive

The Men's Club is organizing a food drive during the month of March and donations will go to Catholic Charities of La Crosse. Paper bags are available in the Gathering Space. Please return the food donations to the church by March 29 -30. Thank you for your generosity.

Around the Diocese

Mass of Reparation

On March 27 at 10 AM at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral, Bishop Battersby will conduct a Mass of Reparation. Every clergy, religious and lay person is invited and encouraged to attend.

What is a "Reparation Mass"? "It is when we humbly and truthfully acknowledge our sins and surrender ourselves with confidence into the loving and merciful arms of our heavenly Father. In the words of Pope Francis, we offer the heart of Christ a new possibility of spreading in this world the flames of his ardent and gracious love. We give him permission to remove all the barriers we have created and unleash his unconquerable Love upon ourselves and upon the world. That is reparation.

From start to finish reparation is a divine work, wrought by Jesus in his Passion and Resurrection. We, the members of his Body, get to participate in it."

We will precede the Mass with prayers seeking reparation for any and all grave harm perpetrated by our diocese during our 157 year history, including harm caused by our priests and bishops. None of us can undo that harm, but we can call on Jesus to remove the barriers to his love that we have imposed, with confidence that he is eager to unleash the fire of his love throughout our diocese. With humility and repentance, we give him full permission to do what only he can do.

Faith & Recovery:

Catholic Keys to Freedom from Substance Abuse All are invited to a breakfast program featuring two extraordinary speakers:

Joe McGivney - A lifelong alcoholic whose brain was so damaged that it led to his being institutionalized with an incurable psychosis, until one morning he woke up and was suddenly and completely healed.

Keaton Douglas - Executive Director of the iTHIRST initiative and creator of the iTHIRST Spiritual Companionship Training, which forms lay leaders and clery for the mission of accompanying those suffering from substance use disorders and their families.

For more information and to register for this inspiring morning program at Holy Cross Diocesan Center, visit diolc.org/faith-recovery.

CALIX

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 Minneapolis 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 wish to learn about the Calix group that has formed in the Diocese of La Crosse, email Christine at healthandharmonywi@gmail.com. The next meetings, by Zoom, are planned for March 25 and April 1.

Weekly Mass Intentions

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

7:30 AM † Janice Zenker

By Virginia Horstman

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

7:30 AM † Jeannette Nickelatti
By Phil and Ann Nickelatti

Thursday, March 27, 2025

7:30 AM † Rosa Wittenberg

By Mark and Sue Halter

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

Friday, March 28, 2025

7:30 AM + Gary Marx

By Virginia Horstman

Saturday, March 29, 2025

4:00 PM † Larry Weibel

By Family

Sunday, March 30, 2025

8:00 AM Pro populo

10:00 AM Living and deceased members of the Jack and Joan Janis Family

By Mark and Minda Chamberlain

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

Liturgical Roles March 29-30

Minister of Holy Communion

4:00 PM Nancy Imhoff, Dave Imhoff, Dawn Kutt, Steve Lefever, Mark Misch, Mary Schaub, Joseph van Oss

8:00 AM Deacon Terry Bell, Nick Berry, Janice Berry, Erin Klar, Steve Klar, Sandy Poellinger, Erica

Stanek

10:00 AM Deacon Terry Bell, Chuck Berendes, Polly Berendes, Jo Beth Gaul, Susan Halter, Terri

Pedace, Kimberly Krejchik

Lector

4:00 PM Jerome Iverson, Mark Outzen 8:00 AM Francesca Ortmeier, Linda Elsen 10:00 AM Mary Olson, Linda Gillette

Server

4:00 PM Izzy Schelfhout, Tenley Solverson 8:00 AM Matthew Klar, Ryann Klar

8:00 AM Matthew Klar, Ryann Kla 10:00 AM OPEN, Louie Berendes

Cantor

4:00 PM Christine J Nelson 8:00 AM Haylee Pagenkopf 10:00 AM Sunday Choir

Musician

4:00 PM Mary Jo Lium 8:00 AM Mary Jo Lium 10:00 AM Jenny Nielsen

Song Leader

10:00 AM Emily Krejchik

Sacristan

4:00 PM OPEN 8:00 AM OPEN

10:00 AM Anne Kernan

Gift Bearer

4:00 PM OPEN, Lindsey Goyette

8:00 AM Dave Ortmeier, Francesca Ortmeier 10:00 AM Teri Kendhammer, Mike Kendhammer

Greeter

4:00 PM Phil Watson (Lead), Arian Arens, Neil Kumm, Patrick Hogan, Mark Misch, Kevin Moyle,

Steve Schaub, Harper Solverson

8:00 AM Sue Groetsch (Lead), OPEN, Allan Baumler, Peggy Baumler, Kerry Groetsch, Cindy Klar,

Bob Klar

10:00 AM Linda Schwartz (Lead), Megan Binsfeld, Matt Binsfeld, Mason Klar, Shannon Klar, Andrew

Schwartz, Mike Wintheiser, Brenda

Wintheiser

Scrip Seller

4:00 PM Dee Sauer, Heidi Schlegel8:00 AM Bob Jansky, Charlene Jansky10:00 AM Sue Pretasky, Sheri Skelton

Hospitality

8:00 AM Pat Burns, Donna Burns 10:00 AM Jim Wagner, Julie Wagner

Live Streamer

4:00 PM Dave Imhoff

Divine Mercy Mosaic

For the past few weeks, we have been exploring the importance of having a prominent image of Divine Mercy in our church building, the reasons we chose to represent this image through a mosaic, how mosaics are

made, and specifically, how our mosaic was created. This article will share the specific design elements of our mosaic.

The March 9 bulletin article emphasized the importance of drawing inspiration from church's current art and architecture.

As you look around our church, you will notice many sharp angles, in-



cluding diagonals. For example, the altar's backdrop is rectangular in its lattice structure, the ceiling and outdoor pillars have raised diamond shapes, and diagonals are prominent in our stained glass windows and flooring. These angles and shapes are reflected in the 3 panels and in the rays coming forth from the wounded side of



Jesus, bringing forth the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

The wooden frame surrounding

the mosaic was designed to be a two-dimensional representation of the baldachin-canopy over the tabernacle, which, in turn, is modeled after the canopy over the main altar.

Additionally, the Divine Mercy mosaic will complement our mosaic of Mary, Mother of the Church in many ways. The blue





background of the mosaics will match. The rays coming from the heart of Jesus will mirror the rays from the Ho- 10) ly Spirit, and the medallions depicting the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy will mirror the tongues of fire.

The artists at Inspired Artisans were provided a basic idea of each of the

Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, from which they designed a medallion to communicate to the viewer the specific call to bring forth Christ's mercy to the world.

Our mosaic is one-of-a-kind.

The next two bulletin articles will feature each medallion and its design elements.

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

The Chaplet can be prayed anytime, but it is especially encouraged at the Hour of Mercy, which is 3:00PM - the hour of Christ's death - or when someone is near death. Jesus shared with St. Faustina many promises associated with praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet: Here are a

- "The souls that say this chaplet will be embraced by My mercy during their lifetime and especially at the hour of their death." (Diary, 754)
- "When hardened sinners say it, I will fill their souls with peace, and the hour of their death will be a happy one." (Diary, 1541)
- •"When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as a just Judge but as a merciful Savior." (Diary, 1541)
- "Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death." (Diary, 687)

How to Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet

- Make the Sign of the Cross.
- St. Faustina's Prayer for Sinners

"You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.'

- Our Father
- 4) Hail Mary
- 5) **Apostles Creed**
- **Eternal Father** "Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world."
- 7) On the 10 small beads of each decade:
 - "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."
- 8) Repeat for the remaining decades. Say "Eternal Father" (6) on the "Our Father" bead and "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion" (7) on the ten "Hail Mary" beads.
- 9) Conclude with "Holy God" (Repeat 3 times) "Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world."
- Optional Closing Prayer "Eternal God, in Whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in diffi
 - cult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself."
- 11) Make the Sign of the Cross.

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