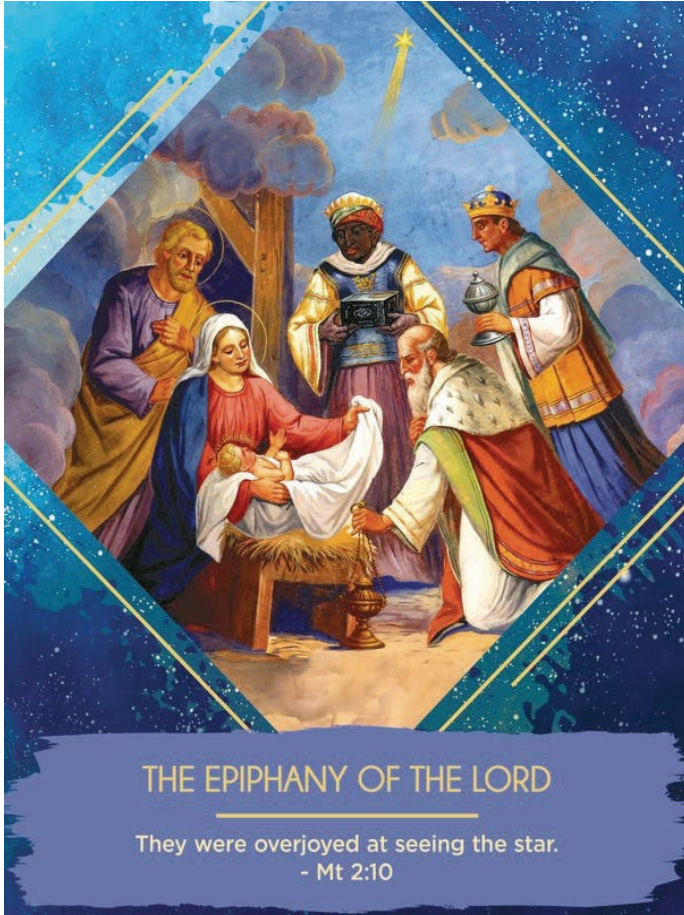


# St. Mary Parish

Fr. Joe Richards, Pastor  
Dcn. Tony Shay



**Church Address:**  
900 Central Ave., Coon Valley, WI 54623

**Parish Phone:** 608-452-3841

**Website:** [www.stmarycv.org](http://www.stmarycv.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/  
StMarysCoonValley](http://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley)

**January 5, 2025**

*Readings: 497C*

## PASTOR

Fr. Joseph Richards

Rectory:.....400 Congress Ave, Viroqua, WI 54665

Cell Phone: .....608-606-9787

Email:..... [jrichards@diolclergy.org](mailto:jrichards@diolclergy.org)

Office Hours in Coon Valley Sacristy:

Tues. 1:00 PM until Mass time and

Thurs. after Mass until noon and by appt

## DEACON

Anthony Shay.....[ashay@diolclergy.org](mailto:ashay@diolclergy.org)

## WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday.....4:00pm

Sunday.....8:00am

## WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday.....5:15 pm

Thursday.....8:00am

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday.....3:15pm to 3:45pm

## PARISH OFFICE

Amy Stafslie, Admin. Assist.....608-452-3841

Bulletin deadline: ..... Wednesday noon

E-mail:.....[stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net)

Open most Wednesdays and Thursdays

## COORDINATOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Bridget Goodwin.....[bladams50@gmail.com](mailto:bladams50@gmail.com)

## PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Mary Gajewski, John Mislivecek, Nancy Peters (Secretary),  
and John Roesler (Buildings and Grounds)

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mike Callan, Ryan Goodwin, Marlene Humfeld, Sue Humfeld,  
Robert Kerska, Lori Pedretti and Steve Schulte

## PCCW (Parish Council of Catholic Women)

Clarice Kammel (President), Nancy Peters (Treasurer), Linda  
Berg (Secretary)

**MUSICIANS:** MaryBeth Smith, Linda Schulte, & Chris  
Carskadon

Fr. Joe also serving:

## Annunciation of the BVM Parish, Viroqua

Mass Times: Weekend: .....Saturday.....6:30 PM

Sunday .....10:30 AM

Weekday: .....Wed - 5:15 PM & Fri - 8:00 AM

**New Parishioners:** Welcome to our parish! Please introduce  
yourself to Fr. Joe and contact the parish office for registration and  
information. [www.stmarycv.org/visit-us](http://www.stmarycv.org/visit-us)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday from 3:15pm to 3:45pm and  
Sunday from 7:15am to 7:45am

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Submit a registration by mail, or e-mail to  
both [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net) AND [jrichards@diolclergy.org](mailto:jrichards@diolclergy.org) You  
will be contacted by the parish office to finalize your requested  
date. The registration form at: [www.stmarycv.org/sacraments](http://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments).

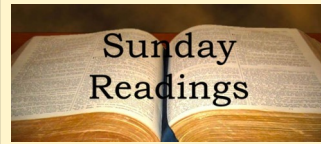
**Sacrament of Anointing / Visitation of the Sick:** Please contact the  
parish office or Fr. Joe when someone you know is in need of the  
Sacrament or a pastoral visit. Requests may also be made from our  
website under the Sacraments tab. [www.stmarycv.org/sacraments](http://www.stmarycv.org/sacraments)

**Mass Intentions:** Please use the Mass Intention envelopes available  
in the church.

**Book of Prayer Requests:** Located in the back of church. Feel free to  
add your own prayer requests. The requests will be included in the  
parish prayers.

# St. Mary's Parish, Coon Valley, WI

## The Epiphany of the Lord



**January 05, 2025**  
 1) *Isaiah 60:1-6*  
 2) *Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6*  
 3) *Matthew 2:1-12*

### Intentions / Schedule

#### **SATURDAY, January 04**

*The Epiphany of the Lord*

-3:15-3:45 Confessions  
 -4:00pm Mass - † Edward and Anna Kerska  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Robert Kerska

#### **SUNDAY, January 05**

*The Epiphany of the Lord*

-8:00am Mass - The Ollendick Family  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Ryan Goodwin

Money Counters: Steve Grabowski and Bernie Roesler

#### **TUESDAY, January 07**

*St. Raymond Penyafort*

- 4:30-5:00pm NO Adoration  
 - 5:15pm Mass - NO MASS

#### **THURSDAY, January 09**

*Weekday*

- 8:00am Mass - For the priest

#### **SATURDAY, January 11**

*The Baptism of the Lord*

-3:15-3:45 Confessions  
 -4:00pm Mass - Our Parish Family  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Jeana Lejeune

#### **SUNDAY, January 12**

*The Baptism of the Lord*

-8:00am Mass - † Kylie Von Ruden  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Marlene Humfeld

Money Counters: Loree Nickelotti, Rodney and Kathy Berg

### **Upcoming Events/Calendar**

- **Dec 31– Jan 7** ~ Fr. Joe away at FOCUS conference, no regular daily Mass
- **Jan 4/5** ~ Welcome Fr. Parr
- **Jan 7** ~ No daily Mass at 5:15 PM
- **Jan 12** ~ \*Date Change\* Rel. Ed, after the 10:30 AM Mass in Viroqua
- **Jan 14** ~ Finance Council Meeting 5:45 PM
- **Jan 16** ~ Coffee and Fellowship after 8 AM Mass
- **Jan 19** ~ Parish Social after 8 AM Mass hosted by St. Catherine Guild  
 ~ Rel. Ed. Activity after 8 AM Mass
- **Feb 2** ~ Rel. Ed. after the 10:30 AM Mass in Viroqua
- **Feb 16** ~ Rel Ed Activity after 8 AM Mass
- **Mar 2** ~ Religious Education after the 10:30 AM Mass in Viroqua
- **Mar 16** ~ Rel Ed Activity after 8 AM Mass



**Sunday Mass streaming Live on Facebook**  
<https://www.facebook.com/StMarysCoonValley>

**Open Sat. and Sun. dates:** Jan 19, Feb 1 or 2, 9, & 15 or 16. Mar 15 or 16, 22, 23, & 30.  
**Open Weekdays:** Jan 14, 16, 21, 23, & 28. Feb 4, 11, 18, 20, 25, & 27. All Mar open except 20.



Request a specific date by filling out an intention envelope or by emailing the office. As of July 1, 2024 suggested stipend amount is \$20 per Mass. If you have questions feel free to email the office at [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net) or voice message 608-452-3841.

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

If you are 70 ½ or older, you can do a **qualified charitable distribution (QCD)** of up to \$100,000 a year from your **IRA directly to a charity**. The distribution won't show up in your adjusted gross income and CAN count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD). The QCD allows you to be more strategic with your RMD. Consult your tax advisor before making any decisions. If a QCD is for you, please consider St. Mary's Parish as your charity of choice.



### **Inspired by the Spirit Campaign**

5 Year Goal : \$105,000.00  
 As of January 03, 2025  
 Pledges received (30): \$109,520.00  
**Payments received: \$53,451.50**



<b>Needed last Month</b>	
\$10,000.00	at \$2000 per week
\$11,167.75	Received as of week 5
\$1,167.75	Difference for the Month

<b>Annual Appeal 2024-2025</b>		
As of 01/03/2025	<b>Total Pledged</b>	<b>Total Payments</b>
Pledged/Paid	\$9,875.00	\$6,483.33
Target Amount	<u>\$14,050.00</u>	<u>\$14,050.00</u>
<b>Under Target</b>	<b>\$4,175.00</b>	\$7,566.67
Percent Pledged: 70.28%, Percent Received: 46.14%		
Number Contributing: 23		
To donate online, visit: <a href="http://diolc.org/donate-online/">diolc.org/donate-online/</a> and in the drop down box choose: 2024(445) St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley		

<b>Giving Last Week</b>		<b>12/29/2024</b>	
Adult Env(35)	\$1,405.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	470.00	Received This Week	\$2,195.00
Sol of Mary	20.00	Running total needed	\$104,000.00
Votives	30.00	YTD Received	\$89,385.50
X-Mas Env(7)	270.00	Difference	(14,614.50)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,195.00</b>		
Food Pantry	\$35.00		

## From the Pastor

Hello friends,

I have two things for you this weekend. First, a quick recap – last weekend Deacon Tony shared a helpful meditation on the Holy Family and what it means to honor family members, especially when honoring family members is tough. We're blessed to have in Deacon Tony both a man of the cloth and also an accomplished therapist, and I thought he blended the Word and tangible practice very well. Let me name those five practical points again for your continuing digestion:

1. *Separate the person from their actions* – honoring is not excusing bad behavior but honoring their roles in our lives and treating them with dignity.
2. *Set healthy boundaries and limits* – boundaries aren't about cutting someone out but about protecting your own and their own emotional wellbeing.
3. *Practice forgiveness* – this isn't excusing the other person but choosing not to hold onto resentment. When we forgive, we reflect God's mercy, which is always greater than our hurt. Remember – forgiveness is a process, and God walks us through it.
4. *Pray for your parents* – Ask God to bless them, heal their hearts, and guide their actions. Give Him permission to transform your relationship.
5. *Focus on your own actions* – we are ultimately responsible for our own response, regardless of what or who we're dealing with.

Second, this weekend we're celebrating the feast of the Epiphany. In some Christian churches (especially the Orthodox and Eastern Catholics), the Epiphany bears as much weight as Christmas – it's the moment when Christ starts to be revealed not just to the Holy Family and the shepherds, but to the whole world. Here come these three very non-Jewish scholars/philosophers/royals from the East following a supernatural breakthrough into the natural order (that is, the star) to the true Light they've been looking for. The mission of the Magi is first to find Christ, but even more than that to reveal Christ to the world. They are, in a real sense, some of the first spreaders of the Gospel, some of the first evangelists. We have a deep tradition of marking the top of the main door or multiple doors in your house with the date and the letters C, M, B for the names of the Three Magi – Caspar, Melchior, Balthasar. If you would like to take part in this door marking, we've got some blessed chalk ready to go in the back of our churches. Just take a piece home and mark at the top of the doors "20 + C + M + B + 25" – it's a good way to inaugurate the new year and a good way to remind yourself whenever you look up and see those letters that there's something different about a home marked by Christ's birth, revelation, death and resurrection.

God bless you,

Fr. Joe



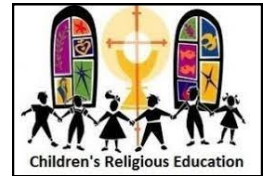
## Parish Announcements

### Religious Education

Just a reminder that Father Joe is out of town this weekend so we will not be having the parent meeting this Sunday.

The RE parents meeting will be Sunday, January 12th after the 10:30am Mass in Viroqua.

We will have the RE activity in Coon Valley on Sunday, January 19th after the 8am Mass. Please meet upstairs in the church after Mass. Father Joe will go over the parts of Mass with the children. Then we will head downstairs for snacks and a game.



### Happy Birthday

Clarence Urbanek, a long-time and valued member of our parish family, turned 93 December 30th! Happy Birthday, Clarence! We wish you all God's greatest blessings on your birthday and in the years ahead!

*A Minute with Jesus*

### Wise men came to worship Jesus

Wise men from far away saw an incredibly bright star moving across the sky. They followed the star to see where it would take them. It led them to the Infant Jesus. The Magi gave precious gifts to adore the Christ Child, which reveal this holy Child's identity; God becoming man: gold for Christ's kingship, frankincense for His divinity and myrrh for His anointing after His sacrifice on the Cross. Jesus gives us the greatest Gift – the Gift of Himself in the Eucharist again and again in a life-giving encounter.

- Let's pray this right now and every day this week:

*Jesus, the wise man brought You precious gifts.  
Thank You for giving us the most precious Gift of  
Yourself in the Eucharist.*

- This week, read how the wise men came to worship Jesus and bring Him gifts in Matthew 2:1-12

### 2025 Contribution Envelopes

If you haven't already done so, please pick up your envelopes from the back of the church, this will save time and money to distribute them to your homes. If you cannot find your envelopes or you do not currently have envelopes assigned to you please contact the parish office by leaving a message at 608-452-3841 or email: [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net)

## Diocesan/Local Announcements

### Join Tens of Thousands at 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](http://diolc.org/pilgrimageforlife),



## Diocesan/Local Announcements continued

### “Behold: Prayer of the Saints” Young Adult Retreat | Jan. 25, 2025 | Blessed Sacrament Church, La Crosse

This retreat is for young adults aged 18-25 and will be held on January 25, 2025, from 9 am-5 pm at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in La Crosse. Hear inspiring talks about the prayer of the Saints, foster a deeper Catholic community with other young adults, and participate in the life of God via Mass, Confession, and personal prayer. There are also optional evening socials on Friday, January 24 at 7 pm at 608 Brewing Co. and Saturday, January 25 at 6 pm at Pizzeria Dolorosa. The cost is \$25 per person and includes a warm meal. Register at [tinyurl.com/beholdprayer](http://tinyurl.com/beholdprayer).

### Welcome to the Franciscan Spirituality Center's new podcast, What is Spirituality?

Your host, FSC spiritual director Steve Spilde, explores a variety of topics related to our understanding of connection, the divine, compassionate listening and the search for meaning and wholeness. Of the many questions Steve is guided by in his life, one of his favorites is: “What is Spirituality?” In this series, he'll introduce some of the spiritual mentors in his life as they reflect on this question and share what they have discovered on their own personal journeys. Expect to hear the collective wisdom of other spiritual directors, Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration and past directors of the FSC's Spiritual Direction Preparation Program

### Central WI Retrouvaille \Retro- vi\Marriage Help Program

Retrouvaille has been a lifeline for marriages for over 45 years. Whether a couple has drifted apart, separated, or even divorced, this 3-phase program offers hope for all who want to restore their marriages and rebuild loving relationships. Affordable, Catholic in origin and open to couples of all faiths, the next program begins with a weekend stay in Wausau area February 14-16, 2025. For local info and fully confidential registration call: 877-922-HOPE (4673). More at [HelpOurMarriage.org](http://HelpOurMarriage.org).

### The Rosary in a Year Podcast: Renew Your Prayer

On January 1st, Father Mark-Mary Ames is launching The Rosary in a Year podcast with Ascension Press! You are most welcome to join for FREE as an opportunity to deepen your relationship with Christ and the Blessed Virgin as you understand the beauty and significance of the rosary. This will be a 10-minute daily podcast to hear about the basics, what it means to have a relationship with Jesus and Mary, the meaning of the prayers, understand better the different mysteries and how to meditate on the life of Christ to encounter Him. Download the prayer plan at [AscensionPress.com/RosaryinaYear](http://AscensionPress.com/RosaryinaYear).

### Office for Vocations

There are few things in life that are more uplifting than being able to help someone or be there for someone in need. When we can use our gifts and talents to make someone else's life better, it can bring joy to not just our lives, but to those we can serve as well. Jesus tells us that there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friend. As friends of Christ, we are called to love in this way, to be willing to lay down our life for others. A powerful way to do this is by being a priest of Jesus Christ. He is calling young men to consider this call to serve, to offer their lives out of love for their sisters and brothers. He may be calling you! If you or someone you know is interested in discovering more about this call to the priesthood, contact Fr. Nate Kuhn, Diocese of La Crosse, 3710 East Ave. S. PO Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602; or by phone at: 608.791.2667.

### Save the Date! Men of the Cross: Forgiveness and Freedom

Will be held March 8, 2025 at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in La Crosse. We are excited to have Bob Kroll as our keynote speaker and Mass with Bishop Battersby. More information is coming soon!

## Activity Corner

# The Wise Men Puzzle

Do you know the story of the wise men who came to worship Baby Jesus?  
What order do these pictures go in?  
Write the numbers from 1 to 6 in the boxes.



Answer: Top: 3,6, Middle: 5,1, Bottom: 2,4.

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Never doubt the power of prayer.

- The sick and suffering in any way, may they find healing and strength in our Lord.
- For military men and women who are supporting our freedom.
- Our political leaders, may their decisions be made for the good of all.
- For the people of Ukraine, Israel, Gaza and Syria whose lives have been affected by acts of war.
- For those fighting cancer, especially members of our parish.
- For children suffering with life threatening conditions and illnesses.
- The intentions listed in our parish Book of Prayer.

To add a request call 608-452-3841 or email [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net)