

# 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)

*May 5, 2024*  
*Readings: 563B*



## First Communion Sunday



6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love." - Jn 15:10

### 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

Sunday.....7:15am to 7:45am

### 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: ..Wednesdays - 5:15 PM & Fridays - 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:** Please 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**  
**Sixth Sunday of Easter | First Communion Sunday**



**Sunday Readings**  
 May 5, 2024

1) Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 2) 1 John 4:7-10;  
 3) John 14:15-16

**Intentions / Schedule**

**SATURDAY, May 4**  
*Sixth Sunday of Easter*  
 -4: 00pm Mass - † Helen Stafslien  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Nancy Peters

**SUNDAY, May 5**  
*Sixth Sunday of Easter*  
 -8:00am Mass - Fleming and Ollendick Families  
 (living and deceased)  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Marlene Humfeld

Money Counters: Loree Nickelotti, Rodney & Kathy Berg

**TUESDAY, May 7**  
 - 5:15pm Mass - Our Parish Family

**THURSDAY, May 9**  
 - 8:00am Mass - † James Coonan


**SATURDAY, May 11**  
*The Ascension of the Lord/7th Sunday of Easter*  
 -4: 00pm Mass - † Norbert Seichter  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Jeana Lejeune

**SUNDAY, May 12**  
*The Ascension of the Lord/7th Sunday of Easter*  
 -8:00am Mass - † Cecilia Humfeld  
 Altar Servers: Volunteers Ushers: Volunteers  
 Lector: Ryan Goodwin

Money Counters: Mike Kammel and Mark Boland

**Upcoming Events/Calendar**


- **May 05 ~ First Communion Sunday!** **NO** religious education class for either Coon Valley/Viroqua students.
- **May 11/12 ~ Mother's Day Rose Sale** after Mass
- **May 13 ~ PCCW Meeting** 5: 30 PM
- **May 14 ~ Men's Club Meeting** 5:45 PM
- **May 16 ~ Coffee and Fellowship** after 8 AM Mass
- **May 19 ~ RE end of year party** after the 8 AM Mass and parish social to celebrate our first communicant, confirmand, and graduates. The PCCW hosts will be both St. Theresa & St. Rose Guilds.
- **May 20 ~ Installation of Bishop Gerard W. Battersby** in La Crosse
- **May 20-31 ~ Fr. Joe chaplaining the FOCUS' New Staff Training**, No daily Mass
- **May 25/26 ~ Welcome Fr. Nate Kuhn**
- **May 27 ~ Memorial Day**
- **Jun 07 ~ Eucharistic Rally** in La Crosse from 10 AM—8:30 PM



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




**Open Sat. and Sun. dates:** Jun 23 & 30; Aug 11 & 31.  
**Open Weekdays:** May 14, Jun. 11 & 20; Jul 4, 11, & 30; Aug 22 & 29.  
 Request a specific date by filling out an intention envelope or by emailing the office.  
 If you have questions feel free to email the parish office at [stmaryscv@mwt.net](mailto:stmaryscv@mwt.net) or leave a message at 608-452-3841.



**Inspired by the Spirit Campaign**  
 5 Year Goal : \$105,000.00  
 As of April 26, 2024  
 Pledges received (30): \$109,020.00  
 Payments received: **\$39,479.50**  
 THANK YOU!



**CONFESIONS**  
 Sat: 3:15pm to 3:45pm  
 Sun: 7:15am to 7:45am



Needed last Month	
\$8,000.00	at \$2000 per week
\$6,110.15	Received as of week 4
<b>(\$1,889.85)</b>	Difference for the Month

**Annual Appeal 2023-24**

As of 04/26/2024	Total Pledged	Total Payments
Pledged/Paid	\$12,700.00	\$12,600.00
Target Amount	<u>\$14,515.00</u>	<u>\$14,515.00</u>
<b>Under Target</b>	<b>(\$1,815.00)</b>	<b>(\$1,915.00)</b>
Percent Pledged: 87.50%, Percent Received: 86.81%		
Number Contributing: 28		

**To donate online visit:** <https://diolc.org/stewardship/> then choose either "single gift, reoccurring gift, or pledge" and in the parish dropdown, choose; 2023 (445) St. Mary Parish, Coon Valley.

Giving Last Week		4/28/2024	
Adult Env()	\$1025.00	Needed Weekly	\$2,000.00
Offertory	\$202.00	Received This Week	\$1,253.15
Votives	\$26.15	Running total needed	\$34,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,253.15</b>	YTD Received	\$30,414.57
		Difference	(3,585.43)
Food Pantry	\$20.00		

## From the Pastor

Hello friends,

Several of our parishioners were at the Confirmation Mass on Thursday night – St. Mary’s in Richland Center, Sacred Heart in Lone Rock, and our own two parishes brought together 21 High Schoolers in Viroqua for the shared celebration. Bishop Callahan also presided at the Mass, and boy was he ready to go. For some context, a month or two ago Pope Francis accepted Bishop Callahan’s graceful resignation and appointed Bishop Gerard Battersby the next bishop for our diocese, with an installation on May 20. That means that our Confirmation is one of Bishop Callahan’s last, and throughout the Mass I kept thinking “he’s in full victory lap mode.” It was a beautiful liturgy, and Bishop Callahan made a clear point of calling the confirmandi to step into their faith with conviction, decision, and tangible acceptance of the Fruits of the Holy Spirit.

One of the several moments that struck me was when he had the candidates stand in front of him, gazed penetratingly into each of their eyes, and told them they were being introduced to a Successor of the Apostles. I’ve seen Bishop Callahan invoke his authority before (he made me a deacon and priest), but there was something stirring in this moment, seeing him draw that clear line from himself to the guy who ordained him to the guy who ordained him to the...all the way back to St. Andrew or James or Peter. This is it folks. Maybe you’ve heard people say one religion or branch of Christianity is the same as any other, maybe you’ve even bought into that yourself, but the truth is that that’s more a cheapening simplification than it is the truth. When we’re looking at what sets Catholics apart, it’s the Sacraments and that Apostolic Succession Bishop Callahan was talking about – it’s being rooted in the Church Jesus Christ established. We’re not at war with our brothers and sisters, we’re working for the reconciliation and restoration of Christ’s Body on Earth. But we also need to know we’re not all the same.

Please take some time over the next few weeks to pray earnestly for Bishop Callahan and Bishop Battersby. I will always be deeply grateful to Bishop Callahan for accepting me into seminary, for leading me through formation and ordination, and for shepherding me as I shepherd you. He has poured himself out for the last fourteen years as our Bishop, and now it’s time for him to receive a well-earned rest and hand on the mantle. As for Bishop Battersby, we’ll be seeing him around over the coming years too, and if you’re curious about our new shepherd I encourage you to look up “Bishop Battersby’s Vocation Story” on Youtube or your preferred podcast platform. I’ll echo his introduction to the clergy and curia: “I don’t come to you as the best bishop you could receive. If you want the best bishop you can receive, then you’re gonna have to fast and pray for me, that the Holy Spirit might make me the one that you need. The one that he has in store and planned for you. And so, I ask you to pray for me, and to love me and receive me, and to allow me to bring Jesus to you in the way that the Holy Spirit has gifted me these many years of priesthood.”

God bless you,  
Fr. Joe

## Parish Announcements

**Save the date and join us - Sunday, May 19th, 2024, following the 8:00 AM Mass for a Parish-wide brunch to honor our First Communicants, Confirmation Student, and High School Graduates.**



### Rosary before Mass in the Month of May



May is traditionally dedicated to honoring and seeking the intercession of Mary. To commemorate our parish namesake, the rosary will be recited 20 minutes before the weekend masses in May. Please make an effort to join us.

### Mother’s Day Rose Sale - May 11 & 12

Honor your Mother the weekend of May 11th & 12th with a rose! The PCCW is sponsoring the annual Mother’s Day Rose Sale after both masses. A \$2 donation per rose is requested, with all proceeds going to Wisconsin Right To Life.



### Casa Hogar Optical Mission Fundraiser

Sponsored by our very own Valley Fudge and Candy



The goal is to raise \$6,000 for the purchase a digital phoropter to help provide the very best prescriptions for those who desperately need them. With every fudge order through Mother’s Day, the Optical

Mission will receive 100% of the profit. There are 2 ways to order the fudge: online with the QR code or use click on the link below or by calling the Valley Fudge & Candy shop at 608-452-2042. The containers of fudge are 7 oz and beyond delicious! It’s a great gift for Mother's Day, or any other occasion, or just because you love fudge! [Casa Hogar Optical Mission Fundraiser](https://hogar.valleyfudgeandcandy.com/)

## Diocesan/Local Announcements

### St Joseph Ridge Community Blood Drive

May 6th 1:00—6:00 pm. At the Town of Greenfield town hall. Walk ins are welcome but appointments are encouraged, to schedule online: [versiti.org/wi](https://www.versiti.org/wi) or call 877-232-4376.

### Grief Support at the Franciscan Spirituality Center

- **Listening Together: A Monthly Grief Support Group**  
MAY 13 (Monday, 5:30-6:30 p.m.)  
Also June 10, July 8, August 12.
- **Moving Through Grief Retreat**  
MAY 16-18 (Thursday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. each day)
- **Grief Circle IN-PERSON**  
JUNE 12 (Wednesday, 10 a.m.-noon)
- **Grief Circle ZOOM**  
JUNE 12 (Wednesday, 6-8 p.m.)

Visit: <https://fsc.retreatportal.com/events/> and type “Grief” into the search.

## Diocesan/Local Announcements

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

...This May, we have the particular grace of welcoming a new bishop to the Diocese of La Crosse. I will celebrate my final Mass as your Bishop on Pentecost. With gratitude and joy, I will remain in service to you and our diocese as Bishop Emeritus.



When I reflect on the past 14 years, the memories of our farmers at so many Rural Life Masses, my brother priests teaching, sanctifying and connecting their flock with Jesus, the hundreds of holy Catholic School teachers and their joyous wards, and so many more wash over me. I clearly see such blessings bestowed by the hand of God. We have accomplished much together in the vineyard, and I am so grateful.

At the installation Mass on May 20th, 2024, just days away, we will welcome the 11th Bishop of the Diocese of La Crosse, Bishop Gerard Battersby. He arrives with a wealth of experience as an Auxiliary Bishop in the Archdiocese of Detroit, having been in that role since 2017. We await his arrival with eager anticipation. The day of installation was appropriately and properly selected because it is the feast of Mary, Mother of the Church...

*May God watch over us and take care of us in the Diocese of La Crosse during all the years to come. St. Joseph the Workman. Pray for us. Amen. I remain yours, forever, in the service of Jesus and Mary, (from 'There is a River' ~ Bishop Callahan's Blog: <https://blog.dioc.org/>)*

*~ Thank You Bishop William Patrick Callahan ~*

### Eucharistic Miracles Display - May 16-19

"In the entire history of the Catholic Church, there have been numerous Eucharistic miracles approved by the Catholic Church as truly worthy of belief. The **Vatican Eucharistic Miracles Photographic Exhibition** faithfully recounts many well-documented miraculous occurrences for us. Knowledge of these miracles strengthens our faith in Christ and His Church. They are visible proof of Jesus Christ's Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist. The Exhibit was created by Blessed Carlo Acutis, a 15-year-old from Milan, Italy, who was beatified on October 10, 2020. The Exhibit will be available for viewing at **Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Cashton, WI on May 16-19, 2024**. We highly encourage you to schedule a time to view the exhibit during this Year of the Eucharistic Revival."

### "The Answer" Eucharistic Rally: Be Part of This Amazing Day! | June 7 | La Crosse Center

Do you desire more joy, hope and peace in your heart? God wants to shower you with His healing grace during this time of Eucharistic Revival. Join Catholics from around the Diocese and surrounding states on June 7th for "the Answer." Be inspired by Bishop Battersby, Bishop Callahan, Bishop Barron and internationally-known speakers as we seek to encounter Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, His gift of Himself to us with unconditional love. For info, visit [dioc.org/the-answer](http://dioc.org/the-answer)

### Family Camp:

A family Camp will take place at Crosswoods Camp in Mason, WI. The cost is \$350 for a family of four, with an additional \$30 for each person above that number. It starts on Friday afternoon to early evening and ends on Sunday at noon. The camp will take the families on adventures and include family-style meals, arts and crafts, prayer, faith talks, family time, bonfires, Mass, and great fellowship! Please contact Cheryl Kauffer at [goshawkcpk@gmail.com](mailto:goshawkcpk@gmail.com) for more information.

## Activity Corner

### Love One Another Word Find

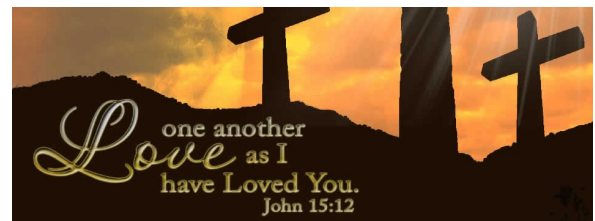
Find the words in CAPITALS from today's Gospel reading in the puzzle. Use the left-over letters to fill in the blanks.

As the FATHER has loved me, so have I loved you; REMAIN in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be COMPLETE. "This is my COMMANDMENT, that you love one another as I have loved you. GREATER love has no man than this, that a man lay DOWN his LIFE for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No LONGER do I call you SLAVES, for the slave does NOT KNOW what his MASTER is DOING; but I have CALLED you FRIENDS, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I CHOSE you and appointed you that you should go and bear FRUIT and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ASK the Father in my NAME, he may GIVE it to you. This I command you, to love one ANOTHER.

GCTSLAVESOL  
IOANOTCLGAY  
VMNDNOHIRFM  
EMOWGNOFERA  
FATHERSEAUS  
KNHOREENTIT  
NDECOMPLETE  
OMRENAMERSR  
WELFRIENDSI  
FNDOWNDOING  
ETCALLEDASK

No one has greater love than this:

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-----  
for one's friends.



### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



- Those 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 and Gaza 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)



# St. Mary Parish

900 Central Ave  
Coon Valley, WI 54623

Fr. Joseph Richards

## First Communion Sunday

With joyful hearts we announce our First Communicants on this  
5th day of May 2024



### **Theodore Adam Rene Goodwin**

*"I'm really excited to try the body and blood of Jesus. I have been waiting for this for a very long time."*

Theodore was baptized here at St. Mary Parish on February 28, 2016. He is the son of Ryan and Bridget Goodwin. His maternal grandparents are Dan and Karla Adams. His paternal grandparents are Terry and Richard Goodwin.



### **Viktoria Josephina Gunderson**

*"I get to eat the bread, which is a piece of God which shows the peace of God."*

Viktoria was baptized here at St. Mary Parish on January 3, 2015. She is the daughter of Joseph Gunderson and Anya Schmitz. Her maternal grandparents are Svetlana and Thomas Schmitz. Her paternal grandparents are Martin Gunderson and Jacqueline Chaplin.