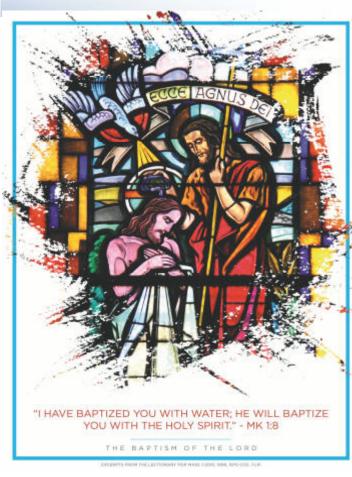
Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Church

750 10th Ave. S • Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
Parish Office Phone 715-423-1251

Pastor: Fr. Valentine Joseph Gasparraj 608-399-4799
Fr. Valentine's Email: josephgasparraj@gmail.com
Associate Pastor: Fr. Levi J. Schmitt

Deacon Tom C. Anderson



Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil...........4:00 pm Sunday.......7:30 & 10:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation—OLQH

Saturday......9:00 am & 3:00 pm or by appointment

PARISH SECRETARY: JANEEN SIEVERS
PHONE: 715-423-1251 Fax: 715-423-9407

EMAIL ADDRESS: olgh@solarus.net

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 AM-3:30 PM MON-THURS

FRIDAY OPEN UNTIL NOON

BULLETIN DEADLINE: MONDAY AT NOON

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: ROSEMARY

Нокамр

EMAIL ADDRESS: reoffice@solarus.net **PARISH WEBSITE**: www.our-lady.org

DEANERY WEBSITE: <u>www.rc.net/lacrosse/rapidsdeanery</u> **SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:** BECKY GUDELIS **PHONE:** 715-422-

New Parishioners...All new families are most welcome to the Parish and are kindly asked to register at the Parish Office as soon as possible. Please inform the office of any address or phone

number changes.



Readings for the Week of January 10, 2021

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/ Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/

Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3)]/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9 [cf.

7c]/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 7]/

Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4,6-7, 8-9

[8a]/ Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11 [8]/

Mk 1:40-45

Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8 [cf.

7b]/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8,9, 10,15 [cf. Jn 6:63c]/

Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9,

10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL Prayer petitions may be written in our Book of Petitions which is located in the gathering area by the offices. The petition book is carried to the altar and the petitions are offered at each Sunday Mass.

PRAYER CHAIN Please call Mary Kobza at 715-421-0447 with your intentions.

All emergency calls for Sunday, January 10, 2021 may be directed to Fr. Levi Schmitt at 414-539-0380.

Sacrificial Giving December 27, 2020

General	\$22,992.00
Plate	\$480.10
Building Maintenance	\$47.00
Christmas	\$6,442.05
Direct Donation 12-20-20	\$747.00
Total	\$30,708.15



Sacrificial Giving January 3, 2021

General	\$8,044.00
Plate	\$485.19
Building Maintenance	\$1,037.00
New Year's Day	\$1,154.25
Total	\$10,720.35

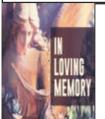
Parish Office Hours (open over noon hour)
Mon-Thurs. 8:00 am to 3:30
Fridays 8:00 am to Noon.
Scrip is available during office hours

Mass on Public Access Channel—Time & date have changed. It will now be on Wed. morning at 9:00 am and Sunday evenings at 9:00 pm.

We welcome to the family of God:

Kyleigh Evalynn Merrell

Daughter of Anthony Merrell & Sarah Hladilek



Please remember in your prayers

John Pastori Ray Tomsyck

May God grant them eternal rest.

Communion at the drive up doors

Since the obligation to attend Mass has not been reimposed, we will continue to have Communion after the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire You with all my heart. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already in my heart and unite myself to You completely. Please do not let me ever be separated from You. Amen

Sister Parish Collection... The collection will be the weekend of January 16/17. Thank you for your support.

A Pro-Life Rosary will be said on Monday, February 8th at 4:00 pm along Eighth Street. All are welcome to join us. We will gather in Grace's parking lot at 3:45.

Palms

We are now collecting last year's blessed palms to be burned for Ash Wednesday. You may bring them to church and place in basket provided. It will be near the holy water font. Please don't use twisty ties.

Sponsor the Sanctuary Candles...in memoriam, for a birthday, anniversary, for a special prayer intention or as a special gift. Five Sanctuary Candles will burn for six days and the 2 altar candles will burn at all Masses during that week. They are \$25 for the week.





Religious Education Grades 1-9

***January 13** – Grade 1-9 (6:00-7:15)

***January 20** – Grades 1-9 (6:00-7:15)

Confirmation:

***January 13** – RE only (7:20-8:30)

***January 20** – RE only (7:20-8:30)

We have **Children's Liturgy of the Word** during the 10:00 am Sunday Mass. Children age preschool through 3rd grade can take part. Children are called forth for a blessing and then sent on their way to hear the Gospel message, discuss it, recite the creed and share prayer intentions. The next date is Jan. 17th.

We are in our first official week of our study on Corinthians and invite any and all parishioners to join us and enrich your lives. Maybe in your new year's resolutions, add participating in a bible study or extra prayer time in church throughout the week. If you have an opportunity before January 14, read through the entire book of 1 Corinthians, just to get a general idea of what we will be studying. Last week we established what the city of Corinth was like...it was a city of great wealth, religion was polytheistic with numerous temples built to honor Greek, Roman or other pagan gods, fornication was rampant, and sports, the Isthmian games, ranked second behind the Olympics and were the 2nd largest source of wealth for the city. We also learned that in Corinth there is a battle between Paul's gospel of Christ being the Messiah and the Roman idea of good news that the birth of Caesar Augustus is the beginning of time and he is the savior. This week Paul opens his letter to the Christians in Corinth by referring to Christians as those "called to be saints." Holiness does not happen by accident. While holiness is a grace from God, it also requires the "use of our strength" and a "devotion with all of our being." Do we give such effort to obtaining holiness? We meet on Thursdays at 9:00 am and 5:30 pm. Materials are provided. You can bring a RSV version of the bible, if you like.

Baptisms...Parents should be registered in the parish. Practice of the faith by parents is expected. A preparation class is required. **The next class is Tuesday, January 12th at 5:30 pm.** The class fee is \$20. Please call the parish office at 715-423-1251 if you have any questions.

Wedding Preparation...Please contact the parish office at least six months prior to the anticipated date of the wedding. Anyone wishing to marry at Our Lady Queen of Heaven must be active participating members.

PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Greetings from the Social Justice Committee. Happy New Year! Thank you for your generosity during the holidays. In October was the coat collection for neighbors in our area. In November you provided many necessities to the people in Zambia through the Baker Street Wesleyan Church. For both of these activities your response was awesome! In December the Giving Tree made it possible that more than 100 children and adults in our community received a gift for Christmas. Thank you to members of the Knitting and crocheting group who dropped off items to take to the local nursing homes, the baby blankets, and to the Shepherds Loft. Thank you for all of the infant donations that were taken to First Choice Pregnancy Center. Thank you for the food donations that we took each week to the food pantry, which is only a couple of blocks from church. Those food donations helped many in the Rapids area with food insecurity. They also helped to provide Christmas Food baskets for those who qualified. Also the middle of December was the Toys for Tots event. It was estimated nearly 700 cars participated. If you donated or volunteered, thank you. Cindy and Gerry Holberg were instrumental in that activity. Thank you and God's Blessings to you all. The next activity is the Sister Parish Collection January 16 and 17 for our sister parish in India.

Save the Date! January 30 – Pro-Life Virtual Afternoon of Reflection: "Walking with Mom's in Need" Some people accuse pro-lifers of caring only about the child in the womb and not women in need. Not true at all, as you will see from this virtual afternoon of reflection on January 30, 2021, with keynote speaker Bob Perron, Executive Director of JMJ Pregnancy Center in Orlando, FL. You will also hear about the fourteen Pregnancy Care Centers in the Diocese of La Crosse and what you can do to help one near you. This afternoon of reflection will have broad appeal for families, adults and teens. More details coming soon!

Men's Holy League

The Men's Holy League will be meeting 6:00pm, Fri, Jan. 15 @
SS Peter & Paul

If there are enough people, there will be refreshments.

On Line Giving...With churches being closed, here is a link that you can use to make donations to the parish. This is a link for Our Lady Queen of Heaven. It's very easy to use. You can make a one time donation or make recurring donations.

https://diolc.org/our-lady-queen-of-heaven-wi-rapids/



Restoring St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral, the Mother Church of our Diocese

As Christ is the cornerstone of our faith. our Cathedral is the cornerstone of our Diocese. We are excited to continue the launch of our Christ Our Cornerstone campaign to restore the steeple and facilitate other restorations to our beloved St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral. The impact of the Cathedral is diocesan wide and beyond and stands as the iconic cornerstone of our faith which radiates as a place of prayer and worship to all our people. This structure, our faith in stone, was gifted to us by the hard work and sacrifices of generations past. It is now our time, our turn to honor our faithful patron St. Joseph the Workman and preserve this historic and magnificent Cathedral. In an unprecedented act of generosity, St. Ambrose Financial Services has offered to match \$2 for every \$1 generously pledged to this initiative up to \$3 million. That doesn't just double your gift to the Cathedral, it triples it! Now is the time to act! All families within our Diocese are invited to participate. Please know that while one-time gifts are appreciated, we are encouraging everyone to consider making a pledge. There are several pledge plans available in the brochures available at the church or by visiting cathedralsiworkman.org/cornerstone. Pledges can be made online or by using the pledge cards found within the brochures provided at church. We thank you for your kind assistance in this historic endeavor. It is only together as one that we can truly do great things!

COVID-19 VACCINES

U.S. Bishops' Statement on Ethics of COVID-19 Vaccines There are currently three vaccines that are likely to be made available in the coming months, those from Pfizer, Moderna, and AstraZeneca. Neither Pfizer nor Moderna used morally compromised cell lines in producing the vaccine. A confirmatory test, however, employing the commonly used, but morally compromised HEK293 cell line (from kidney cells taken from an aborted child in the Netherlands in 1972) was performed on both vaccines. Thus, while neither vaccine is completely free from any connection to morally compromised cell lines, in this case the connection is very remote from the initial evil of the abortion. The AstraZeneca vaccine is more morally compromised. The HEK293 cell line was used in the design, development, and production stages of that vaccine, as well as for confirmatory testing. Where possible, then, the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are to be used instead. Where that is not possible or would mean significant delay, the AstraZeneca vaccine may be used, in the same way that the Rubella vaccine is used because there is no alternative. To read the full statement on the vaccines, visit usccb.org/moralconsiderations-covid-vaccine

Monday, January 11, 2021

8:00 am Morning Prayer & Communion Service

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021 9:00 am Children's Mass † Gail Seefeldt by: Mom & Dad 5:30 pm Baptism Class

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2021 ST HILARY

8:00 am Mass † Lee & Pat McCarville by Fran & Shirley Eron

6:00 pm Religious Education Classes Grades 1-9 7:20 pm Confirmation Class (RE only)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021 9:00 am & 5:30 pm Bible Study

5:00 pm Mass † Anita Hager by Agnes Van Asten

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2021

8:00 am Mass † George & Helen Behne by: Andy & Joanne Dachel

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2021 Vigil Mass

8:00 am Mass † Gerald & Dorothy Rosekrans by: Kelly & Jean Rosekrans

9:00 am Confessions

3:00 pm Confessions

3:30 pm Rosary 4:00 pm Mass †Merlin McHugh by: Bob Birkhauser Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 2021 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 7:30 am Mass † Joe Hokamp by: The Family

10:00 am Mass † Elizabeth Gebert by: The Edwards Family

ectors

Saturday—January 16 4:00 pm Carol Dean Sunday—January 17 7:30 am Deb Eron 10:00 am Mike Hittner



Saturday—January 16 Preeters Saturday—January 16
4:00 pm Mary Joling Sunday—January 17 7:30 am Andy & Joanne Dachel Kelly Rosekrans 10:00 am Liz Musch & Zak King

January 22nd is the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn. Please remember to pray the rosary on this day for this intention. We will have a rosary said here before the 8:00 am Mass on this day. All are welcome to join us at approximately 7:35 am for the rosary.

Heroic Men Website

If you haven't done so, check out the Heroic Men website here, and let the Catholic men in your parish know about this great site. It is a 100% FREE Catholic streaming platform designed especially for men who want to discover (or re-discover) the truth, beauty and goodness of the Catholic faith. Offering more than 100 feature-length films, TV shows, documentaries and short films. Heroic Men seeks to source the best Catholic media available and bring it all to you, all in one place.



SANCTUARY CANDLES

Week of January 9—January 15
In Memory of
Gail Seefeldt
By: The Weiler Family

School News

Employment Opportunity:

St. Vincent de Paul School is looking for a pm paraprofessional and aftercare leader. Duties would include in-class support, recess and lunch supervision, and leading aftercare activities. Hours are 9:30am to 5:30 pm. Position will begin January 14. Please contact Pam Fochs at 715/422-0960 or pfochs@assumptioncatholicschools.org.

You are very welcome to join our school family at any time. If you would like to visit our schools and see what a day in the life of a Catholic school student entails. Please call the ACS Enrollment office at 715/422-0900 to make a reservation.

Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated from January 31 to February 6.Please join us in our excitement and spread the word about what a great school we have here. Invite another family to experience what goes on in our schools.

St Joseph—We Need His Intercession!

Why is it so important that we turn to St. Joseph for his help during these very difficult times? Four of St. Joseph's numerous titles provide a brief sampling of the importance of St. Joseph as our spiritual father.

- As Head of the Holy Family, you can ask for his protection and safety for each member of your family.
- As Comfort of the Afflicted, you can turn to him for comfort through the many challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- As Hope of the Sick, you can turn to him for hope if you or someone you know is sick.
- As Patron of the Dying, you can entrust those who are dying to him, as St. Joseph died a happy death gazing upon Jesus and resting in the arms of Mary. God desires that each one of us die a happy death, similar to that of St. Joseph.

St. Joseph Pray For Us!



Baptism of the Lord By: Fr. Levi Schmitt

The Baptism of the Lord is a strange feast when you think about it. If Jesus is born without sin, then why would He need to be baptized? St. Ambrose, writing from some 1600 years ago, has this to say:

Our Lord was baptized because He wished, not to be cleansed, but to cleanse the waters, that, being purified by the flesh of Christ that knew no sin, they might have the virtue of baptism.

The event that we commemorate this Sunday made it possible for us to experience freedom from the sin that we inherited from our first parents, Adam and Eve. Identity flows from relationship. Under the instigation of the evil one, our first parents chose to break from God. They exchanged a life of relationship for the death of traitors.

Baptism is an undoing of that exchange of the Fall. At a child's baptism, the priest or deacon asks the parents and godparents, "do you renounce Satan?" right before asking, "do you believe in God the Father?" That is the choice; a choice between the father of lies and the Father Almighty. The first father does not offer a relationship, only isolation. Likewise, he does not offer an identity, but only namelessness. Do you believe in God the Father? Do you find Him trustworthy? He offers relationship. The identity that He offers is awestriking.

Jesus Christ steps into the water of the Jordan, and water comes alive with the power to melt away rebellion. He is the Word Made Flesh, God and humble Man. As He steps out of the river, the hidden, infinitely incomprehensible mystery of His eternal relationship with the Father is opened for us to hear: "You are my Beloved Son." Just being able to hear these words—to catch even this small glimpse into the inner life of the Trinity is more than we deserve. God goes one step further, though. Whereas the devil is reckless in tearing apart, God is reckless in communion. The relationship He gives us is not simply a relationship between Creator and creatures. Our identity from Him is not just "creature" or even "good creature." Instead, He invites us to enter into the life of the Trinity, to enter into the inner relationship of the Father and the Son. When we say "daughter of God" or "son of God," these are not identities that flow from our own private relationship with God, as if we had our own daughterhood or sonship. No, these identities flow out of that one relationship of Jesus Christ with His Father that has no beginning and will never have an end. At baptism, we entered into eternal life because we entered into a pre-existing eternal relationship.

O God, whose Only Begotten Son has appeared in our very flesh, grant, we pray, that we may be inwardly transformed through him whom we recognize as outwardly like ourselves.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



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