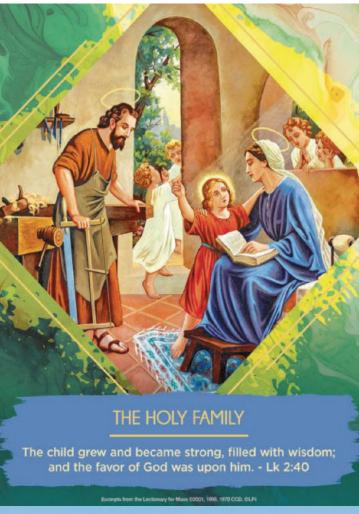
December 31, 2023 The Holy Family



Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish

750 10th Avenue South • Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin • 54495-4100
Telephone: 715-423-1251 • Facsimile: 715-423-9407
parishoffice@our-lady.org • www.our-lady.org • OLQHWisconsinRapids

Please submit bulletin notices to bulletin@our-lady.org by noon on Monday.





PARISH CLERGY

Fr. Alan M. Guanella, JCL • Pastor • fr.guanella@our-lady.org Fr. Steven Weller • Parochial Vicar • fr.weller@our-lady.org Deacon Thomas C. Anderson • dcn.anderson@our-lady.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday: 8am—3:30pm • Friday: 8am—12:00 noon Scrip is available for purchase during parish office hours.

PARISH STAFF

Business Manager	Janeen Sievers
_	jsievers@our-lady.org
Director of Religious Education	Rebecca Zalar
•	reoffice@our-lady.org
Choir Director	Mary Englert
Maintenance & Grounds	Paul Richmond
Custodian	LuAnne Birkhauser
Sacristan	Karen Pagel

CONFESSION

Saturday: 8:30am–9:30am and 3:00pm–3:50pm First Friday: 8:30am–9:30am with Eucharistic Exposition • Any time by appointment by contacting the parish office.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Please contact the parish to schedule a baptism meeting and request a date for the celebration of baptism. Parents are encouraged to attend before the birth of their child.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Couples requesting the celebration of Marriage should contact the parish at the time of formal engagement or at least six months prior to the anticipated date of marriage.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

In case of emergency only, when someone is dying, please call the pastor's emergency line at 715-629-9952. This number is for emergencies only. Those who are seriously ill or have been sick for a long time should receive the Sacraments. Please call the parish to make arrangements or to schedule a non-emergency visit for those who are sick or homebound.

OUR LADY QUEEN OF HEAVEN SCHOOL

Principal Shelley Bruley • Administrative Asst. Jenny Zacher Tel: 715-422-0982 • www.assumptioncatholicschools.org

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. A registration form may be downloaded at **www.our-lady.org/contact**. Current parishioners are kindly asked to inform the office of any address, telephone, or family status changes.

UPCOMING BAPTISM CLASS

The next baptism preparation class date is January 2nd at 5:30 pm. The class fee is \$20. Parents should be registered in the parish. Practice of the faith by parents is expected. Please contact the parish office to register.

PARISH BOOK OF PRAYER

Prayer requests may be written in our Parish Book of Prayer which is located in the gathering area by the offices. A general petition for all prayer requests written in the book is offered at all Sunday Masses.

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

SUNDAY EVENING MASS

A deanery Sunday evening Mass is held each Sunday night at 6:00 PM at SS Peter & Paul Parish (1150 2nd St. N.)

— No Mass Celebrated on December 31, 2023 —

SACRIFICIAL GIVING FOR DECEMBER 17, 2023



General	\$9,404.00
Plate	\$1,160.40
Building Maintenance	\$90.00
Direct Donation 12/17-23	\$7,284.00
Total	\$17,938.40

LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128 /Col 3:12-21/Lk 2:22-40

Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98/Jn 1:19-28 Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98/Jn 1:29-34 Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98/Jn 1:35-42 Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100/Jn 1:43-51 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147/Mk 1:7-11

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

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SANCTUARY CANDLES



The Sanctuary Candles burn the week of December 30 – January 5 in memory of

Richard Dean
By: Carol Dean

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Monday, January 8: Fourth Degree meeting at Our Lady Queen of Heaven cafeteria starting at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 11: Council Officer's meeting at Our Lady Queen of Heaven cafeteria at 6:30 pm with the Council Meeting starting at 7:00 pm.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE THAT MAY HAVE HELPED WITH THE COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER. WE HAD 485 MEALS THAT HAD BEEN RESERVED AHEAD OF TIME AND THE DAY OF WE ADDED ANOTHER 10 MEALS, PLUS ABOUT 20 MEALS WERE GIVEN TO THE VOLUNTEERS. WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO DO THIS WITHOUT THE HELP OF THOSE IN YOUR CONGREGATIONS, THAT DONATED THEIR TIME FOR THIS EVENT. ON WEDNESDAY, THE NIGHT BEFORE WE HAD 16 VOLUNTEERS TO PACKAGE THE CRANBERRIES, COLESLAW, DINNER ROLLS AND DESSERTS. THEN ON THANKSGIVING DAY WE HAD 35 VOLUNTEERS TO PLATE THE MEALS AND SIDE DISHES FOR THE DELIVERIES AND TAKEOUTS. IN ADDITION, WE HAD 5 DRIVERS WITH A HELPER OR TWO FOR EACH OF THE ROUTES. WE WERE SURLY BLESSED WITH MANY HANDS. THANKS AGAIN AND WE WILL SEE YOU NEXT YEAR.

NICOLE SUKOW
ST PAULS LUTHERAN CHURCH
COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

MAGNIFICAT: There are extra copies of the Magnificat for \$3 each. They are located on the counter by the sink in the gathering area. You can pay at the office.

Grief Support Group- Wisconsin Rapids Deanery "Serenity" Grief Support Group meets on the 3rd Monday of the month in the Gathering Space of St Vincent de Paul Church from 1-2 pm. The next meeting is January 15th.

A Pro-Life Rosary will be said on Monday, Jan 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.

Mission Rosary Makers—The next date is Wednesday, January 3rd. Please join us in the cafeteria from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. All are welcome to join us.



TV Mass on Spectrum 985 or Solarus 3: OLQH Mass at 9 AM on Wednesday; Diocesan Mass at 6:30 AM on Sunday. Mass is also broadcast on Sunday at 6 AM on WZAW 7.3 (FOX) and at 6:30 AM on WJFW 12.1 (NBC).



Missionary

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NO Fundraising!!

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Apply or Nominate

Apply, or nominate a young person you think would make a great missionary for the Church!



and learn

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spiritusministries.org/beamissionary Email Gina at

recruiter@spiritusministries.org

A Minute with Jesus during the National Eucharistic Revival Jesus wants to stay with us always.

Jesus loves each one of us so much that He gives Himself to us in Holy Communion at Mass. We receive Jesus Himself. When the priest prays the words of Jesus over the bread and wine at Mass, they are no longer bread and wine but the Body and Blood of Christ. Jesus gives Himself to us because He wants to stay with each one of us always.

Let's pray this right now and every day this week: Jesus, thank You for always wanting to stay with us. This week, read from Scripture about the birth of the Christ Child in Luke 2:1-7



Encounter Jesus in the Eucharist. He waits for you!

What Are You Looking For?

The first question that Jesus asks in John's Gospel is, "What are you looking for?" He is speaking to John's disciples as they follow after Him, desiring to know who Jesus is and what His mission is all about. After the disciples respond, Jesus gives them an instruction, "Come and you will see!" Whether we can hear it or not, that same question is being asked to you. What are YOU looking for? So often, we find ourselves searching, not knowing exactly where to go or what to do in life. We seek things that will hopefully fill the emptiness and longing that we have in our hearts, but nothing seems to satisfy them. The real answer to this can be found in Jesus' response as He invites each of us to follow after Him, to get to know Him, and to follow the path He has placed before us. For some men, that path is a very special invitation to walk in Jesus' footsteps as a priest. If you or someone you know is interested in discovering more about this call to the priesthood, please contact me at: Fr. Nate Kuhn, Director of Vocational Recruitment for the Diocese of La Crosse. 3710 East Ave. S. PO Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602; or by phone at: 608.791.2667. God bless you!

"the ANSWER" Eucharistic Rally |June 7 The La Crosse Center, La Crosse, WI

"the Answer" Eucharistic Rally will be held on June 7. 2024 at the La Crosse Center in La Crosse, WI. This event kicks off the first day that the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will be in the Diocese of La Crosse. "the Answer" Eucharistic Rally will begin with a Eucharistic Procession across the Cameron Street Bridge in La Crosse. It will end at the La Crosse Center where the rest of the rally will take place. The day will include Mass, Adoration, Confession, powerful speakers such as Chris Stefanick, Immaculee Ilibagize, and Josh Rosa, music from Luke Spehar, and plenty of vendors. The cost for this event is only \$15 per person. This rally is for middle and high school youth, young adults, adults, families, etc. Tickets will go on sale December 15, 2023. You can find more information about the event by visiting https://diolc.org/the-

answer or by using your smartphone's camera to scan the QR code to the right. For such an important event, it would be amazing if every parish brought a bus full of parishioners

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

The preparations for Christmas include buying or making gifts for those we love. You can give no better gift than the gift that God has given to us: His Son, Jesus. Invite someone who is not Catholic to attend Mass with you at Christmas. For information about OCIA, contact Rebecca at rzalar@our-lady.org or call at 715 - 423 - 1251.

Christmas Bake Sale

Thank you to everyone who baked and purchased items for our bake sale. Thank you to Carol Wesenberg for organizing the sale. The amount raised was \$2,294.27.



What's on Formed.org for January?

January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God (Understanding Catholic Teach-

ing on the Blessed Virgin Mary by Tom Perna)
Grow more deeply in your relationship with God by
knowing Mary more intimately. Let's explore the meaning
behind the four Marian dogmas: Mother of God, Perpetual
Virginity, Immaculate Conception, and her Assumption
into Heaven.

January 2 - Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord (Who are the Magi?)

In this FORMED Now! special episode, Dr. Michael Barber sits down to reflect on the Magi from the Gospel accounts and what spiritual lessons can be learned from this historical event recorded in Scripture.

January 8 - The Baptism of the Lord (The Wild Goose: Episode 10 The Spirit and the Desert)

Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil." - Luke 4:1

On the day Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit anointed him. Immediately after this event the Holy Spirit led Jesus to the desert. The desert was a place of isolation, death, and defeat, but Jesus was led to the desert so that it may be forever changed into a place of grace. The Spirit led Jesus to the desert and also protected and cared for him while he was there. The desert is a part of every Christian's life but it does not have to be a place of despair or isolation. The Holy Spirit is present to life's deserts and when we experience his presence it changes our spiritual life. The desert is no longer a place to be feared but can be a profound encounter with Jesus.

January 22 - Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children (Symbolon: pt2: Session 10: Protecting Human Dignity)

In an age when life itself seems disposable, how can we follow God's call to protect and promote the dignity of the human person in all places and circumstances?

Greetings from the Social Justice Committee: Merry Christmas

Thank you for your generosity and caring. This parish family was able to provide Christmas gifts to 140 children in South Wood County. Several parishioners sponsored an entire family. Thank you for sharing your gifts with others. Upcoming activities:

- The weekend of January 14th will be the sister parish dollar collection
- The Wood County jail has a need for gently used men's winter coats sizes large, XL and XXL, and gently used men's shoes 9, 10 or 11. If you can contribute, place it in the bins near the doors of the church.

Hoping you continue to receive many of God's blessings in 2024.

HOSPITALITY



Saturday—January 6
4:00 pm Laura Danczyk
Sunday—January 7
7:30 am Shelley Bruley/Kerry Meinel
10:00 am John & Rosemary Hokamp

UPCOMING MASSES & EVENTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024 MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
Not a Holy Day of Obligation
9:00 am Mass † Vickie Miller by: John & Rosemary Hokamp

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024

STS BASIL THE GREAT & GREGORY NAZIANZEN
9:00 am Children's Mass † Philip Lang by: Ed & Lois Altmann
5:30 pm Baptism Class
Parish Offices Closed

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024 MOST HOLY DAY OF JESUS 8:00 am Mass Collective Intentions

- † David Rudolph by: Mary Gokey
- † Marvin Erdmann by: Jim & Lois Mancl
- † Karen Compton by: The Family
- † James Schmutzer by: James Schmutzer Families
- † Richard Schmutzer by: Karen & Tom Dorshorst
- † Living & Deceased Members of the Thomas & Lucille Weiler Family by: Ed & Lois Altmann

NO Religious Formation Classes

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024 ST ELIZABETH ANN SETON 1:00 pm Choir Practice

5:00 pm Mass † Peggy Kubisiak by: Agnes Van Asten

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2024 ST JOHN NEUMANN 8:00 am Mass † Scott Lobner by: Mom 8:30 am Adoration & Confessions

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 2024

8:00 am Mass † Mary Rayome by: Tom Rayome

8:30 am Confessions

3:00 pm Confessions

3:30 pm Rosary

4:00 pm Mass † Ron Pagel by: The Edwards Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 7:30 am Mass † Jackie Ashbeck by: Jon & Audrey Arndt 10:00 am Mass † John Cetnarowski by: Mike & Karen Abbott

GREETERS



Saturday - January 6
4:00 pm John & Peg Wasshausen
Sunday - January 7
7:30 am Statz Family
10:00 am Jim & Mary Krause

LECTORS



Saturday - January 6
4:00 pm Carol Dean
Sunday - January 7
7:30 am Diane Moss
10:00 am Angela Peters

SERVERS



Saturday - January 6
4:00 pm Mason Hackman,
Corby Olson, Dave Anderson
Sunday - January 7
7:30 am Cade & Christian Statz

10:00 am Katharina & Jakob Gokey
Teegan Korte

PASTORAL THOUGHTS...

"You don't want to be a Judas"...

When I was in College, I was invited to spend the week at a friend's cabin with their family. I will never forget the Sunday I went to Mass with them. Towards the end of Mass, we noticed a few people leaving at the end of Communion. My friend's mother looked at me and asked, "You know who left the Last Supper first don't you?" I thought for a few minutes and realized she was referring to Judas. When she realized I knew whom she was referring to she said, "You don't want to be a Judas." This comment always stuck with me and left me reflecting on **When does the Mass end?**

When we are invited to a dinner at someone else's house do we leave right after eating? I hope we don't! Leaving right during the meal is rude and disrespectful. At Mass we are invited to the Lord's Supper and it is important that we be present mentally and physically until the end of Mass. Leaving right after Communion is just like leaving right after we finished eating at someone else's house.

The end of Mass according to the Roman Rite is the dismissal. The Roman Rite does not prescribe a closing hymn. Having a closing hymn has become customary but is not prescribed. There are four dismissal formulas: "Go forth, the Mass is ended." "Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord." "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life. "and "Go in peace." While not having a closing hymn may feel weird, the dismissal is a powerful command that requires us to act!

So why should you stay until the dismissal? The dismissal is a blessing. When Father, who acts *In* Persona Christi (In the Person of Christ), gives the final blessing, we are being blessed by God Himself. If Jesus were giving us the final blessing before we went out into the world, wouldn't you wait for His blessing? We also receive more grace by staying till the end of Mass. Sr. Theresa Aletheia Noble, FSP in a recent article she wrote states: "According to the Catechism, "The fruits of the sacraments...depend on the disposition of the one who receives them" (CCC 1128). There is a power in the sacraments in and of themselves, but how much of that power seeps into our souls and plays out in our lives depends on our disposition. If we are rushing out of church after communion, chances are our disposition is not such that we are reverentially aware... that we are consuming the body, blood, soul and divinity of God Himself."

As we prepare for the Lenten season, we are called not only to abstain from luxuries, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ more faithfully. So the next time that you are at Mass, ask yourself where your heart truly is. Is it at Mass or is it outside of Mass in the material world?

Rebecca Zalar Director of Religious Education

ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC SCHOOLS NEWS



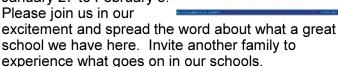




School News

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 715/422-0901 to make a reservation.

Catholic Schools Week will be celebrated from January 27 to February 3. Please join us in our



A New Year's Prayer for Our Tamily

GOD, THANK YOU FOR A NEW YEAR, MAY EVERYONE IN OUR FAMILY BE WILLING TO BEGIN ANEW WITH A CLEAN SLATE. WE KNOW THAT YOU ARE ALWAYS READY TO FORGIVE US. HELP US TO BE WILLING TO FORGIVE OURSELVES AND TO FORGIVE ONE ANOTHER.

AS WE BEGIN A NEW YEAR, REMIND US OF OUR TRUEST VALUES AND OUR DEEPEST DESIRES, HELP US TO LIVE IN THE GOODNESS THAT COMES FROM DOING WHAT YOU WANT US TO DO, HELP US TO PUT ASIDE ANXIETY ABOUT THE FUTURE AND THE PAST, SO THAT WE MIGHT LIVE IN PEACE WITH YOU NOW, ONE DAY AT A TIME.

AMEN



January 7 and January 21 AHS Doors open at 12:00 Bingo begins at 1:00 Progressive Bingo is +\$1000!

Mission-To inspire excellence and personal growth grounded in Catholic principles and tradition

Adult Faith Formation January Bible Study on Ruth

Join us this January as we dive into the Book of Ruth. The Book of Ruth gives us an example of how God is always faithful to His promises, without exception. Ruth trusted in God even when her world fell into pieces - and He turned every inch of that pain into the purest light for His faithful daughter. Let God do the same for you. Book Study begins on January 4 at 9:00 am in the Gathering Space. The book costs \$14 and can be purchased at the Parish office. Please read Chapter 1 by January 4.



Paul Schlaefer (715) 213-7449

"Assumption Family Paul@mcrealtywi.com | MCRealtyWI.com



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