**CANCELED:** All celebrations of the Mass and Lenten and other parish programming are canceled until further notice.

**CLOSED:** The parish office is, essentially, closed. Staff members are working “virtually” from home, but are regularly checking email and voice mail.

**MONDAY 23 MAR** / Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54

**TUESDAY 24 MAR** / Ez 47:1-9,12/Jn 5:1-16

**WEDNESDAY 25 MAR** / Is 7:10-14:8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

**THURSDAY 26 MAR** / Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47

**FRIDAY 27 MAR** / Wis 2:1,12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

**SATURDAY 28 MAR** / Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53

- 9 AM - Reconciliation

**Fifth Sunday of Lent | 28/29 Mar**

Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45

Lord’s Day liturgies will not be celebrated for the immediate future due to coronavirus precautions. This is in response to directives of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, state officials and Bishop Callahan.

The church will be open for prayer during the times that Mass would normally be celebrated on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, as well as weekdays. Families and individuals are invited to come to church for private prayer. However, if you are in the at-risk group — people over 60 and with specified medical conditions — please remain at home, for your well-being and that of the larger community.

A weekly guide — “Keeping the Lord’s Day Holy” — will be provided to parishioners through an email sent Saturday afternoon, as well as at stanneswausau.org and St. Anne Parish on Facebook. Links to on-line live-streams of the Mass also are provided. If you do not have access to email or the internet, contact the parish office by phone and we will provide materials through the mail.

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**A message from Bishop Callahan**

17 March 2020

Dear faithful of the diocese,

May the Lord give you peace.

In light of the continued concern surrounding spreading the coronavirus COVID-19, and the advice of medical experts across the country and especially in our state, all public Masses in the Diocese of La Crosse will be canceled beginning 20 March 2020 until further notice. All fish fries, parish gatherings, etc. are also canceled. Please note, however, churches will remain open for private prayer.

I am urging the faithful to remember in their prayers all of our brothers and sisters whose personal lives and the lives of their families have been affected by this disease. Visit diocese.org/pray to send me your personal prayer intentions.

At this point we are hopeful to resume public Mass by 1 May. As you know, these plans and regulations change every day. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to shorten this time frame or any of these regulations. This, of course, is unprecedented in our lives and we rely on the providence of Almighty God and His Holy Mother.

Please stay well and take every precaution to do so. Be aware of my prayers and my confidence in our protection under the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Most Reverend William Patrick Callahan
Bishop of La Crosse

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**Staying connected**

Email will be one of our central means of communication over the next few weeks. If you have not been getting weekly email updates from us, then we do not have your email address. Please send an email to mail@stanneswausau.org and we will add you to our email roster. You will not be inundated with emails, but one a week to stay informed.
CRS and Coronavirus

CRS Rice Bowl is the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services, the official relief and development agency of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. It is the Lenten almsgiving of our parish.

Through CRS Rice Bowl, faith communities in every diocese throughout the United States put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Lenten alms donated through CRS Rice Bowl support the work of CRS in roughly 45 different countries each year. Since its inception in 1975, CRS Rice Bowl has raised nearly $300 million.

In addition to ongoing development efforts, CRS is one of the first agencies on the scene when disaster strikes, and is regarded throughout the world as one of the premiere relief and development agencies. Indeed, as the world confronts the coronavirus pandemic, CRS is at work, in ways simple and profound. Here are a few examples of how:

AFGHANISTAN: Throughout Afghanistan, CRS will be supporting and promoting healthy practices, such as handwashing, by distributing 60,000 bars of soap and educational leaflets about the virus and how to prevent it from spreading. In one city, CRS has suspended classes for over 5,000 children in camps for internally displaced people. Information about the virus will be provided to families of students who normally attend the classes, as well as in community meeting areas like mosques.

IRAQ: In vulnerable communities like Baghdad and Kirkuk, CRS is planning to distribute information on how to best prevent the coronavirus from spreading. Currently, CRS works with these communities to promote healthy water, sanitation, and hygiene practices.

AFRICA: With a presence in over 35 African countries, CRS is well positioned to carry out a response to a possible coronavirus outbreak. Right now, CRS regional and country teams are working with local governments and the World Health Organization to identify priorities in case of an outbreak. During the 2014 West Africa Ebola crisis, CRS and partners led intensive efforts to prevent the spread of the disease. Drawing on lessons learned during that experience, CRS is ready and well prepared to respond to a potential outbreak in Africa.

CRS RICE BOWLS WILL BE COLLECTED AT MASS ON HOLY THURSDAY

Join the St. Anne Fest team for 2020

June 19-20-21 seems a long way off, but planning has begun for the 2020 St. Anne’s Fest. People are needed to coordinate several key elements of that celebration: Bingo, Raffle, Coordinating Volunteers, and Sweet Shoppe. Lots of new volunteers identified a willingness to help at Fest through our Connect-Grow-Serve process, but they need leaders. Might you be willing to step forward to learn more about these jobs and possibly join the Fest team? Someone has already stepped forward to coordinate publicity — THANK YOU! To learn more, send an email to mail@stanneswausau.org.

Inviting new subscribers and renewals

Give Us This Day is an excellent daily prayer resource for “today’s Catholic,” which offers a daily order of prayer, the daily Mass readings and insightful reflection drawn from current writers and ancient sources. Sample copies of the April issue are available in the main Gathering Space of church.

A special bulk parish rate is available for new subscribers, as well as the several dozen parishioners who already subscribe. The parish rate is $31.50 for 12 issues, far below the regular rate of $44.95.

To subscribe or renew, or to get more information, contact Bobbi Gadke at bobbig@stanneswausau.org or 715-849-3930, ext. 310, before May 1.
The other morning there was bedlam in the neighborhood at 5 a.m. Some early-riser decided it was a great time to catch up on some preliminary yard-work for the spring, so he revved up some powered machines and tackled the job. A nice idea, but of course the rest of us were still sleeping. So now our exuberant neighbor is on the outs with the whole block.

It’s always trouble when one person awakes and the rest of society is fast asleep. In a similar way it’s a problem when one person sees and everyone else is still stumbling around with blinders on. Both of these descriptions could be working definitions for prophecy. Revelations may be wonderful and privileged things but they often guarantee your loneliness.

There are probably a thousand ways you fail to see what’s right in front of you every day. For example, the old woman in the third pew on the right-hand side of the church disappeared one Sunday morning. She had always been there; one week she wasn’t, and she didn’t return. The gossip mills were in full swing about her. Had she left the church or only the parish? Had she broken a leg? Had she died? Six months later, the mystery was solved: She had simply started going to the vigil Mass on Saturday. No one had considered such a simple interpretation for her absence from her predictable spot.

A second example. One week I noticed an eight-year-old wearing heart-shaped sunglasses during Mass a few pews away from mine. She was a beautiful child, not to mention really stylin’ with her designer jeans, fashionable boots, and sparkly T-shirt. Everything about this kid shouted out Mall Princess. The shades topped off her celebrity look. Of course there are plenty of reasons a kid would wear sunglasses in church. Maybe she was bored out of her mind or just didn’t care. Perhaps she wanted to hide, or she was just trying to get under the skin of her devout mother. Then came communion time. The girl reached under her kneeler, produced a white stick, and tap-tap-tapped her way to the front of the church. The one other reason someone might wear sunglasses in church had not crossed my mind.

God sees what’s in the human heart while you cast your judgments and criticisms on everyone around you. You see the fancy sunglasses while God sees the white stick under the kneeler. There is often one simple reason why this person you do not like or understand is behaving in this impossible way; you can usually produce five good reasons when you step out of line or behave badly. If you want to begin to see, the first step may be admitting, in all humility, that your vision isn’t flawless.

Alice Camille is a religious educator, scripture commentator, and author of many books including This Transforming Word and other titles found at alice-camille.com.
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