

Saint Matthew Catholic Church

August 22, 2021

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered Him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that You are the Holy One of God."

Jn 6:67-69



Mass Schedule - Horario de Misas

****Live streamed Mass - watch live or later on our website or YouTube**

Weekends: **Saturday: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am
Español-Spanish: 12:00 noon

Weekdays: **Monday - Saturday: 8 am

September 12th: Healing Service preceded by Confessions at 2 pm & Sunday Mass at 3:30 pm.

Confession

Saturday: 11am - 12 noon or by Appointment

Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday: 9 am - 5 pm
Benediction at 4:50 pm

Televised Weekend Mass (La Crosse Diocese)

Wausau TV channels (Ch):
Cable & Satellite: Ch 12 at 6:30 am Sunday
Public Access: Ch 980 at 6 pm Sat, 9 am Sun

Internet Daily Mass: www.youtube.com

YouTube offers the daily Mass from all over the world. To watch the Mass you are interested in, type in YouTube's search bar: "Catholic Mass" and "St. Matthew Wausau" or "La Crosse" or "EWTN" or "Relevant Radio" etc.

Parish Center Office (Oficina)

(Behind school/atrás de la escuela)
221 S 28th Avenue - 715-842-3148

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8 am - 4 pm
Friday: closed through Labor Day

Website: www.stmatthewausau.org

YouTube: [St. Matthew Wausau](https://www.youtube.com/stmatthewausau)

Facebook: [St Matthew Catholic Church](https://www.facebook.com/stmatthewausau)
Emailed Bulletins: www.parishesonline.com

Online Donations to St Matthew Parish:
www.stmatthewausau.org/donations
Diocese of La Crosse: www.dioc.org

Reflections on Today's Readings

Jos 24:1-2, 15-18/Ps 34:2-3, 16-21/Eph 5:21-32/Jn 6:60-69

Our readings today challenge us to reflect on how we are living as disciples of Christ. They offer us examples of how we should be living, and they present us with an opportunity to make a radical change in our lives.

In our first reading, Joshua tells the leaders of the Israelites to decide as to who they shall serve in this life, "If it does not, please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you shall serve." At this time, the Israelites were not wholeheartedly committed to the Lord. But Joshua outspokenly addresses this situation and challenges them to decide. As he presents them with this opportunity, he boldly states, "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Who or what does your household serve? Whether you are a household of one or 12, now is the time to decide, 'will we serve the Lord?' We are constantly bombarded with endless distractions around us. It can be very easy to serve other 'gods' in our lives. For instance, putting technology (phone, internet, TV), our kids' extracurricular activities, our jobs, or our social lives before the Lord. We also might be putting these things above our loved ones, and if we are doing that, then we are putting them above our relationship with God.

Reflect on how you may not be putting God first in your life and decide to respond like the Israelites, "Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods...Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for He is our God."

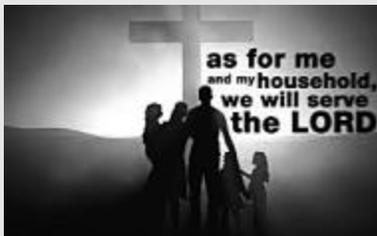
Our second reading specifically challenges our families to live out their vocation of marriage to the fullest. St Paul's message is uplifting and filled with profound beauty, truth, and goodness. St Paul was relating marriage to Christ's love for His Church. He is calling all husbands to radically love and serve their family as Christ radically loves us — by laying down His life for us. And he is calling all wives to support and uplift their husbands in this mission.

Families are called to be a unified team in total service to one another out of love for Christ. This capacity to love is within us, yet to love our families as Christ loves, we must first wholeheartedly love Him. As families, we must decide to put Christ first in our hearts so that we can better love one another. This is a daily choice we must make, and the best way to stay committed to this choice begins in daily prayer. It will transform our hearts.

Lastly, our Gospel brings us to the reality that making these radical changes in our lives will not be easy. Just as in Jesus' time, people listened to His words, and chose to turn away from Him, "as a result, many disciples turned to their former way of life." Sin is enticing but deathly. Becoming a follower of Christ is life-giving and freeing.

Peter reminds us to stay faithful and committed to Christ, "You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that You are the Holy One of God."

With this in mind, we must strive each day to live intentionally as disciples of Christ. It starts with commitment — incorporating personal daily prayer and increasing that prayer week by week, incorporating prayer into our marriages and families, frequenting the sacraments, and serving others. Through this time with the Lord and service to those around us, He will reveal where to go next. Today, let us pray for the strength to live our lives as Joshua proclaimed, "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

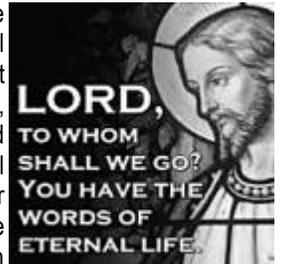


Gospel Meditation - A Deeper Understanding of Scripture

"Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods." We struggle with our gods. They appear in the forms of things like money, power, prestige, popularity, privilege, and self-fulfillment. We like these "gods" because they make us feel good and ask very little of us in return. When we worship them, we worship ourselves. How can you go wrong with that? We buy into the illusion that if something can give us a comfortable life, free of want and need, then it is worth setting other things aside to pursue it. In essence, we sell our souls. Our struggle with "who is God" and to whom do we belong is a real one and one that can easily find us empty and experiencing disillusionment.

The devil tempted Jesus in the desert and promised Him more. We are promised "more". But in pursuing the more and the satisfying we lose track of the cost, and the cost is great. We sacrifice our very life in pursuit of something disguised as life. We sacrifice truth for something that only "feels" true. While the true and real God certainly promises us many things, many things are also required. It is not about the warm and secure feelings and self-absorption the world wants to provide, but of giving back. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God's kingdom (not our own), love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, that we must die to ourselves in order to find ourselves, and trust that Jesus truly gives us His flesh and blood to eat and drink. These are hard things to accept and even harder to put into practice. It is no wonder that many, who may be attracted to Jesus at first, walk away in pursuit of the more self-satisfying gods.

But truth is truth. If we cannot accept it from the lips of Jesus Christ, then where else will we find it? To whom can we go? There is only one source of truth and life, Jesus Christ. Jesus has the words of eternal life and if we do not go to Him, then where else will we find this gift? But we must be faithful and buy into the whole package deal that requires sacrifice and fidelity. When we do, we find ourselves, through the Body and Blood of Christ, connected to the Source of all life and then intimately bound with our brothers and sisters. We all have to decide whether we want to stay or go and if we can accept what Jesus has to say. It's a choice we all have to make.



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Learning System. Below are simple directions to onboard.

1. Visit www.franciscanathome.com/diocese-la-crosse and scroll to the of the page.
2. On the right, click on the middle blue button: **"My parish or school is already registered, and I would like to set up my individual free account under that institution."** This will allow you to create a FREE account under your Parish or school.
3. Then click **"Create an Account"**. Complete the information and click **"Save"**. Select the **"Diocese of La Crosse"** from a drop-down menu, and then **"your institution = your parish/school"** from a second drop-down menu, listed by city and name. Once you have finished by clicking on the **"Sign Up"** button, you will have a dashboard. This will enable you to select from the variety of tracks. A track is a grouping of workshops. Select a track on the left, and then enter it to see the various workshops.
4. To hear the recording of Bill Keimig's presentation regarding *Franciscan At Home*, please contact Beth at bjohnson@diolc.org.

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Weekly Minimum Amount Needed
per Budget: \$9,612.00

Weekend Collection.....\$7,748.66
Debt Reduction.....\$1,527.46

Parish Contributions: Our weekly offertory collection provides the necessary funds to meet our financial obligations. If you are not attending Mass in person, please consider sending your weekly donations by:

- **Mail** (St Matthew Parish, 221 S 28th Ave, Wausau, WI 54401)
- **Monthly Electronic Funds Transfer** from your bank (to set up, contact **Jerry** at: 715-842-3148 or email: jerryg@stmatthewausau.org).
- **Bill Pay through your Bank** (contact your bank to set up).
- **Online Giving:** (via credit card or direct debit)
 - www.stmatthewausau.org/donations (one-time donations)
 - www.stmatthewausau.org/payments (recurring donations available)



Please Pray for Raymond Cardinal Burke

According to the Catholic News Agency (Aug 17, 2021), he was recently hospitalized with Covid-19 and his condition has deteriorated and is being assisted by a ventilator.

The 73-year-old cardinal confirmed August 10th that he had tested positive for Covid-19, tweeting:
"Thanks be to God, I am resting comfortably and receiving excellent medical care. Please pray for me as I begin my recovery. Let us trust in Divine Providence. God bless you."

Help Haiti – Devastated by Earthquake

A powerful 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti early Saturday morning, and tropical depression Grace is threatening further devastation. Timing is critical, and your gift can help provide essential relief, likely to include clean water, sanitation, shelter and emergency supplies, giving immediate aid to families affected. Catholic Relief Services is on the ground helping, and you can contribute at www.crs.org



Volunteers Needed To Sell SCRIP

Volunteers are needed to sell **SCRIP** at weekend Masses. Call the Parish Center (715-842-3148) if you are able to help with this continuing fund raiser. Please consider donating your time. Thank You!

FREE ITEMS

1. An "Acorn Chair Lift" for a standard 13 step straight stairway. Party will deliver and perhaps even set up. Used about 1 year only.
2. A "standard C-Pap machine" complete with brand new hoses, filters, and accessories for persons with Sleep Apnea.



If you are interested in either of these items, please call Dorothy at: 715-432-5519.

Tell Congress: "No Taxpayer Funding of Abortion!"

The Hyde Amendment and similar laws have protected taxpayers from funding elective abortion for 45 years. Now, powerful members of Congress, with the support of the Biden Administration, want to take away these laws that both Democrats and Republicans have supported for nearly half a century.

Tell Congress "NO" to taxpayer funding of abortion by:

1. Sign the petition sponsored by US Bishops at: notaxpayerabortion.com
2. Visit marchforlifeaction.org and click on the link for "Save Hyde" to send an email to your US Senators and Representatives.

St James Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans will meet on Sunday, September 12 at 2:00 pm at Krasowski Hall at St Michael Church. Reflection 11 is the study lesson. Guests are welcome. For more information call Lora at 715-845-8927.

ATTENTION!!!! LADIES OF THE PARISH

Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court St Rose #1062 would like to invite the women of your parish to a special rosary for the health and well being of the world.

The event will take place outside in the grotto at **St Therese Parish** on **Thursday, September 2nd at 1:00 pm**. In the event of rain, the rosary will be held inside.

Afterwards, why not stay for our meeting and get to know more about our group over some refreshments. So please mark your calendar and come join *Catholic Daughters* in our effort to *pray for healing in the world*.

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Scrip gift cards will be sold before & after Masses on the 1st & 3rd weekends of each month.
Call the Parish Center (715-842-3148) to check availability and to purchase Scrip during the week.

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Holy Name of Jesus Parish Employment Opportunity
Full-Time Director of Religious Education & Youth Ministry

As it relates to faith formation this position will be responsible for organizing and implementing the parish religious education program for grades K-10, along with VBS and Children's Liturgy of the Word. The DRE will also coordinate sacramental preparation for Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Confirmation and RCIA. Other duties will include: coordinate safe environment for the parish, and all office and administrative duties related to the areas of responsibility. Relating to Youth Ministry this position will manage all youth ministry events, gatherings, fundraising, and trips for youth in grades 6-12.

Requirements for the ideal candidate are:

- Good communication skills, comfortable public speaking.
- Well organized for multi-tasking many projects at a time.
- Assist and supervise volunteers for all areas of responsibility.
- Knowledge of, and experience with, Microsoft office programs and various social media apps.
- Available to work nights and weekends throughout the year.
- Bachelor's in Theology or appropriate work experience in the field.
- In good standing with the Catholic Church.

For a detailed job description please contact **Fr Sam Martin at 715-842-4543**.



This Week at Saint Matthew Parish

Sunday, August 22

RCIA - Rectory: 6:30 pm (You may still join us.)

Monday, August 23

Mandatory Meeting: Confirmation Candidates - Parish Center Patio Rm: 6 pm

Tuesday, August 24

Sacred Worship Committee Meeting - Parish Center Patio Room: 6 pm

Wednesday, August 25

Deadline to Register for Religious Education Classes

Thursday, August 26

Men's Club Picnic - School Cafeteria: 5 pm Social; 6 pm Meal

1st Reconciliation & Communion Parent Meeting - Parish Center Patio Room
English: 6:30 pm Spanish: 7:30 pm

Sunday, August 29

RCIA - Rectory: 6:30 pm (You may still join us.)



Would You Like to Visit our Homebound and Elderly?

We are looking for Volunteers to share the love of God with very special people - our homebound and elderly parishioners.

Sharing the gift of time and presence and bringing the Eucharist to them is a very special sign of our support and concern.

If you have time once or twice a month to visit, or even would like to begin a relationship by phone, **please call Dorothy at 715-432-5519.**

Celebration of the Sacraments

Confession

Saturday: 11am - 12 noon or by Appointment

Baptism

Baptism Preparation Class: Monday, September 13th: 6:30 pm

The Baptism Class must be attended by parents - Godparents are encouraged to attend. You must register one week before the class by calling the Parish Center: 715-842-3148.

Bautismo

Para Bautismos los padres y padrinos deben tomar una clase de preparación. Generalmente las clases son el primer martes de cada mes a las 6:30 pm en el centro parroquial. Para mayor informes y registrarse para la clase llame a Joy al: 715-842-3148.

Marriage - Contact Fr Bob 6 months in advance for arrangements.

Anointing of the Sick and Home Communion Visits

To make arrangements, call Dorothy: 715-432-5519 or the Parish Center: 715-842-3148

Notify Dorothy if you or a loved one is admitted to a hospital, rehab center, assisted living facility, or nursing home.

** It's important to contact the care team or social worker at the hospital to request authorization to be visited by a priest.*

Anointing of the Sick - for those seriously ill and before a scheduled surgery.

Communion Visits to the Homebound - notify us if you would like to receive Holy Communion at your home, rehab center, assisted living facility, or nursing home.

*Healing Service: Sunday, September 12th at St Matthew Church

Confessions: 2:00 - 3:30 pm, a special Sunday Mass: 3:30 pm followed by a Healing Service.

In Need of Extra Prayer? - Our prayer group is always ready to pray for you! Call Bonnie: 715-675-9876 or the Parish Center: 715-842-3148.



Mass Intentions August 23 - 29, 2021



Pray for Us

Monday 8:00 am - †Health of Jack Neuens
Tuesday 8:00 am - †Darlene Marzofka
Wednesday 8:00 am - †Alfonso Covarrubias
Thursday 8:00 am - William & Margaret Butzen and Relatives
Friday 8:00 am - Helping Hands Volunteers & Supporters
Saturday 8:00 am - †John and †Dorothy Parker
4:30 pm - †Paul M. Wiegert
Sunday 8:00 am - St Matthew Parishioners and their Families
10:00 am - †Claude Witzeling (Birthday)
Spanish 12 noon - Poor Souls in Purgatory

Scripture Readings

Monday, August 23 - Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin

1 Thes 1:1-5, 8-10/Ps 149/Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday, August 24 - Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

Rv 21:9-14/Ps 145/Jn 1:45-51

Wednesday, August 25 - Saint Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanz, Priest

1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday, August 26

1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90/Mt 24:42-51

Friday, August 27 - Saint Monica

1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday, August 28 - Saint Augustine, Bishop/Doctor of the Church

1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98/Mt 25:14-30

Sunday, August 29 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15/Jas 1:17-18, 21-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



Weekend - Liturgical Ministers

Saturday August 28 4:30 pm	Sunday August 29 8:00 am	Sunday August 29 10:00 am
Lectors		
Mary Holm	Jim Low	Lee Peek
Ushers and Greeters		
Marie Burish Dave Mayer Mike Lawrence	Dennis Janssen David Krause Jody Babl	Bob Charlier Sharon Charlier Kevin Ellenbecker
Musicians		
Todd McDonald Nancy Losinski	Jim Washebek Annette Southworth	Lynn Meyer Sara Schmitt

Parish Staff (715-842-3148)

Pastor: Rev Robert C Thorn
frbob@stmatthewausau.org

Pastoral Care: Dorothy Giallombardo
dorothy@stmatthewausau.org

Deacon: Rev Mr Tom Tierney

Finance Secretary: Jerry Grunow
jerryg@stmatthewausau.org

Bulletin Editor: Rosemary Beever
rosemarybulletin@stmatthewausau.org

Associate Pastor:

Rev Juan Pedro Roblez Baltazar
frjuan@stmatthewausau.org

Parish Secretary: Patricia Lahr
patl@stmatthewausau.org

Plant Manager: Jason Seliger

DRE & Hispanic RE: Joy Orozco
joydre@stmatthewausau.org

Bulletin Deadline: 3 pm Monday

Sacrament of Baptism

"I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."



We welcome into the Catholic Faith:

Baptized Saturday, August 21, 2021

Jayden Robert Ruesch

Son of Tawni Marie

Congratulations!

May Jesus be your dearest companion!

Thank You To Our Religious Education Catechists



Thank you so very much to those who have so generously volunteered to help out during Religious Education.

The sharing of your gifts and talents with our families is a blessing we are grateful for! We are blessed to have you on board!

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

Religious Education

K-10th Grades



****Confirmation candidates must attend a meeting with their catechist on**

August 23rd at 6:00 pm in the Parish Center.

All students must be registered by August 25th to ensure we have enough supplies and materials.

Those children who will be making their 1st Holy Communion or Confirmation need to attend our Religious Education classes even if they go to Newman Catholic Schools or are homeschooled.

Registration Forms & Updates are available online:

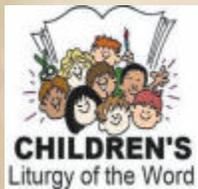
www.stmatthewausau.org

Classes Begin Wednesday, September 8th

Except for the classes in September and March, classes will be held on the first Wednesday of each month through May.

Please call Joy at (715) 842-3148 for more information.

Adult and Teen Leaders Needed for Children's Liturgy of the Word



Children's Liturgy of the Word "CLOW" takes place during Father's homily at the 10:00 am Mass.

The leader's guides are user friendly and all the materials you would need are provided.

This is a great way for father & son/daughter, mother & son/daughter to team lead. CLOW is offered September through May. You decide what dates you are available to lead the Children's Liturgy (usually it's a once a month to once every 6 weeks commitment).

Training is provided. For more information or to join the Children's Liturgy of the Word as a leader, contact Joy at the Parish Center at 842-3148. Thank you.

He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain...Rev 21:4



Our Prayers & Sympathy go to the Family & Friends of:

John Southworth

He died Monday - August 16, 2021

He is the Brother-in-Law of Annette Southworth

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. Amen

Men's Club Summer Picnic

Thursday, August 26th

For club members, wife or friend, and any man interested in learning about the club as a member.

**St Matthew School Cafeteria
5 pm Social with 6 pm Meal**



Meal: Hamburgers, Brats, Chicken Breast, Corn on the Cob and Refreshments

Please bring a dish to pass - last names starting with:

A - G: Appetizer

H - N: Dessert

O - Z: Salad

\$10 per person (includes \$1 for 50/50 drawing)

RSVP by Sunday, August 22nd - Request Burger, Brat, or Chicken.

RSVP to: Pat Ruesch: 715-845-1160 or Jay Rolefson: 715-843-5530



Come celebrate with Helping Hands on

Saturday, September 25th, 2021

**St. Matthew Gym/Faith Christian Academy
228 S. 28th Avenue, Wausau, WI.**

1:30 - 3:00 pm Social

**3:00 - 4:15 pm Welcome
Opening Prayer
Program**

4:30 pm Light Dinner

5:30 pm Closing Comments

_____ Number attending the entire celebration

_____ Will NOT be attending the dinner

**RSVP: By September 4th - mproovers@aol.com
or 715 842-4270**

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