



ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH NEWSLETTER

Fall 2021

Dear parish family,

As I begin my assignment as pastor of St. Clare of Assisi Parish, I want to thank the Lord for calling me to this role and his continued blessings. I wish to express my gratitude to Bishop Hying, our Shepherd, who invited me to journey with you on this path of fulfilling our Christian vocation. I am grateful to Msgr. Larry Bakke, pastor here for the past ten years, for all the good work he did.

My first weekend here was so special and left a memorable impact on me. I met so many people, and everyone I interacted with was very gracious and so welcoming. The parish is blessed with so many wonderful people and a good staff.

It is a blessing, too, that we have a lot of parishioners who go out of their way to support the mission of our parish and school through their time, talents, and treasure.

I look forward to getting to know all parishioners and uniting my prayers with yours for the good of our parish. Let us continue supporting each other as we grow in our faith and respond to our call to holiness. Please know of my continued prayers.

Your Servant in Christ,

Fr. Tafadzwa Kushamba



We are **guided** by Christ,
growing in Christ, and
giving as Christ.

What does it mean to be...?

Guided by Christ

We are open to be formed by Christ, through his Gospel and the Holy Catholic Church, to become intentional disciples as we journey with each other.

Growing in Christ

We are dedicated to engage and accompany everyone into the graces of the sacramental life of the Church by loving abundantly in everything we do.

Giving as Christ

We are committed to a profound spirit of hospitality to all and seek to discover everyone's inherent gifts from God.

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St. Clare of Assisi Parish
1760 14th Street
Monroe, WI 53566
(608) 325-9506

www.stclaregreencounty.org
secretary@stclaregreencounty.org

PARISH MISSION

with Bishop Hying

at ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH

**Sunday & Monday
September 26-27, 2021**

6 pm Holy Hour
7 pm Bishop's Talk
8 pm Q&A
8:30 pm Refreshments & fellowship



How would you like to spend an evening or two with someone who really knows Jesus? Here is your chance! Our Bishop, Donald Hying, is a good and holy shepherd who really walks with the Lord everyday. He wants to spend time with us—his sheep. So, he is moving into our rectory on Sunday, September 26 to spend a couple of days in town.

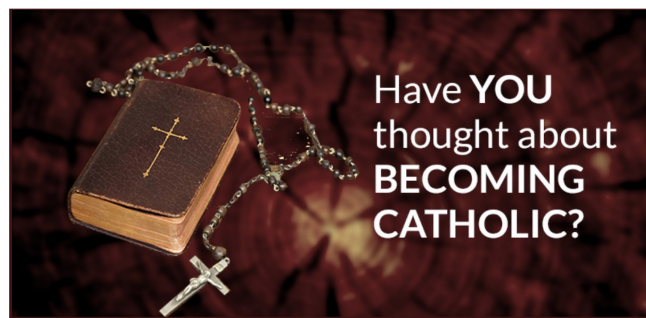
He would like to pray with you—during the evening holy hours (times of quiet prayer with the Blessed Sacrament) from 6-7 pm and at Mass on Monday morning at 8:30* am (*note the time—to allow our whole school to participate!)

He hopes to encourage you on your own walk with Jesus—via his talks from 7-8 pm in the church.

He is here to answer your questions—during Q&A from 8-8:30 each evening.

Please plan to come and spend time with Bishop Hying. You won't be disappointed—and you just might see Jesus!

Childcare will be available from 6:30-8:15 pm on Sunday and Monday. Please contact the parish office to reserve your child's spot.



Have **YOU** thought about **BECOMING CATHOLIC?**

Contact Ann O'Leary with interest/questions:
annoleary@stclaregreencounty.org
(608) 325-9506

Do you know someone who is interested in becoming Catholic?

Our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is beginning a new season. We can offer you a safe space to ask questions, learn and pray with others who are seeking to understand how they can connect with God and better understand themselves through the Catholic Church.

Already Catholic, but need a refresher? You are welcome, too. Feel free to bring a friend.

Contact the parish office or check our bulletin for the next meeting time!

GO MAKE DISCIPLES

Diocese of Madison - Evangelization Initiative

"I sense that the moment has come to commit all of the Church's energies to a new evangelization and to the mission *ad gentes*. No believer in Christ, no institution of the Church can avoid this supreme duty: to proclaim Christ to all peoples."

~ Pope St. John Paul II, *Redemptoris Missio*

Bishop Hying has launched an initiative across the diocese that "is intended to light a fire within us that will not only change what we do but who we are." Go Make Disciples calls each of us to commit to four basic practices guaranteed to help us grow in our personal holiness:

1. Prioritize Sunday as the Lord's Day.
2. Commit to spending at least 15 minutes per day in prayer.
3. Make voluntary practices of self-denial a regular part of our daily lives, beginning with at least the observance of Fridays as penitential days throughout the year.
4. Develop or strengthen a habit of going to confession regularly, ideally at least once per month.



STRENGTH IN GIVING

The response of our parish giving throughout the pandemic has been amazing! Through months of uncertainty, we came together and brought our offertory giving numbers to a point nearly exceeding our pre-COVID giving!

As we enter a second winter of the pandemic and begin the process of understanding how it will impact our parish in more permanent ways, it is still just as important to continue to give. Building on the great amount of giving that we have seen, we will only improve our abilities to continue to bring God's word to our greater community through our parish and school.

BY MAIL OR DROP BOX:

St. Clare of Assisi Parish
1760 14th St.
Monroe, WI 53566

THROUGH ONLINE GIVING:

Go to www.stclaregreencounty.org and select "Donate" to set up your profile. You choose how much, how often, and for how long.

Contact Marci Boss at business@stclaregreencounty.org or 608-325-9506 for assistance.



SISTER WATER PROJECT

We are proud and excited to share an update of St. Clare's 2021 support of the Sister Water Project (started by the Sisters of St. Francis in Dubuque) this Lenten season! Our parishioners stepped up in a big way to fund SIX wells (listed below with the number of people each well serves)! Since our first year supporting the project in 2013, St. Clare has sponsored 21 wells in Tanzania and Honduras. All 309 wells built through the Sister Water Project are still in operation and fully functional.

#301 Difinga—650 people

#302 Kwakusigirwe—700 people

#303 Kwedirasi—700 people

#306 Misungundi—850 people

#307 Muegeani—700 people

#308 Difinga Shuleni—600 people



This year, St. Clare's six wells provided clean-water access to over 4,200 people near the villages of Morogoro or Turiani, Tanzania—one of which is right next to a school. These villages did not have access to clean and safe water and/or had to travel long distances to get water. This lack of clean water increased the risk of diseases such as cholera, typhoid fever, and dysentery. They also, having to walk several kilometers searching for water, had limited participation in economic activities and in school. Once the new wells are constructed and the clean water flows, the villagers have such joy!

THANK YOU to all who donated toward the Sister Water Project! We are looking forward to sponsoring them again next Lent.



Completed well
next to a school in
Difinga Shuleni,
Tanzania



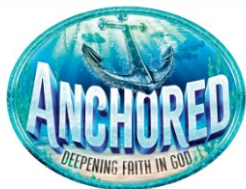
Traditional water
source prior to
well construction

"...but, whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life" -John 4:14

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER FUN NIGHTS



After a unique year of doing most things virtual, it was exciting to host a few high school and middle school fun nights this summer. We did activities from mini golf to tie-dye, to celebrating Mass, and doing service around the parish. We're already looking forward to what next summer will bring!!



Vacation Bible School 2021 was a FINN-TASTIC time by our parish youth! We sang songs, did crafts, played games, and learned all about being FAITHFUL! Thank you to those who made this possible!





HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY FALL CALENDAR

***September 19



DYNAMIC DEACON @ QP MADISON

Join fellow teens in our
Diocese to hear Dynamic Deacon
share about faith in a personal way
Leave St. Clare @ 11:20 AM
Return to St. Clare @ 3:30 PM

**** Need at least 5 teens to carpool****
Let Miss Betsy know asap if you want
to go. We will get lunch in Madison.

***October 28-29

FALL NIGHT LOCK-IN

**STARTS 6 PM THURSDAY NIGHT
ENDS 6 AM FRIDAY MORNING**

**** PERMISSION SLIPS
AND DETAILS TO COME!**

November 23

THANKSGIVING DINNER

**5:15PM MASS
6:30 POT-LUCK DINNER @ TBD
BRING YOUR FAVORITE THANKSGIVING
DISH TO SHARE AND AN ITEM TO
DONATE TO THE FOOD PANTRY!**

December 4 & 5

COOKIE FUNDRAISER WEEKEND

**BAKING STARTS AT 10AM.
WE WILL BAKE & DECORATE COOKIES TO
SELL AFTER EACH MASS.
PROCEEDS GO TOWARD FRASSATI FEST!**

SAVE the DATE

*****FRASSATI FEST 2022**

**FEBRUARY 11-13
DETAILS TO COME**

To RSVP FOR ANY EVENTS/SERVICE
email or text Miss Betsy
betsyb@stclaregreencounty.org
OR 608-963-8879

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONFIRMATION TEENS

Interested in a Mass Role?
(servers, greeters, choir?)
Connect with Ann O'Leary
or Miss Betsy

September 21

PREP NIGHT

6:30-8pm Gathering Space
Help Miss Betsy prep for F&F kick-off

September 26/27

PARISH MISSION WITH BISHOP HYING

5-8:30 pm Sunday/Monday
hospitality & service opportunities
(If helping please RSVP to Miss Betsy)
**OPEN TO ANYONE TO ATTEND- CHECK
BULLETIN FOR MORE DETAILS!**

October 10

PARISH FALL DINNER

9am-Noon Food Runners

November 14

2ND GRADE RETREAT

11am- 3pm Help with activities at retreat

FYI: Permission slips
will be needed for events with ***
Found on Parish Website!
www.stclaregreencounty.org

Holy Ground ~ Phase 2

Providing Spaces to Grow in Christ

Nearly one year into our second phase of the Holy Ground Capital Campaign, we are full of gratitude for the gifts we have received thus far. We are almost at our goal of \$1,000,000 and can reach this mark with the support of all our parish families well before the campaign ends in November 2022.

Currently, we are sourcing bids for the completion of our lower level and hope to start construction later this winter. There is still time to make your campaign contribution to ensure construction can happen as planned. Check out our campaign page on our website, www.stclaregreencounty.org/capital-campaign or contact Marci Boss, Business Manager, at business@stclaregreencounty.org for a pledge form.

\$805,151
In Gifts & Pledges
as of 9/10/2021

Almost there!

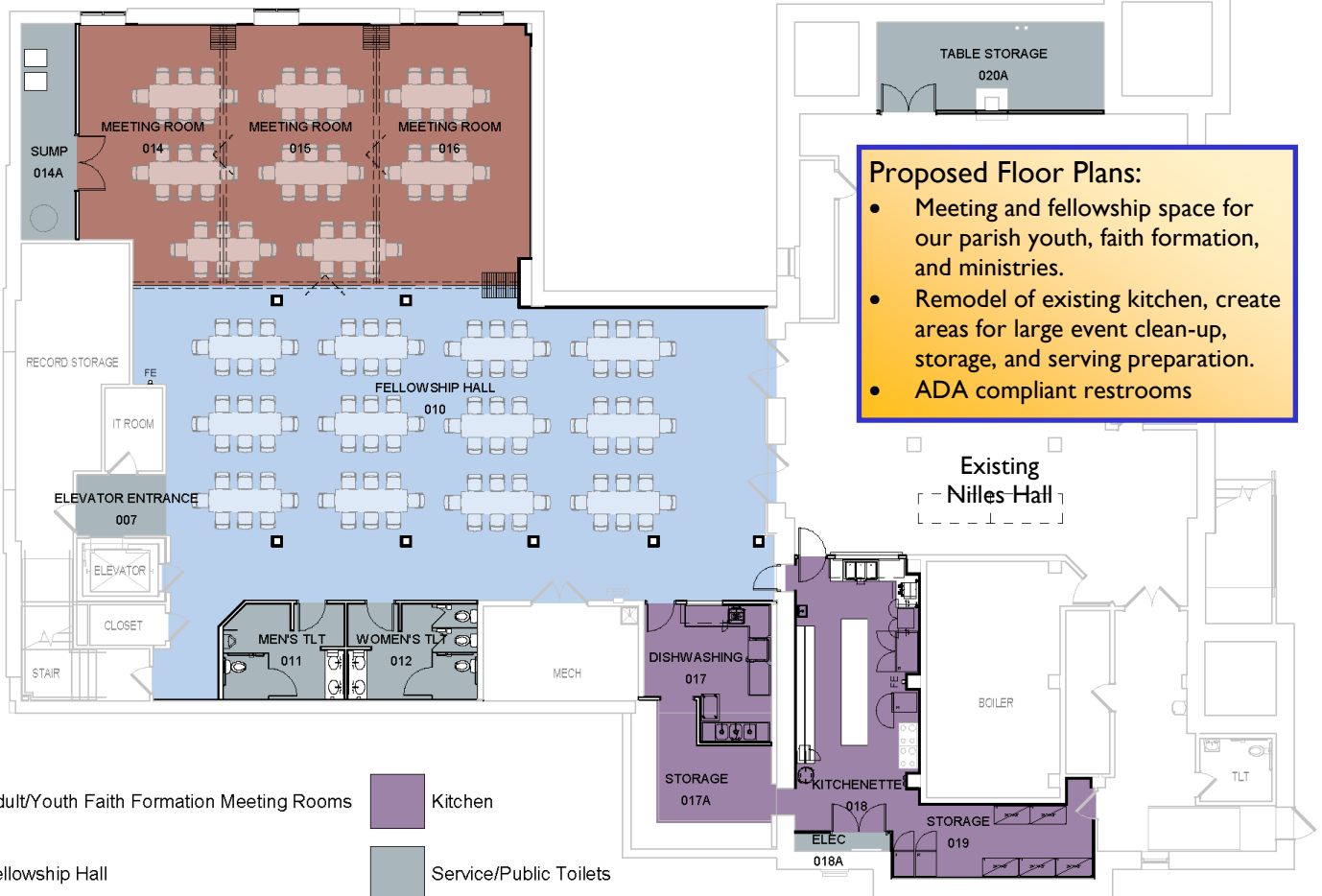
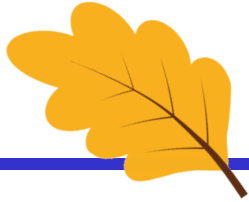
\$1,000,000

CAMPAIGN UPDATES

GOAL 1: Retire Phase I Building Debt (\$500,000) Completed in April 2021

GOAL 2: Finish Lower Level (\$300,000 - \$400,000) To begin winter 2021-22

GOAL 3: Cover Future Maintenance (\$100,000)





ST. VICTOR SCHOOL NEWS

Nurturing a faith-filled Catholic environment for spiritual and educational growth

Back to School 2021!

We are so excited to be back to in-person instruction for the 2021-22 school year! We welcome several new staff members to our school: Breanna Baljo is our new technology teacher as well as working with students in math.

This is Breanna's first full-time teaching position. Stephanie Derendinger is working as an academic tutor in the area of reading. This is Stephanie's first time working in a school, and she is excited to work with the students! Dolly Schluesche has added the position of library to her role of classroom aide. We know that Dolly will bring great energy and enthusiasm to this position. Finally, we welcome Andrew Swanston as director of our hot lunch program. Andrew has been working in the food business for many years, and we look forward to him creating amazing lunches for our students and staff.

It was a busy summer for our school building! We had new flooring put into the kindergarten, first grade, and 4K classrooms. The second floor bathrooms had a much-needed update, which included new sinks, toilets, stalls, dividers, tiles, and paint! Finally, air conditioning was installed in all of the eight main classrooms and the gym. This has been a huge bonus for the students and teachers as we deal with some of the late summer/early fall heat. These projects were funded by a combination of private donors as well as our Home and School Association fundraising efforts such as Mardi Gras, Brunch with Santa, and SCRIP gift card program. We thank you all for your continued support of our students, families, staff and mission!

Our theme for the school year is BE THESE: Salt and Light. As Fr. Bill Nolan shared with us at the first all-school Mass, salt makes "everything" better (especially french fries). Our goal is to make everyone that we meet better by being kind, loving, and generous. We hope this year will bring many opportunities to grow to be the amazing people that God wants us to be!





1760 14th Street
Monroe, WI 53566

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Monroe, WI 53566
Permit No. 177

Drive-Thru / Carry-Out

FALL DINNER

\$10/meal

Albany Lions' pork chop, baked potato, green beans, applesauce, roll, and fall dessert

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10
10:30 AM - 1 PM**

Raffle tickets available at St. Clare Parish or St. Victor School
\$20 each or 3/\$50
Two \$2,000 prizes | Two \$1,000 prizes | Two \$500 prizes

Drive-thru line in front of school (15th Street)
Carry-out after the 10:00 Mass in St. Victor Church's gathering space