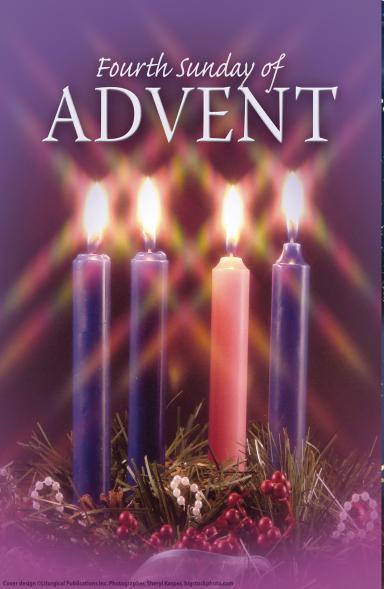


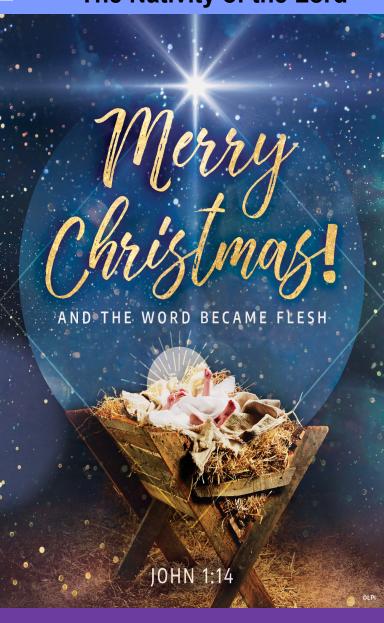
St. Joseph Catholic Parish

December 20-21, 2025 4th Sunday of Advent



December 24-25, 2025
The Nativity of the Lord





MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 4:00 PM Sunday: 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM, 6:00 PM

Weekday Mass

Tuesday 8:00 AM Wednesday: 8:00 AM Thursday: 2:00 PM at the Neighbors Friday: 9:00 AM

Adoration in Church

Tuesdays: 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Private Confession in Church

Saturday: 3:00 PM

PARISH CENTER HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM 715-232-4922

OUR LOCATION

Church:

921 Wilson Avenue

Parish Center:

910 Wilson Avenue Menomonie, WI 54751

Pastor:

John S. Muthu Vijayan

(Fr. Mano)

www.menomoniecatholic.org

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Saturday, December 20 (ls 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38)

3:00 PM - Private Confessions (Church)

3:30 PM - Pray the Rosary

4:00 PM Mass - Roger Riedmann by Shirley Riedmann

Sunday, December 21 (Is 7:10-14; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24)

8:00 AM - Pray the Rosary

8:30 AM Mass - St. Joseph Parish Family

10:15 AM Mass - Myrna Weber by John & Jodell Marson

11:15 AM - Hispanic Community Meeting

(Friendship House)

1:00 PM - Traditional Choir Practice (Parish Center)

Monday, December 22 (1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56)

NO SCHOOL

NO SERVICES

<u>Tuesday, December 23</u> (Mal 3:1-4,23-24; Lk 1:57-66)

NO SCHOOL

8:00 AM Mass - Lorelee Binkowski by Dale

8:30 AM - 3:00 PM - Adoration

5:00-6:00 PM - Tuesday's Table Meal (Charles Hall)

Wednesday, December 24

(2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16; Lk 1:67-79)

NO SCHOOL

PARISH CENTER CLOSED

Christmas Masses

3:30 PM - Christmas Carols

4:00 PM Children's Christmas Mass

7:30 PM - Christmas Carols

8:00 PM Christmas Mass

Thursday, December 25 (ls 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6)

NO SCHOOL

PARISH CENTER CLOSED

12:00 AM Midnight Christmas Mass

9:30 AM Christmas Mass

<u>Friday, December 26</u> (Acts 6:8-10,7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22)

NO SCHOOL

PARISH CENTER CLOSED

NO SERVICES

Saturday, December 27 (1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a,2-8)

3:00 PM - Private Confessions (Church)

3:30 PM - Pray the Rosary

4:00 PM Mass - Dennis Cress by Angie Cress

Sunday, December 28

(Sir:2-6,12-14; Col 3:12-21; Mt 2:13-15,19-23)

8:00 AM - Pray the Rosary

8:30 AM Mass - Alvin Fremouw by the Family

10:15 AM Mass - St. Joseph Parish Family

January Schedule Changes for Masses

We wish Fr. Mano safe travels and a joyful visit in India. He will be gone from December 26 through January 27.

While Fr. Mano is gone, weekend Masses will be at the usual times. The 4:00 Saturday Mass will be livestreamed on YouTube (YouTube.com/@sjmenomonie).

There will be no daily Masses December 26-January 28; however, there will be Communion Services on Tuesday, January 6, 13 & 20 at 8:00AM. Daily Mass will resume on Wednesday, January 28th.

We will have Friday Masses at 10:30 AM with Fr. Jojo.

There will be no 6:00 PM Sunday Masses from December 21 through January 25. The 6:00 PM Sunday Mass will resume on Sunday, February 1st.

STEWARDSHIP

FINANCE REPORT July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026

OFFERTORY for December 14 —Week 24

 Adult Envelope
 \$ 19,606.00

 Weekly Goal
 \$ 12,154.00

 Over Weekly Goal
 \$ 7,452.00

Plate \$ 1,158.10

 Year-to-Date Total
 \$ 291,260.37

 Year-to-Date Goal
 \$ 291,696.00

 Under Yearly Goal
 \$ (435.63)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIVING

PLEASE HAVE ANY YEAR END GIVING DONATIONS TO THE PARISH CENTER BY 2:00 PM ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30TH, TO BE COUNTED FOR 2025 GIVING.

Scan QR Code with your Phone for Ways to Give

Raise Right - Scrip St. Joseph Enrollment code: 7CC434C99546



Direct Contribution Form



Donate to

St. Joseph Parish/School



PayPal or Debit/Credit Card https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=QG6JK7FXUKJXQ





CHRISTMAS HOURS & MASSES

Parish Center Holiday Hours

The Parish Center will be closed on Wednesday December 24, Thursday December 25, **AND** Friday December 26,

Wednesday December 31, and Thursday, January 1. **St. Joe's School Christmas Break**

St. Joe's School will be on Christmas break beginning December 22, resuming January 5.

Holy Days & Christmas Masses

Wednesday, December 24 | The Nativity of the Lord 4:00 PM Children's Mass (will be livestreamed),

8:00 PM Mass

Thursday, December 25 | The Nativity of the Lord 12:00 AM Midnight Mass, 9:30 AM Mass Thursday, January 1 | Solemnity of Mary 9:00 AM Mass (will be livestreamed)

MESSAGE FROM FR. MANO

When I was little, I was always so eager for the day to set up the Christmas crib (crèche) at my home. It was not a fancy crib. We didn't have room even for ourselves as we had only three rooms at home. We didn't even have our own bedrooms. But still we were able to find room for the crib. Every day we prayed before the crib, and I was always sad when they took the crib out. One of our parishioners was telling me that she was still using the same crib that she and her husband bought 60 years ago.

What memories do you have of the crib? How many of us have a crib? How many of us have the crib inside our home? Is the crib just decorative or does it mean something to you? Where should we keep the crib in the church? The crib (Nativity scene) in a church should be in a prominent, accessible spot for devotion but outside the main sanctuary to avoid distracting them from Mass. It should enhance worship, fitting the theme of humble beginnings. So here at St. Joe's I have our people to set up the Nativity scene at the altar. I will explain.

The tradition of the Christmas crib is closely connected to St. Francis of Assisi. In the year 1223, in the small town of Greccio, St. Francis created the first living Nativity scene. His desire was simple yet profound: to help people see and feel the humility of God made flesh. When I went to Assisi, I was so moved to see the Church where St. Francis had his first living nativity scene. Francis was deeply moved by the poverty of Christ. He wanted hearts to be touched not by words alone, but by the sight of a Child laid in a manger. For Francis, the crib was not decoration, it was catechesis. It preached the Gospel without a sermon, teaching that God chose weakness, simplicity, and love over power and prestige.

For me, the crib at the altar is not distracting but serving the purpose of St. Francis' intention. It's evangelizing. By placing Jesus in a feeding trough, the crib reminds us that Christ comes to nourish us. He becomes our food, our life, our hope. The God who could have entered the world in splendor chose instead to be held, to be vulnerable, and to be loved.

When we set up the crib in our homes and church, we continue St. Francis' vision. We are invited to slow down, to kneel, and to allow the mystery of the Incarnation to shape our hearts. The crib calls us to simplicity, gratitude, and compassion—especially toward the poor and forgotten. After Christmas Mass, please bring your kids closer to the crib, and explain the love of God towards His people. This Christmas, may we stand before the crib with the eyes of St. Francis: full of wonder, humility, and joy. There, in the silence of Bethlehem, we rediscover the heart of our faith—God with us.

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

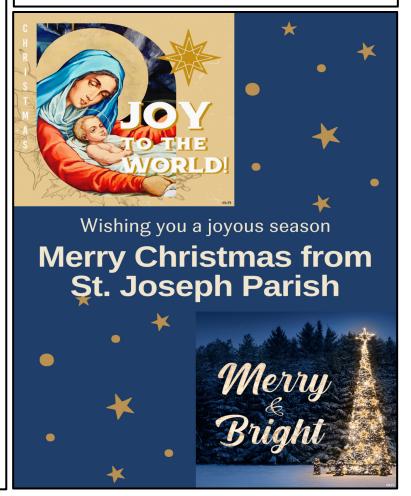
Merry Christmas from St. Joseph Grade School!

As we joyfully celebrate the birth of our Savior, I extend my heartfelt blessings to each of our school and parish families. This holy season gently reminds us of God's boundless love and the profound joy found in giving of ourselves. Through your prayers, your service, and your generosity, you bring the love of Christ to life each day at St. Joseph School.

May this Christmas renew your spirit, fill your hearts with deep and lasting joy, and surround your families with the peace that only Christ can give. As we look toward the New Year, may we continue to carry His light into the world, united in our shared mission to love, serve, and walk with one another as He has so beautifully shown us.

Wishing you a blessed and Merry Christmas, filled with hope, joy, and the comforting warmth of Christ's holy presence.

With gratitude and joy, Mrs. Mary Kiefer, Principal



PARISH EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21ST AFTER THE 10:15 MASS MANY HELPING HANDS ARE NEEDED! ALL AGES WELCOME!

CHURCH DECORATING EVENT!

Join us as we assist the decorating team in transforming our church into a beautiful space for the Christmas season.



Special thanks to Pleasant Valley Tree Farm for the greens they donated to decorate the church and school.





CHOIR

Upcoming Choir Rehearsals

Handbell Choir 12/21 - 11:30 AM Charles Hall

Traditional Choir: 12/21 - 1:00 PM
Parish Center
Conference Room

Full Schedule available online at: https://www.menomoniecatholic.org/liturgical-ministry

A LITTLE HUMOR

"What do bear families sing during Christmas?"



"Have yourself a **Beary** Little Christmas."

FUN FACT

All of creation joins in praise for the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. May the joy of the season fill your home!

OLP

PCCW

Thank you SO much to all the women of the parish who took time to make cookies for the 32nd annual Cook Walk last weekend.

A heartfelt thank you to all of the wonderful women who helped set up, plate the cookies (and keep the platters filled) then tear down and clean up.

Thank you also to our Quilters who joined us and had some of their beautiful creations available for sale.







CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Fr. Mano, fr.mano@menomoniecatholic.org

Principal: Mary Kiefer, mary.kiefer@menomoniecatholic.org

Business Manager: Tiffany Clark, tiffany.clark@menomoniecatholic.org

Karen Adams, karen.adams@menomoniecatholic.org

School Administrative Assistant: Mary Wayne, mary.wayne@menomoniecatholic.org Parish Administrative Assistant: Linda Young, linda.young@menomoniecatholic.org

Music & Liturgy: Beth Wacek, beth.wacek@menomoniecatholic.org Parish Life Ministries: Nicki Welsch, nicki.welsch@menomoniecatholic.org

Religious Education: Tammy Christianson, tammy.christianson@menomoniecatholic.org

Director of StoutCatholic: Becca Sheahan, director@stoutcatholic.org

Choice Program: Maribeth Hartung, maribeth.hartung@menomoniecatholic.org

Head Custodian/Maintenance: Wayne Koepke, wayne.koepke@menomoniecatholic.org

The Parish Finance Council

consists of appointed members who work with the pastor and act justly and prudently in formation and administration of the parish's financial policies, budget and long range planning.

Finance Council Members

Fr. Mano Tiffany Clark Larry Feiler Priscilla Fuhrman John Heike Jeff Krumenauer, Chairperson

Shirley Riedmann

The Parish Pastoral

Council is a consultative body to the pastor with elected and appointed members to help define, plan, prioritize, and carry out the mission of our parish.

Pastoral Council Members

Katie Baier

Anna Beckman

Debra Berends

Karen Brunner

John Heike

Jason Horzewski, Chairperson

Katie Mrdutt

Dan Wengel

Duane Zweber

Join Our Parish Community:

Contact Nicki Welsch, or click on "<u>I'M NEW</u>" at : MenomonieCatholic.org.

St. Joseph Grade School:

Serving children 4K through 5th grade. We are a 4K program site and a Wisconsin Parental Choice Program school. Registration for the school year is ongoing.

Contact Principal Mary Kiefer with questions or to set up a tour.

Baptisms:

Contact Nicki Welsch for information and to schedule a baptism.

Weddings:

Contact the Parish Center at least 6 months before your wedding to set up a meeting with Fr. Mano and begin preparation.



Knights of Columbus:

Catholic men age 17 ½ and

older are invited to join

the Knights. Scan this QR

code with a smartphone/

tablet. Enter your info and

vou will be contacted by a

local member. Or contact

Bob Brahmstadt

The Parish Council for Catholic Women (PCCW) is an organization all women of the Parish belong to whether they pay dues or not. It is part of the Durand Deanery of the La Crosse Diocese Council for Catholic Women (LDCCW). You may find more information on the website at https://www. menomoniecatholic.org/pccw. Current president is Marianne Canon. Contact information is stjosephpccw24@gmail.com.

PARISH PRAYER REQUEST

Remembering Our Faithful Departed:

As a parish family we remember in our prayers those who have died most recently, their families, and loved ones. May those who have died in Christ now share in His Resurrection (bolded indicates a parishioner):

Betty J. Hunter Helen Larson
Eugene H. "Shag" Skjegstad
Joseph A. "Joe" Justus
Jim Lorimer (Brother-in-law of Bob Peters) Paul Pongratz Nick Rassbach (husband of Mary) Scotty Sutliff Daniel Dean James Wenzel
Wayne Barcus (husband of Colleen and father of Loriann)

Contact the Parish Center to have someone from outside the parish remembered on this list.

Joe Critchfield (brother-in-law of Shirley Riedmann)

Parish Prayer Requests:

We pray for all in our community and in the world who are in need of comfort.

THE MOST RECENT REQUESTS ARE LISTED BELOW.

VISIT MenomonieCatholic.org/prayer-list FOR THE

COMPLETE LIST WHICH HAS RECENTLY BEEN UPDATED. NAMES WILL REMAIN ON THE WEBSITE PRAYER LIST FOR TWELVE MONTHS. UNLESS OTHERWISE REQUESTED..

Gloria Ziehl **Pat Preston** Dolores & John Vogel (Parents of Theresa Caturia) Barb Shannon Sue Halama (daughter-in-law of Roxanne) **Stevie** Joseph (son of Mary) Lorraine Sedahl

Charlie Krueger

Janet Schaefer Hanson (Sister of Roger Schaefer) Phoenix DeYoung Kellen Wison (friend of Margo Hecker)

Nichole Manson (friend of Margo Hecker) Donald Ashbaugh (Father of Loni Hilmanowski) Charlie Krueger
(Father of Kristen Hildebrandt)

(Father of Kristen Hildebrandt)

If you would like us to pray for you or someone you love, contact the Parish Center at 715-232-4922 or email to contact@menomoniecatholic.org.



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