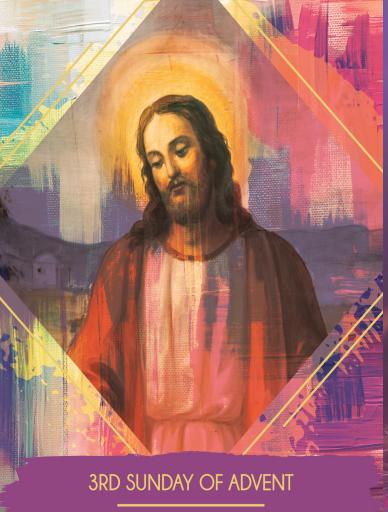


# St. Joseph Catholic Parish

**December 13-14, 2025** 



#### **3rd Sunday of Advent**



Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see." - Mt 11:4

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

# Third sunday of ADVENT

#### **MASS SCHEDULE**

#### **Weekend Mass**

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM, 10:15 AM,

6:00 PM

#### **Weekday Mass**

Friday: 9:00 AM

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

#### **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 13

(Sir 38:1-4,9-11; Mt 17:9a,10-13)

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM - Confirmation Retreat (Parish Center)

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM - Cookie Walk (Charles Hall)

3:00 PM - Private Confessions (Church)

3:30 PM - Pray the Rosary

4:00 PM Mass - Loren Nerison by Theresa Nerison

#### Sunday, December 14

(Is 35:1-6a,10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11)

8:00 AM - Pray the Rosary

8:30 AM Mass - Alvin Fremouw by The Family

9:30-11:15 AM - Confirmation Meeting (Parish Center)

10:15 AM Mass - St. Joseph Parish Family

2:00 PM - Tuba Christmas (Church)

5:15 PM - Private Confession

5:30 PM - Pray the Rosary

6:00 PM Mass

#### Monday, December 15

(Nm 24:2-7,15-17a; Mt 21:23-27)

#### **NO SERVICES**

6:00 PM - Advent Reconciliation (Church)

**Tuesday, December 16** (Zep 3:1-2,9-13; Mt 21:28-32)

8:00 AM Mass - Charles Bates by Jeanne Bates

8:30 AM - 3:00 PM - Adoration

9:00 AM - Faith & Fellowship (Friendship House)

1:30 PM - School Christmas Program (Parish Center Gym)

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

5:30 PM - School Christmas Program (Parish Center Gym)

6:00 PM - OCIA (Charles Hall)

**Wednesday, December 17** (Gn 49:2,8-10; Mt 1:1-17)

8:00 AM Mass - Allen & Betty Klink by Rita Ulesich

6:00-7:30 PM - Elementary Faith Formation (Parish Center)

6:00 PM - Traditional Choir Practice (Parish Center)

**Thursday, December 18** (Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25)

9:00 AM - Brothers & Brews (Friendship House)

2:00 PM Mass at the Neighbors (Green/West Bldg) -

Terrence Finigan by Shirley Riedmann

6:00 - 7:00 PM - Advent Adoration (Church)

**Friday, December 19** (Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a; Lk 1:5-25)

9:00 AM Mass - Margaret Ritzer by Bob & Mary Allison

**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)

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

#### FINANCE REPORT July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026

#### OFFERTORY for December 7 —Week 23

Weekly Goal	12,154.00 2,005.00
Weekly Goal Over Weekly Goal	3,095.00

Plate \$ 1,294.00

 Year-to-Date Total
 \$ 271,654.37

 Year-to-Date Goal
 \$ 279,542.00

 Under Yearly Goal
 \$ (7,887.63)

Please consider **Income Tax Giving Options** to help support our parish. *IRA RMD* (Required Minimum Distribution), *IRA QCD* (Qualified Charitable Donation), *Appreciated stock and other investments, corporate Gift Match, Estate Bequests, Life insurance beneficiary designation* are some of the ways to donate. To set up Income Tax Giving Options please contact your plan advisor/representative for advice and processing.

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#### **MESSAGE FROM FR. MANO**

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The 9am Mass was with our school children. I was so impressed by the way our school kids were honoring Mother Mary with their prayers and singing. Every Friday Mass is led by our school kids, and they do a great job. Please join us with our kids for Friday school Mass. I also thank the parents and grandparents' presence to encourage those kids. I am also looking forward to seeing my parents and my siblings after Christmas. Please keep my trip in your prayers.

Last Tuesday Mass I was preaching about giving importance to the least. I thought I could share that homily with you. We usually look for what is big, impressive, successful: big buildings, big positions, big names. But this Christmas invites us to search in the opposite direction — towards the small, the unnoticed, the least. The story of Christ's coming itself teaches us this lesson. The people closest to the mystery of Christmas are all 'small' in the eyes of the world: Mary of Nazareth, Joseph the carpenter, the shepherds of Bethlehem, and the Gentiles from the East. God begins his saving work not with the powerful, but with the humble.

Scripture warns that those who ignore small things slowly fall. The strength of a great building depends on the smallest stone at its base. In the same way, small habits, small choices, small acts of care shape our lives. Many losses begin when we become careless about little things. Advent calls us back to attentiveness.

In psychology we have learned that a person's character is seen in how they treat the weak, the quiet, the dependent. Often, these "small ones" are closest to us — family members, colleagues, neighbors. Though physically near, we may be distant in time, concern, and generosity. Beyond this circle are many others who live in need and vulnerability. To search for the least is to treat every such person with dignity.

There are moments when we feel insignificant through illness, financial struggle, old age, or loss of strength. At such times, we seem invisible, almost forgotten. Have you ever experienced this? Or have we ever made someone think this way? Scripture strengthens our hope: God searches for us then most tenderly. His words do not fail; his care does not weaken. Advent teaches us where to look. Not upward to the mighty, but downward to the least. As we prepare for the coming of the Lord, may we learn to search as God searches — patiently, personally, and lovingly — so that no one, including ourselves, is left behind.

#### ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

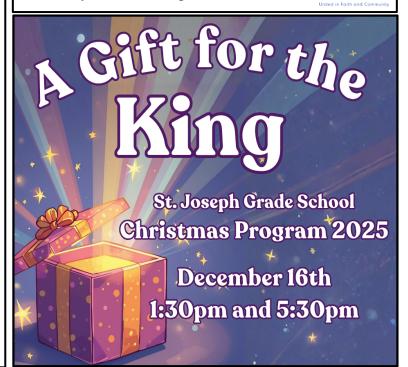
It's time for our annual Christmas Program, and we joyfully invite you to celebrate with us! This year, our talented 5th grade students will lead us in "A Gift for the King," a heartwarming reminder of the true meaning of Christmas.

Please join us on Tuesday, December 16th, for performances at 1:30 PM and 5:30 PM in the school gym. We encourage you to bring family and friends to share in the beauty of the story, the warmth of seasonal music, the excitement of the children, and a sweet cookie treat to enjoy on your way out! Come and experience the light, joy, and faith of our St. Joe's students (our own little angels), as they help us prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

This past Wednesday, our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders received the beautiful sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time, experiencing God's mercy in a special and personal way. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue to grow in faith and grace.

I am delighted to share that our accreditation team visit went very well! The team has recommended St. Joseph Grade School for accreditation by WRISA! This recognition affirms the strong faith-filled education and dedicated work of our entire school community. When we receive the final report, more information will be shared. We thank you for your faithful and generous support of our Catholic School! We are deeply grateful for all you do to help our mission flourish.

Wishing you peace and joy! Mrs. Mary Kiefer, Principal



#### **PARISH EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES**



## ADVENT RECONCILIATION DECEMBER 15 | 6:00

Join us Monday, December 15 at 6:00 PM in the Church for a Parish Advent Reconciliation Service.



# FAITH & FELLOWSHIP

ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME

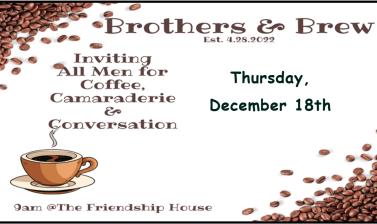
"CONNECTIONS, COMMUNITY AND CONVERSATION"

-BRING A SNACK <u>OR</u> YOUR APPETITE
-DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED

Tuesday, December 16th

9am @ The Friendship House







#### **PARISH EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES**





#### **GIVING TREE**

The Giving Trees are up in the entrances of the Church. Help support: Tuesday's Table, Options for Women, Cairn House, & Stepping Stones. Choose your tag off the tree, attach the tag to the UNWRAPPED item and put in the collection barrels (or for gift cards, put them directly in the collection basket/bins or bring to the Parish Center). The trees will be taken down on December 15th, so hurry and grab an ornament while you can!! Barrels will be taken down on December 21st. THANK YOU!

#### **CHOIR**

Upcoming Choir Rehearsals

Traditional Choir: 12/17 - 6:00 PM 12/21 - 1:00 PM Parish Center Conference Room

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

#### **OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**



### Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe Celebracion Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration



Donde/Where: Santo Rosario, Lima/Holy Rosary Church, Lima

Cuando/When: 14 Disciembre de 2025, Sunday December 14, 2025

**Hora/Time**: 1:30 PM – la antorcha va a salir de la Iglesia Santa Maria Durand WI a llegar de la Iglesia del Santo Rosario, N6235, County Highway V en Lima, WI

The torch run will leave from Saint Mary's, Durand, WI, and proceed to HolyRosary Church, N6235 County Rd V, Lima WI

**3:00** PM – Las Mañanitas en honor de la Virgen de Guadalupe y Celebracion de la Santa Misa en Lima, WI

The Celebration of the Mass and the singing of special hymns to honor of the Virgin of Guadalupe will be in Holy Rosary Church in Lima, WI

#### Potluck after Mass

Por favor traer un platillo para compartir despues de la misa. los esperamos en el sotano





#### **FAITH FORMATION**

# DON'T

# **ELEMENTARY** will meet this **Wednesday, December 17** from 5:30 - 6:30 pm in the parish center.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Our second grade students will be receiving their First Reconciliation during this session.

Please keep these students, and their families, in your prayers.



ur Confirmation students have been quite busy this year with our service nights so far. In October they helped clean up around the parish campus raking leavings and pulling weeds to prepare for the fall/winter season.



In November, they
toured and
volunteered at
Hope Bargain
Center sorting,
pricing, sweeping,
dusting and

stocking. This helped them to gain an understanding for the role the store plays in our community, as well as those around us.





In December students learned about our Mother Teresa ministry and made Christmas gifts (faith-themed coasters) to be brought to our home-

bound parishioners.

Students still have two more service night opportunities in January and February. They will be visiting residents at Comforts of Home and The Neighbors and helping out at Stepping Stones as well.

Faith Formation sessions will resume after the Christmas Break on January 7, 2026 for Elementary from 5:30 - 6:30 pm in the parish center.

Have a very blessed Christmas season!

#### FROM THE DIOCESE



Please donate at your local parish, or by mail at:

National Religious Retirement Office 3211 Fourth Street NE Washington DC 20017-1194 Make check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious.

#### retiredreligious.org

Visit **retiredreligious.org/2025photos** to meet the religious pictured.
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Advent: Jesus is Our Hope (1 Tim. 1:1)

The Advent hymn Come, O Long

Expected Jesus is about hope as it refers to Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah promised throughout the Old Testament. Jesus is "the hope of all the earth" because He brings salvation to each and every person, fulfilling God the Father's universal plan for redemption. Jesus is the "dear desire of every nation" because He is the ultimate answer to the deepest longings and needs of every person.

The second verse of *Come*, *O Long Expected Jesus*: Israel's strength and consolation, You, the hope of all the earth, Dear desire of every nation, come, and save us by Your birth.

Let us make a good confession before Christmas to purify our hearts for the celebration of the Incarnation—God becoming man to save us from Satan, sin and death.

The Jubilee Year of Hope officially ends on January 6th when Pope Leo XIV closes the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. A Mass to close the Jubilee Year in the Diocese of La Crosse will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman by Msgr. Richard Gilles, 10 a.m. on December 28th. All are welcome.

#### **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 7weber

#### 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 Grand Knight at** KC2055GK@gmail.com.



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):

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

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

#### 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
(Father of Kristen Hildebrandt)

(Fauner of Loni
Keith Tainter
Dalva Nelson 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)

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.



John

R. Heike



Nicholas Komro, OD • Marianne Komro, OD 520 Wilson Ave. • Menomonie, WI 54751 tel 715.235.2855 fax 715.235.9436



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