



St. Joseph Catholic Parish

March 28-29, 2026



**Palm Sunday of the Passion
of the Lord**



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

*Say to daughter Zion,
"Behold, your king comes to you,
meek and riding on an ass."
- Mt 21:5*

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

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

Why Do We Stay Away During Holy Week? Let's be honest. Many Catholics who come to Mass on Sundays will not show up for the most important liturgies of the entire year. Holy Week—the heart of our faith—comes and goes, and for many, it barely interrupts the routine of daily life.

Why? It is not because these days are unimportant. It is not because the Church has failed to invite. It is not even because people do not believe. More often, it is because we choose not to come. We say we are “too busy.” But we are not too busy with what we truly value. We make time for what matters—work, sports, entertainment, travel. Holy Week simply does not rise to that level of priority.

We say the liturgies are “too long.” But we will sit through hours of what we enjoy without complaint. The truth is not that they are too long, it is that our hearts are not yet engaged. We say we “don't understand” them. But instead of leaning in, learning, and allowing ourselves to grow, we step back. We remain spectators in a faith that demands participation.

And perhaps the hardest truth: Holy Week makes us uncomfortable. Holy Thursday calls us to humility and service (we are not comfortable participating in the washing of the feet). Good Friday confronts us with suffering and sacrifice. The Easter Vigil asks us to wait in darkness before receiving the light. These are not easy experiences. They demand something from us: time, attention, surrender.

But that is exactly the point. I am sorry to say this but, as your Pastor, I care about you, so we cannot claim to celebrate the Resurrection if we are unwilling to walk with Christ through His Passion. We cannot rejoice at Easter if we have avoided the Cross. Faith that costs us nothing ultimately changes us very little.

Holy Week is not an optional extra for the especially devout. It is the center of the Christian life. To stay away is not just to miss beautiful liturgies, it is to miss the very mystery that gives meaning to everything we believe.

So perhaps my question this year is not, “Will I go?” The question is more direct: “If Christ gave everything for me, why am I holding back from Him?”

Perhaps the invitation this year is simple: take one step closer. Attend one liturgy you have never attended before. Stay a little longer. Enter a little deeper. You may discover that what once felt long or unfamiliar becomes deeply meaningful.

Legacy Night is just 2 short weeks away! Ticket sales end April 2. Purchase tickets online, in the school office, or after Mass this weekend.

Looking to participate and support St. Joseph School, but can't attend Legacy Night?

Both guests in attendance at our Legacy Night fundraiser and those unable to attend will be able to participate in the online Legacy Night silent auction. Scan the QR code or visit <https://www.32auctions.com/SJLegacyNight2026> to access the silent auction. New items are being added daily.



All participants must create an account. The parish and school have used this auction platform in the past, so you may have an account already. If so, simply login. If not, sign up for an account by adding your name, email, and mobile phone number. **Your mobile phone number and email are important as the site will send outbid notifications to you.**

Bidding begins April 8th at 5pm and concludes April 11th at 7:15pm. Happy bidding!

We are profoundly grateful for the continued support of our parish community. Your prayers, presence, and generosity are vital to St. Joseph School.

With gratitude,
Mrs. Mary Kiefer, Principal



FAITH FORMATION



ELEMENTARY students will meet this **Wednesday, April 1** from 5:30 - 6:30 pm in the parish center.



CONFIRMATION - Shadow Stations performance is this week. Call time for students is 6:00 pm. We will meet in the church basement.



Our **FIRST COMMUNION** students participated in a retreat this weekend as part of their preparation to receive the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist for the first time. It was a special time of learning, prayer, and growing closer to Jesus.

Please keep these students in your prayers as they continue their final weeks of preparation. They will receive this beautiful Sacrament on Sunday, April 19.

CHOIR

Upcoming Choir Rehearsals

Traditional Choir:
4/1 - 6:00 PM
Parish Center

Guitar Choir:
3/31 - 6:00 PM
Parish Center Music Room

Full Schedule available online at:
<https://www.menomoneiacatholic.org/liturgical-ministry>

BLOOD DRIVE



American Red Cross

Blood Drive
Monday, March 30th
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM - Charles Hall

Call **1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)** or visit **RedCrossBlood.org** and enter: **stjosephmenomonie** to schedule an appointment or scan the QR code.



*Contact Linda at the Parish Center at 715-232-4922 to volunteer to greet donors and similar tasks.

Shadow Stations 2026



WEDNESDAY.
APRIL 1
8:00 PM

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH
921 WILSON AVE
MENOMONIE, WI

Entering the Holiest Week of the Year

Holy Week is the most sacred time of the Church's year. We remember and walk with Jesus through His triumphant entry into Jerusalem, and His suffering, death and Resurrection. These are the events through which **Jesus Christ gave His life for each one of us and rose again in victory over sin and death.**

We warmly invite you to walk with us through this Holy Week: join us receiving Jesus' love, and rejoicing in the new life He gives.

Palm Sunday, March 28-29

Saturday-4:00 p.m., Sunday-8:30 & 10:15 a.m.



Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem –
Anthony van Dyck

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday. We are invited to enter Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem, where crowds welcomed Him with palm branches and praise. At the beginning of Mass, we will take up palm branches as they are blessed.

During the same Mass we will hear the **Passion of the Lord**, the story of Jesus suffering and death. In this powerful moment we see the depth of Christ's love. He freely embraced the cross **for the salvation of each one of us.**

Office for Catechesis & Evangelization, Diocese of La Crosse

Preparation Days, March 30-April 1

Monday-8AM, Tuesday-7AM, Wednesday-8AM

The early days of Holy Week are a time to quiet down and prepare our hearts for the saving events of the **Paschal Mystery—Jesus' suffering, death, and Resurrection.**

Don't miss the opportunity to receive the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**, where we encounter God's mercy and are strengthened to enter fully into the events of Holy Week.

On Tuesday of Holy Week, **March 31st at 10:30 a.m., Bishop Battersby celebrates the Chrism Mass at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral in La Crosse.** All are welcome to attend. The holy oils used in the Church's Sacraments are blessed and consecrated. During this Mass, the priests of the Diocese renew their priestly promises.

Holy Thursday – The Lord's Supper - 7:00 PM

Holy Thursday begins the Sacred Triduum, the three holy days that lead us from the Last Supper to the Resurrection.

At the Last Supper, Jesus gave us two great gifts:

- **The Holy Eucharist**, His true Body and Blood
- **The priesthood**, as ordained men act in the person of Christ and give us the Eucharist to this day.



The Last Supper –
Leonardo da Vinci

In imitation of Christ, who washed His Apostles' feet at the Last Supper as a sign of His love and call to service, the washing of feet may take place during Mass this evening. Jesus said to His Apostles, and to us, "A new commandment I give to you, Love one another as I have loved you." (John 13:34)

At the end of Mass, the Blessed Sacrament is carried in procession to Charles Hall for a place of quiet prayer, commemorating Jesus' time of prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane. You are welcome to stay until 10:00 PM to **watch and pray with the Lord.**

Good Friday – The Passion of the Lord - 1:00 PM

Good Friday is a solemn day when we commemorate the death of Jesus on the cross.



The Crucifixion
– Giovanni
Sagrestani

We gather to

- hear the **Gospel of the Passion**, which includes the events of Jesus being condemned to death, His suffering, and death
- **venerate the holy Cross**
- **receive Holy Communion** from hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday

It is a day of quiet sorrow and reflection. Between **12:00–3:00 p.m.**, quietly reflect on the depth of Christ's love for us as He hung upon the Cross for our salvation. The mystery of **God's love was revealed most clearly in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross.**

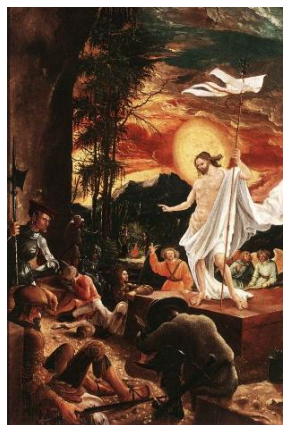
Holy Saturday – The Easter Vigil - 8:30 PM

Holy Saturday is a day of stillness and waiting, continuing the atmosphere of Good Friday, as the Church keeps vigil.

After sunset we celebrate the **Easter Vigil**, the most beautiful and joyful liturgy of the year. Beginning in darkness, the Vigil has four clearly defined parts:

- The **Blessing of the Fire**, when the Paschal Candle – the symbol of the risen Christ – is lit and fills the church with light
- The **Liturgy of the Word**, hearing God's saving plan as recorded in Scripture
- The **Sacraments of Initiation** for new members of the Church
- The celebration of the **Eucharist**, as we rejoice in receiving the risen Christ in Holy Communion.

Easter Sunday – The Resurrection of the Lord 8:30 & 10:15 AM



The Resurrection of Jesus
– Albrecht Altdorfer

Easter is to be the celebration of **Jesus Christ rising from the dead.**

We invite you and your family to join us during Holy Week and Easter. We know Jesus lives, and so, new life is possible for all who believe; hope drives out fear and love is stronger than death. **Don't Miss It!**

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Fr. Mano, fr.mano@menomoniecatholic.org
Principal: Mary Kiefer, mary.kiefer@menomoniecatholic.org
Business Manager: Tiffany Clark, tiffany.clark@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

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 you will be contacted by a local member. Or contact Bob Brahmstadt Grand Knight at KC2055GK@gmail.com.



Join Our Parish Community:

Contact Nicki Welsch, or click on "I'M NEW" 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.

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 Colleen Berg. 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):

Kathy Timm (sister-in-law of Linda Kostuch)
David Kosloski (uncle of Linda Kostuch)
Constance "Connie" Holden
Chloe Lindsay (granddaughter of Mike & Ruth Kasten)
Gloria Welch Ziehl
Carrie J. Larson
Steve Schaefer (nephew of Roger & Mary Schaefer)
Lori Barney (daughter of Gerald & Marlys Lausted)
Barbara A. Shannon
Betty J. Hunter
Helen Larson
Eugene H. "Shag" Skjegstad
Joseph A. "Joe" Justus
Jim Lorimer (brother-in-law of Bob Peters)

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. NAMES WILL REMAIN ON THE WEBSITE PRAYER LIST FOR TWELVE MONTHS. UNLESS OTHERWISE REQUESTED..

Karen Kundy
Vi Traxler
Bev Rogers
Monica Scott
Mary Baier
Diana Piontek
Pat Pizzi
Marge Zeilinger
Shirley Faber
Ashly (daughter-in-law of Robert & Rene Brahmstadt)

Maria Varsho
Ann Blades
Chris Stodola
Stevie
Melissa
(niece of Janeene Gellerman)
Dolores & John Vogel
(Parents of Theresa Caturia)
Sue Halama
(daughter-in-law of Rozanne)
Joseph (son of Mary)
Lorraine Sedahl

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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