

# The Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time November 11 & 12, 2023

## **St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Parish**

707 Eagle Street, P. O. Box 130, Genoa, WI 54632

Website: [www.stcharlesgenoa.org](http://www.stcharlesgenoa.org)

Parish Office: 608-689-2642 Email: [office@stcharlesgenoa.org](mailto:office@stcharlesgenoa.org)

Pastor: Fr. Daniel Sedlacek

[frdanielsedlacek@gmail.com](mailto:frdanielsedlacek@gmail.com)

## **Mass Schedule & Intentions for November 13 - 19, 2023**

<b>11/13/23</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
11/14/23	Tuesday	8:30 AM † Jerry Garvalia
<b>11/15/23</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
11/16/23	Thursday	8:00 AM † Clarence Haydysch
11/17/23	Friday	8:00 AM † Robert Dyer
11/18/23	Saturday	4:00 PM † Andrew Lee
11/19/23	Sunday	9:30 AM People of St. Charles

### **Ministry Volunteers**

#### **Lectors**

Sat. Nov. 18: 4:00 PM: Tom Jeffers  
Sun. Nov. 19: 9:30 AM: Chris Magnuson

#### **Servers**

Sat. Nov. 18: 4:00 PM: Volunteers  
Sun. Nov. 19: 9:30 AM: Perpetual Mitchell;  
Henry & Oscar Levendoski

#### **Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion**

Sun. Nov. 19: 9:30 AM: Priscilla Martin

*If you would like to participate as Lector, Server, or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion please call Tom Jeffers at (608) 689-2683*

#### **Gift Bearers**

Please sign up your family on the sign-up sheet in the back of church or contact Kelly Hutchinson.

#### **Rosary Leaders**

Sat. Nov. 18: 4:00 PM: Volunteer  
Sun. Nov. 19: 9:30 AM: Volunteer

#### **Sacrificial Giving Tabulation**

Mon. Nov. 13: Ed & Priscilla Martin; Tom Naegle  
Mon. Nov. 20: Conrad & Nancy Kirby; Keith Magnuson

#### **Ushers (November 2023)**

Saturday: Steve Woodhouse & Larry Kelsey  
Sunday: Keith Magnuson & Arnie Trussoni

### **Sacraments and Prayers**

#### **Church Hours**

The church is open every day from 7 AM - 7 PM.

#### **Confession:**

Saturdays: 3:15 PM - 3:45 PM  
Sundays: 8:45 AM - 9:15 AM  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

#### **Eucharistic Adoration:**

1<sup>st</sup> Fridays: After the 8 AM Mass  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**Baptism:** Contact parish at least 2 months prior: 608-689-2642

**Marriage:** Contact parish at least 6 months prior to the wedding to schedule a date and preparation meetings with the parish priest.

#### **Anointing of the Sick and Homebound**

Inform the parish office at (608) 689-2642 if someone is seriously ill and needs the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

**Prayer Requests** - Call 608-689-2642 - requests will be passed to Father Sedlacek & the prayer chain.

#### **Sacrificial Giving:** November 4 & 5, 2023

<u>Estimated Weekly Need</u>	<u>\$7,032.69</u>
Adult Envelopes	\$4,902.00
Plate Offering	\$ 218.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$5,120.00</b>

## From the Pastor's Desk State of the Parish

Peace to you! I hope that all of you can come on over to enjoy the School Pancake Breakfast and Bingo Sunday morning! The proceeds go to our parish school to help pay our teachers' salaries.

After the Feast of our Patron, St. Charles Borromeo, and reflecting on the many blessings of our parish, I thought it would be good to give a little "State of the Parish" reflection today. There are various aspects to assessing the state of a parish community, but it seems to me there are two main categories: Spiritual and Temporal.

The spiritual state of a parish community involves the life of grace, which would include tangible/visible things such as reception of sacraments, Mass attendance, works of charity and Christian service, care for the parish community members, growth in ministries (such as visiting the homebound, religious education, our school, etc...). The spiritual state of a parish also involves less visible realities such as deeper conversion, growth in faith, habits of prayer among individuals and in our homes, and personal study of the teachings of Jesus.

In my estimation, the following are noteworthy "data points" concerning the spiritual health of our parish.

- In the past year, we have lost 8 parishioners to death. We have had 6 baptisms. 4 confirmations. 8 first Holy Communions. We have at least 14 parishioners who are homebound or in assisted living/nursing homes.
- We have just about 200 families on our parish registry. Our average weekend Mass attendance is about 140.
- There have been 140+ confessions heard at St. Charles. Which is up from 127 in 2022 and 85 in 2021.
- We started OCIA just over a year ago. Since then, we have had 12 participants.
- Our daily Mass attendance is about 3-8 people (not including school children or staff).
- School Enrollment (4K-6<sup>th</sup> grade) is 21 students. In comparison, our enrollment was 36 in 2017.

The temporal state of our parish concerns things like finances, buildings and grounds, giving, capital campaigns, and other goods of this world. Some important aspects of the temporal state of our parish for this past year include, in my estimation:

- We met and exceeded our 5-year Capital Campaign goal of \$215,000! To date, we have \$234,566.25 pledged. We have received \$91,882.07 to date, with \$49,693.34 of that amount designated for our parish projects, beginning with our bell tower repairs, then moving on to our church basement repairs.
- Our Offertory giving (envelopes) was \$159,000 for the year. This is down from \$166,300 last year and \$174,500 in 2018. Total income was \$347,437.
- This past year our expenses were \$402,012 which means that we operated at a deficit of \$54,575 last year. We also operated at a deficit 2021-2022. We are budgeted (educated guess) to be about at a \$50,000 deficit this coming fiscal year (2023-2024).
- How did we come to being so far in the red? It has been a combination of factors. Less offertory from fewer parishioners, less tuition from the school, plus rising costs. We had been looking at a steadily growing budget deficit for the past several years, but some of that was softened by the Payroll Protection Plan money we received in 2020. Now that that money has been used, we have seen in the past two years the real financial picture of our parish.

Where do we go from here? I am, of course, very open to hearing your thoughts and ideas. I propose a few ways we can focus our efforts and come together for the good of our parish community, just like we did for the Capital Campaign.

1. Focus on prayer and growing closer to God. We are not only facing temporal hurdles, but spiritual forces as well. Each of us must commit ourselves to growing in holiness by daily prayer, weekly Mass, regular Confession, and service to others. What is your spiritual growth plan for this year?
2. Focus on evangelization. Numbers are not everything, but Jesus has commanded us to spread the Good News. There are many people whom God is calling to be members of our parish or to re-engage in their Catholic Faith. Reaching out to others will help both the spiritual and temporal state of our parish.
3. On the temporal side, I propose at least a three-prong approach. A) Increase our giving to the parish according to our means. I encourage us to do this via the Diocesan Annual Appeal. The reason being that, all the money given above our "goal" comes back to our parish "tax-free." I will explain this more next week. B) Outreach to St. Charles School alumni. Our school is our parish's biggest expense (about 80-85% of our budget). We have hundreds of alumni who have moved away from our parish, but who are still connected to us. They can help our school to continue to operate. Let me know if you would like to help with this

outreach effort. C) Being more intentional about our giving. For example, utilizing the Scrip program or Kwik Trip rewards program. Estate planning and Planned Giving. Setting up your giving via ACH or Bill Pay so that if you are out of town, you are still giving to the parish offertory.

Despite the challenges that we face, both spiritual and temporal, Jesus Christ is Lord and He is with us! The Church and our parish have faced many challenges in the past, but God has helped us through them. I am confident that if we stay close to Him, grow in our faith in Him, and work together, then our parish will remain strong for many more years to come and will bear great fruit.

St. Charles Borromeo, pray for us!  
-Fr. Daniel Sedlacek

## **St. Charles Parish News**

### **St. Charles School Pancake breakfast and BINGO - Sun. November 12th**

Pancake (regular and pumpkin) breakfast served from 10-11:30 AM, Bingo played from 11 AM – 1 PM. Put on by the St. Charles School PTO. There will also be a Bake Sale put on by the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. If you'd like to volunteer or donate baked goods for the bake sale, please reach out to Jessie Cina 608-780-1148 or [stcharlespto@outlook.com](mailto:stcharlespto@outlook.com)

### **Christmas Wreaths**

The Women's Group pies have been made and delivered. **Thank you so much to everyone** for helping us support St. Charles Borromeo Church and School. We still have wreaths available, so remember to place your orders soon. Wreaths will be ready for pick up November 18-19 after Mass and November 25-26 after Mass --- near the parish garage. Order forms are due back by November 13<sup>th</sup>. Price is \$25.00 for a 24-inch wreath.

### **Inspired by the Spirit Campaign Information about Fulfilling Pledges**

Some of you have asked for clarification about when you will receive reminders to fulfill your IBTS Capital Campaign pledges. If you pledged to give annually, then you will receive your annual reminders the month you made your pledge (likely May or June). If quarterly, then every 3 months starting from when you made your pledge (so, Sept, Dec, March, June). If monthly, then on or near the 15<sup>th</sup> of every month.

If someone wants to change **when** they receive their pledge reminders (perhaps they want it in December rather than June), then you can **contact the Office of Stewardship and Development at the Diocese of La Crosse in writing, either by email or via USPS**. They can send their pledge reminder with their preferred schedule. They prefer written requests, so we have a proper paper trail. But they can also work with phone calls, too. Email: [jreiter@diolc.org](mailto:jreiter@diolc.org). Mail: Office of Stewardship 3710 East Ave S, PO Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Phone: 608.791.2685

### **OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) Gatherings**

Our parish is offering an opportunity for adults to learn more about the Catholic Faith. Our gatherings are opportunities to learn more, find answers to your questions, and grow in faith without needing to commit to becoming Catholic. Our gatherings are on Sundays after the 9:30 AM Mass. Nov 19, Dec 3, Dec 17.

### **Pilgrimage for Life - January 17-21, 2024**

The Office of Family Life at the Diocese is excited to offer the Pilgrimage for Life. We will be traveling by coach bus to Washington, DC to participate in the annual March for Life. This opportunity is for anyone ages 13 and up. The estimated cost is estimated to be \$400 per person. All information and registration link can be found at <https://diolc.org/youth/youth-opportunities/pilgrimage-for-life/>

### **“the Answer” Eucharistic Rally – June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Save the Date! The Diocese of La Crosse is very excited to announce “the Answer” Eucharistic Rally that will be held on June 7, 2024 at the La Crosse Center in La Crosse, WI. This event kicks off the six days that the Marian Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage will be in the Diocese of La Crosse. The day will include Mass, Adoration, Confession, powerful speakers such as Chris Stefanick, Immaculee Ilibagiza, and Josh Rosa, music from Luke Spehar, and plenty of vendors. The cost for this event is only \$15 per person. This rally is for youth, young adults, adults, families, etc. Tickets will go on sale Dec. 15, 2023. You can find more information about the event and the other days the Marian Route will be in our diocese by visiting: <https://diolc.org/the-answer/>.

## St. Charles School News

### Help Our Parish and School by Buying Gas and Groceries?

Did you know that you can help our parish and school just by buying gas and groceries? Scrip is a program which gives a percentage of your purchases from participating stores back to the charity of your choice. Last year, Scrip raised \$1,284.41 for our parish and school. How does it work? 1) Purchase Scrip gift cards for the store of your choice (Kwik Trip, Walmart, and many more). 2) Use them and earn money for our school! How do you buy gift cards? A) Directly through [raiseright.com](https://raiseright.com) or the Raise Right app. Stores potentially offer physical cards, physical cards you can reload from the app, and electronic gift cards you can use on the app. B) A couple of times a year, the PTO puts in a bulk order of physical cards. At those times, you can fill out an order form we will make available. Feel free to share with family and friends. Reach out to Megan Olson with any questions [mjtrussoni@gmail.com](mailto:mjtrussoni@gmail.com).

### Other News from the Diocese and our Community

#### Advent Christmas Fair – Nov 18

Saturday, November 18 from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm at Blessed Sacrament Parish, La Crosse. Visit or have a photo with St. Nick or our Living Advent Candles. Raffle Baskets, Giving Tree, Children's Secret Store, Grandma's Pantry, Cache of Jewelry, Catholic Family Room, Attic Treasures, Book Nook (with kids corner while you shop). St. Lucy Cinnamon Rolls from 8:00 am - 10:00 am. Lunch from 11:00 am - 1:30 pm. Lunch is \$5 and includes: pulled pork / bun (add your own sauce), chips, cookie & beverage.

#### St. Mary's Annual Craft Show – Sat. Dec. 2

Come join the fun and find that one of a kind gift for the Holiday Season from several local vendors and crafters. Open from 8:00 AM-2:00 PM at the Coon Valley Village Hall, 108 Roosevelt St. Concessions available throughout the show. Free admission! Visit our website: [www.stmarycv.org/craft-show](http://www.stmarycv.org/craft-show) or contact Nancy Peters at 608-790-6034 [Peters@mwt.net](mailto:Peters@mwt.net)

#### Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale – Sat., December 2<sup>nd</sup> 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral, 530 Main Street, La Crosse. Sponsored by The Cathedral PCCW. Elevator access to the undercroft (downstairs) and free parking in the church lot. Raffle, Baked Goods, Candy, and many beautiful and unique items.

#### The Greccio Experience - Nov. 29 to Dec. 17, 2023

In 1223 (800 years ago), St. Francis set up a live nativity scene in a cave in the quaint Italian village of

Greccio. Creches (nativity scenes) will be on display for self-guided tours, Monday-Friday at San Damiano Chapel, Viterbo University Campus. \*Entrance on Franciscan Way. A prayer service will be held at 5:30 p.m. on opening night, Nov. 29.

#### Donations to help Jail Ministry

Frequently, when inmates leave jail they are in dire need of warm clothing and boots. Please donate these items at Coulee Life in Onalaska, it is right off Sand Lake Road next to Sand Lake Elementary from 9 to 6 Monday through Friday. To see additional ideas for donations, visit our website: <https://lacrossejailministry.org/>

#### “Hope’s Door” Pregnancy and Family Resource Center

Hope’s Door is being planned as a state-of-the-art pregnancy resource center for the La Crosse area. It will be an interfaith, Christ-centered facility that will offer compassionate assistance to women and families, including mentoring and classes, as well as medical resources like ultrasounds and abortion pill reversal treatment. Its services will be in harmony with Catholic teaching. Bishop Callahan is encouraging the faithful to offer their prayers and financial support to Hope’s Door. To see a flyer and brochure, visit [www.dioc.org/respect-life](http://www.dioc.org/respect-life)

#### Post-Abortion Healing

Do you know someone who is carrying the grief and sorrow of past abortions? Project Rachel Ministry offers a compassionate heart and confidential help. Call 608.860.6698 or email [projectrachel@dioc.org](mailto:projectrachel@dioc.org).

### Parish Events Calendar

Sun. Nov. 12: PTO Pancake Breakfast and Bingo. Breakfast: 10-11:30 AM, Bingo: 11 AM – 1 PM

Wed. Nov. 14: Finance Council Meeting 6:30 PM

Thur. Nov. 16: Women’s Group Meeting 6:30 PM

Thur. Nov. 23: Thanksgiving Day Mass 8:00 AM. No Mass on Fri. Nov. 24.

Wed. Nov. 29: Middle School and High School Group 6:30-8:00 PM

Mon. Dec. 04: Healing Mass and Prayer Service in Cashton 5:30 PM

Thur. Dec. 14: Parish Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions 6:00 – 7:00 PM.