

# Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

## November 25 & 26, 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 27 – December 3, 2023**

<b>11/27/23</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
11/28/23	Tuesday	8:30 AM † Susanne Pedretti Cleghorn
<b>11/29/23</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
11/30/23	Thursday	8:00 AM † Tom Venner
<b>12/01/23</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
12/02/23	Saturday	4:00 PM † Michael Trussoni
12/03/23	Sunday	9:30 AM † Robert "Bob" Stevenson

### **Ministry Volunteers**

### **Sacraments and Prayers**

#### **Lectors**

Sat. Dec. 02: 4:00 PM: Tom Jeffers  
Sun. Dec. 03: 9:30 AM: Kelly Hutchison

#### **Servers**

Sat. Dec. 02: 4:00 PM: Volunteers  
Sun. Dec. 03: 9:30 AM: Nalani & Keilana Rodgers;  
Oscar Levendoski

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

Sun. Dec. 03: 9:30 AM: Dorothy Stokke

*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. Dec. 02: 4:00 PM: Volunteer  
Sun. Dec. 03: 9:30 AM: Volunteer

#### **Sacrificial Giving Tabulation**

Mon. Nov. 27: Arnie & Diane Pedretti;  
Dorothy Stokke  
Mon. Dec. 04: Tom & Pam Jeffers; Carolyn  
Umberger

#### **Ushers (December 2023)**

Saturday: John Nicklay & Tim Woodhouse  
Sunday: Conrad Kirby & Tom Urbanek

#### **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 18 & 19 2023

<u>Estimated Weekly Need</u>	<u>\$7,032.69</u>
Adult Envelopes	\$1,592.00
Plate Offering	\$ 261.10
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,853.10</b>

## From the Pastor's Desk

### Ask the Pastor Returns

Peace to you! I hope you all had a blessed and restful Thanksgiving! We have so many "talents" and blessings that God has given us and for which we should be grateful. The best way that I know of to show our gratitude to God is to attend Mass, which is call the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. "Eucharist" means "thanksgiving"!

I received some great **Ask the Pastor** questions from one of our 4<sup>th</sup> grade parishioners. I will answer the first this weekend and work on answer the other two next weekend (stay tuned!). I will do my best in answering!  
1) Why do they put purple coverings (purple specific) on the statues on Good Friday?

Answer: We actually put the purple (or "violet") coverings over the statues and other images in the church on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, 2 weeks before Easter, and leave them on until the Easter Vigil (the day after Good Friday). During these two weeks the readings and prayers at Mass focus on the increasing conflict and arguments between Jesus and the Jewish leaders and the sufferings that Jesus accepted to save us.

The tradition of veiling all sacred images in the church (crucifix, statues, etc...) from the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent until the Easter Vigil comes from the Gospel of John which tells us that not long before Jesus' death, the Jewish authorities tried to stone Jesus to death. And so, He "hid himself and left the temple" (John 8:59). Therefore, we have a visual reminder during those last two weeks of Lent of the fact that Jesus' divinity (that He was truly God) was "veiled" from human eyes (the Jewish leaders) during the time of His passion and death.

There are three spiritual lessons that covering statues during the last two weeks of Lent teach us. The first is that it shows us that those days are different and special. The purple coverings help us remember the importance of fasting and penance during the next two weeks. We even "fast from seeing" the beautiful statues and crucifix that we are used to seeing at church. Paradoxically, when we fast from visual stimuli, even those images which help us to focus in prayer, our awareness of them is intensified and renewed! This makes the revealing of the cross on Good Friday very powerful. We see with "new eyes" the crucifixion of Jesus and that it is the result of our sins and God's deep love for us.

A second spiritual lesson is that we cover or veil only holy things. Think about it. The chalice which holds the Precious Blood of Jesus after the consecration at Mass is veiled. Oftentimes the tabernacle which reserves the Holy Eucharist is veiled. The altar is "veiled" by the altar cloth(s). When doing Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament, the priest's hands are veiled. The blessed Virgin Mary is always depicted wearing a veil. Religious sisters and nuns are veiled. A bride at a wedding is veiled. All of these things are related.

Another spiritual point is that so often God and His power is hidden from our eyes. This is true on this side of death and eternity. There is a "veil" that prevents us from plainly seeing God, God's plan, the meaning of our suffering, and what happens after death. During Jesus' passion, death, and burial, Jesus passed through the veil that separates us from God and reconciles us to Him. He accomplished this through His Cross and Resurrection. When we put our trust in the Cross of Christ, the veil is lifted, if but for a moment, and we catch glimpses of the glory that God promises to those who love Jesus and follow Him.

St. Charles Borromeo, pray for us!

-Fr. Daniel Sedlacek

### **Formed ReviewsNalan**

On the website Formed, Episode 2 of *The Search* is a good study in trying to explain the soul. We talk so often about the soul, yet find it difficult to answer the question: What is my soul? In my younger years, after much soul-searching (pun intended) I became convinced that it was my brain. However, in this video, a stark distinction is made between the biological brain and the mind.

*The Search* video describes the physical brain, but then points out that biology cannot explain our mind. It challenges us to think: Why are we free to love? Why do we have a will? All of this is done in an easily understandable fashion. Is the mind our soul? Take the challenge. Watch the video. I recommend it as a good investment of 25 minutes.

-St. Charles Parishioner

## **St. Charles Parish News**

### **Holy Days and Christmas Masses**

Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and is a holy day of obligation. Mass times will be 8:15 AM and 7:00 PM that day.

Christmas is also a holy day of obligation and falls on a Monday this year. That means that Sunday, Dec 24 is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent in the morning and Christmas Eve in the evening. We will have the normal Masses for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent. For Christmas, we will have a 4 PM Mass on Sunday (Christmas Eve) and 9:30 AM Mass on Christmas morning. Mass attendance, there are two obligations to be fulfilled, the 1<sup>st</sup> for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> obligation for Christmas. You can fulfill those two obligations by attending one of each Mass (Saturday evening or Sunday morning, then Sunday evening or Monday morning).

### **Christmas Wreaths**

Thank you so much to everyone for helping us support St. Charles Parish and School by purchasing Christmas wreaths. Wreaths will be ready for pick up this weekend after Mass --- near the parish garage.

### **Joy to the World - Project Milk**

Joy to the World.... Advent is a time for Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. A season of candlelight, reflection, preparation and celebrating with gift giving. Help the Diocese of La Crosse Rural Life Committee spread joy to the world with a monetary gift to help support Project Milk. Project Milk was founded in 1984 to aid in feeding the poor children of Casa Hogar, Peru by providing whole fat milk powder. Each year Rural Life gathers monetary gifts to ship 40,000# of milk powder at an approximate cost of \$80,000. Advent is a perfect time to aid in controlling hunger and malnutrition. Your monetary gift is 100% used to feed these children. Feel the "Joy", give to Project Milk this Advent. Checks can be sent to the Diocese of La Crosse, 3710 East Ave S, La Crosse, WI 54601, with the memo line "Project Milk."

### **Fulfilling Pledges for the *Inspired by the Spirit* Capital Campaign**

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. Send your pledge reminder with their preferred schedule. They prefer written requests, so they have a proper paper trail. But they can also work with phone calls, too. Email: [jreiter@dioc.org](mailto:jreiter@dioc.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. Next meetings: 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://dioc.org/youth/youth-opportunities/pilgrimage-for-life/>

## **St. Charles School News**

### **Santa Sale – Items and Help Wanted**

If anyone is getting ready for the holiday visitors by cleaning out closets and cupboards, keep in mind saving items for our Santa Sale on December 15<sup>th</sup>. We could use like-new or gently used coffee cups, candles and holders, other knick-knacks, and items for men's gifts. We do have enough books, videos, and picture frames. We need a few volunteers to help kids shop or wrap gifts on the afternoon of December 15<sup>th</sup>. Contact Jessie Cina at [stcharlespto@outlook.com](mailto:stcharlespto@outlook.com) or the Parish/School Office.

## **Box Tops for Education**

We can support our School by buying Box Tops products, scanning our receipts, and turning them in via the Box Tops App. There are other ways to send in your earnings as well. Find more information in the church vestibule. Little by little, we can make a big difference!

## **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 [raiserright.com](http://raiserright.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**

### **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 2nd 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.

### **Healing Mass and Prayer Service – Dec. 4**

Are you in need of prayer for healing in spirit, mind, or body? We are ready to pray with you for God's gift of healing. On Monday, December 4, at Sacred Heart Church - Cashton there will be Confessions and Adoration starting at 4:30 pm; Mass at 5:30 pm; and a healing service beginning immediately after with Confessions and Adoration continuing. Catch the article on this important ministry in the latest issue of Catholic Life.

### **Cookie Walk and Craft Sale – Dec. 9**

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish will be holding their Cookie Walk & Craft Sale on Saturday, December 9, in the parish hall located at 206 Weston Street, La Crosse, from 7:30 am - 1:00 pm. Homemade cookies will be sold by the pound, plus

homemade candies, breads, pies, handcrafted items, Scrip gift cards, and raffles are available for sale. Serving continental breakfast and lunch (homemade soup and chili). Hourly Door Prizes.

### **Cookie Walk and Craft Sale – Dec. 9**

At Holy Trinity Parish, Leo Hall on Saturday, December 9. Cookie Walk (Fancy Cookies can be purchased by the pound) from 8:00 a.m. until gone; Craft Sale featuring 10 tables of crafts from local parishioners and vendors from 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

### **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.

### **“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)

## **Parish Events Calendar**

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

Sun. Dec. 03: Fellowship after 9:30 AM Mass. OCIA 10:30-Noon

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

Fri. Dec. 08: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. Holy Day of Obligation. Mass at 8:15 AM & 7:00 PM

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