

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time January 27 & 28, 2024

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Parish

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

Website: www.stcharlesgenoa.org

Parish Office: 608-689-2642

Email: office@stcharlesgenoa.org

Pastor: Fr. Daniel Sedlacek

frdanielsedlacek@gmail.com

Mass Schedule & Intentions for January 29 – February 4, 2024

01/29/24	Monday	NO MASS
01/30/24	Tuesday	8:30 AM † Kay Kozelka
01/31/24	Wednesday	NO MASS
02/01/24	Thursday	8:00 AM † Sue Bonales
02/02/24	Friday	8:00 AM † Alfred & Elizabeth Bornheimer
02/03/24	Saturday	4:00 PM † Kay Kozelka
02/04/24	Sunday	9:30 AM People of St. Charles

Ministry Volunteers

Lectors

Sat. Feb. 03: 4:00 PM: Stephanie Nicklay

Sun. Feb. 04: 9:30 AM: Tim Gillespie

Servers

Sat. Feb. 03: 4:00 PM: Grady & Reid Nicklay

Sun. Feb. 04: 9:30 AM: Easton Eckes; Henry & Oscar Levendoski

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Sun. Feb. 03: 9:30 AM: Marj Gillespie

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/Volunteer

Sat. Feb. 03: 4:00 PM: Volunteer

Sun. Feb. 04: 9:30 AM: Volunteer

Sacrificial Giving Tabulation

Mon. Jan. 29: Ed & Priscilla Martin; Tom Naegle

Mon. Feb. 05: Tom & Pam Jeffers; Carolyn Umberger

Ushers (February 2024)

Saturday: John Nicklay & Tim Woodhouse

Sunday: Conrad Kirby & Tom Urbanek

Sacraments and Prayer

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

2nd Thursdays: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Eucharistic Adoration

1st Fridays: After the 8 AM Mass

2nd 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: January 20 & 21, 2024

Estimated Weekly Need	\$7,032.69
Adult Envelopes	\$ 962.00
Plate Offering	\$ 145.00
Catholic Times	\$ 20.00
Total:	\$1,127.00

From the Pastor's Desk

Be Disciples, Make Disciples: Part 2

Peace to you! In my homilies the past two weekends I introduced my "mission" for St. Charles Parish, which can be summarized with four words: "Be disciples, make disciples." All of us are meant to be missionary disciples. The vision I proposed included of a vibrant parish community where all people of this area are invited to grow closer to Jesus. Imagine if each of us invited one person to grow closer to Jesus and even 25 or 50 per cent of people accepted! Each of us ended up at St. Charles because we had at least one guiding "star" or an "Andrew" who followed Jesus before us. They introduced us to Him and invited us to follow Him too. We are to be "stars" that guide others to where Jesus is and "Andrews" who walk with others in friendship and true brotherhood, following Jesus together.

I preached this past weekend about how to "cast the net" as we try to be "fishers of men." How does one invite others to become disciples? I mentioned 5 key stages or aspects of doing this effectively.

- 1) **Friendship.** First with God (as a disciple of Jesus), and then with other people.
- 2) **Notice God the Holy Spirit's presence and work in people's lives.**
- 3) **Affirm and point out God's presence and encourage.**
- 4) **Invite.** Make an invitation for your friend to take one more step into following Jesus.
- 5) **Walk with them.** This friendship is for the long-haul.

There is a lot to say about each of these aspects of being an "Andrew" or a "fisher of men." And there likely are other aspects as well. None of us will do any of this perfectly, but that is ok. Not everyone will accept an invitation to follow Jesus. However, some people will! What greater thing in this life could there be than to introduce someone to Jesus or to walk with them into a deeper friendship with Jesus?

Imagine the greatest and most effective missionary in the world, who could bring 1,000 people every year to faith in Jesus Christ. If he did this for 50 years, he would bring 50,000 people to Jesus! But that rate, it would take over 100,000 years to reach every person on earth. Jesus had a different way of bringing the Good News to others. He started with a small group of disciples in whom He invested most of His time. Those apostles went out and did the same. And their disciples did the same. But it didn't take long for multitudes of people to hear the Gospel and choose to follow Jesus, even at the risk of their life.

With Jesus' way, the effects begin slowly. For example, one missionary disciple who reaches three others makes four. If each of those three new disciples reaches three others, the total becomes thirteen. Imagine if all continued to go ideally well; after seven cycles, the total number could reach nearly 1,000, and after 13 cycles, more than 500,000. At this rate, the entire world could be reached in just 22 cycles. All those are within one lifetime of the original disciple! While human weakness and failure will always be present along the way, this model, while purely mathematical, illustrates the potential effect one missionary disciple can have in bringing the salvation of Christ to the whole world! Why not begin here and now?

St. Charles Borromeo, pray for us!

-Fr. Sedlacek

St. Charles Parish News

Thank you – From the Furlano family

Evie Furlano's family extends their heartfelt gratitude to St. Charles Church and school for all of the prayers, love and support received during this difficult time. Thank you to all who donated their time to work in the school kitchen to serve the meal or baked the many delicious desserts. We were touched by the beautiful Mass and music. We appreciate everyone that made Evie's Mass so special. Our family feels very blessed.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

There are a few national-level collections that happen each year, one of them is the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, which is used to combat poverty in the United States. Envelopes are in the back of church for those who would like to contribute. They need to be turned in next weekend (Feb. 3-4).

2023 Contribution Statements

Please take a moment to retrieve your 2023 Contribution Statement in the vestibule. They are organized alphabetically by last name. It will help us save on postage. Thank you for your generosity to our parish.

Ash Wednesday – Feb. 14

Please note that Ash Wednesday is on Wednesday, February 14th this year. Mass times at St. Charles will be 8:15 AM and 7:00 PM that day.

Ash Wednesday is one of two days when Catholics are required to fast (Good Friday is the 2nd day). This means eating only one meal that day. You can have two small “snacks” that together don’t equal a 2nd meal. Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence from eating meat.

St. Charles Parish Mission – Lent 2024

All are welcome to attend our St. Charles mission! A parish mission helps to foster spiritual renewal and growth for the members of our parish (non-parishioners are very welcome!). The parish mission will take place over the course of 3 Sundays after the 9:30 AM Mass, and will include inspiring talks, time for prayer, opportunities to go to Confession, and fellowship. Here is a tentative schedule of the Parish Mission.

Sunday, February 18 – “Finding God in Everything” by Chris Rogers, Director of Family Life for the Diocese of La Crosse

Sunday, February 25 – “Putting First Things First: The Keys to Enkindling Deep Devotion to the Eucharist” by Chris Carstens, Director of Sacred Worship for the Diocese of La Crosse

Sunday, March 3 – “Stay With Us, Lord” by Fr. Sedlacek and Eucharistic Miracles Display -Pat Brueggen

50th Wedding Anniversary in 2024?

Attention all parishioners who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this year (2024). Please alert us by putting your name down on the sheet in the back of church or by calling/emailing the parish office. Thanks!

Snow Shovellers NEEDED

We need some men of the parish to help with snow removal at St. Charles this winter. Contact Fr. Sedlacek for more info. Thank you!

Birthright Baby Bottle Campaign

The annual fundraiser for Birthright of La Crosse is here. Birthright is an international volunteer organization with a La Crosse chapter since 1976. Birthright is available to those with an unintended pregnancy to provide information, a listening space, and love, along with referrals and emotional and spiritual support when needed. The bottles/envelopes will be available to take home Sat., January 20, 2024 and Sunday January 21. Please return all donations to St. Charles by Sunday, February 25. Thank you and know your support will be appreciated by moms, dads, and babies to be.

On Formed! The Catholic Parent

As a parent, do you feel like it's almost impossible to raise holy kids who love God (and sit still in Mass!) in our modern world? You are not alone! “The Catholic Parent” is a six-episode series on Formed.org features real Catholic families sharing their daily struggles and victories. Created by the Augustine Institute and Catholic Sprouts, *The Catholic Parent* encourages moms and dads as you embrace your God-given role to form your families in the Catholic faith. Watch today!

St. Charles School News

Open House at St. Charles School – Sun. Jan. 28th

Is your child starting 4K or Kindergarten this coming school year? Considering different education options for your 4K-6th grade children? Come join us for an open house at St. Charles School on Sunday, January 28th from 10:30-11:30 AM (after the 9:30 AM Mass). The open house includes tours of the school, learning about our education program, and meeting St. Charles school teachers and staff. All families are welcome to attend and learn more about our school.

Happy Catholic Schools Week!

Sunday, January 28th – Sat. February 3rd. We will be celebrating our Catholic school by raising money for Project Heifer, reading bible stories, a field trip for snow tubing, a board game day, and Author’s Chair and family lunch.

2024-2025 Aquinas Catholic Schools Enrollment

Enrollment for Cathedral Elementary School, St. Patrick Elementary School, Blessed Sacrament Elementary School, Aquinas Middle School, and Aquinas High School opened on January 22 for New Families.

Save the Date!

PTO Meeting: Tuesday Feb. 6th at 5:30pm in the school gym.

Fish Fries during Lent. More details coming soon!

Spring Carnival: Sunday, April 21st at the school. Volunteers are needed for that day and for set up.

SCRIP Gift Cards

Earn money back for St. Charles Parish by purchasing gift cards. If you missed the deadline for ordering physical gift cards, you can still purchase cards on the RaiseRight app. Contact Megan Olson with questions: Mjtrussoni@gmail.com or 608-385-7815.

Other News from the Diocese and our Community

Youth Guild Event at the Shrine – Feb 10

Join the celebration of the feast of St. José Sánchez del Río, February 10th, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, in La Crosse, WI. Children and families are especially invited! The day include talks, veneration of many young saints' relics, opportunities to ask questions, and more. GuadalupeShrine.org/events

Retrouvaille – Feb 16-18

Marriage in Distress? No matter how hopeless it seems, forgiveness and trust are possible. Retrouvaille is a Catholic-based program that helps couples through difficult times in their marriages, some even after separation or divorce. It is not counseling or group therapy. The next program begins with a weekend on February 16-18, 2024 in the Wausau area. Call 1-877-922-HOPE (4673). Fully Confidential. More at www.HelpOurMarriage.org
No couple is turned away for lack of finances.

St. Patrick Catholic Church Lenten Friday Fish Fry, Onalaska, WI

St. Patrick's School Gymnasium. Corner of 11th and Main St., Onalaska, WI. Serving 5 to 7:30 pm on February 16, 23, March 1, 8, 15, 22
\$15 3-piece Fish Dinner, \$12 2-piece Fish Dinner
\$9 1-piece fish or grilled cheese dinner. FREE Grilled Cheese dinner to children age 5 and under. Dine-in meals include: Baked or batter-fried Cod, Baked potato or fries, Salad bar, Dinner roll, Coffee or milk. (Beer, wine, soda, and desserts are available for an additional cost.) Carryout Available: Priced as above - coleslaw instead of salad bar.

"the Answer" Eucharistic Rally - June 7

Discover and embrace the gift of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. Your whole life, you have been looking for

the answer to the meaning of life, your purpose, your dreams, and your difficulties. We have been given the answer to all of it. "the Answer" Eucharistic Rally will be held on June 7, 2024 at the La Crosse Center in La Crosse, WI. This event kicks off the first day that 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 middle and high school youth, young adults, adults, families, etc. Tickets are now on sale! You can find more information about the event by visiting <https://diolc.org/the-answer>. St. Charles Parish is hoping to bring many parishioners, so please let Fr. Sedlacek know if you are interested.

Post-Abortion Healing Ministry

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@diolc.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.diolc.org/respect-life

Parish Events Calendar

Sun-Sat Jan. 28 – Feb. 3: Catholic Schools Week

Sun. Jan. 28: Open House at St. Charles School 10:30-11:30 AM

Wed. Feb. 07: High School and Middle School Religious Education 6:30-8:00 PM

Thur. Feb. 08: Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions 6:00-7:00 PM. Women's Group meeting 6:30 PM

Wed. Feb. 14: Ash Wednesday. Mass times: 8:15 AM and 7:00 PM.

Parish Mission: Sundays February 18, February 25, and March 3 after the 9:30 AM Mass.