

The Third Sunday in Advent December 15, 2024

St. Charles Borromeo 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

fdanielsedlacek@gmail.com

Mass Schedule & Intentions for December 16 – 22, 2024

12/16/24	Monday	NO MASS
12/17/24	Tuesday	8:30 AM † Lynn Umberger
12/18/24	Wednesday	NO MASS
12/19/24	Thursday	8:00 AM † Judy Johnson
12/20/24	Friday	8:00 AM † Lynn Umberger
12/21/24	Saturday	4:00 PM † Holy Souls in Purgatory
12/22/24	Sunday	9:30 AM People of St. Charles

Ministry Volunteers

Lectors

Sat. Dec. 21: 4:00 PM: Kathy Pedretti

Sun. Dec. 22: 9:30 AM: Travis Klinkner

Servers

Sat. Dec. 21: 4:00 PM: Volunteers

Sun. Dec. 22: 9:30 AM: Abigail Mitchell; Henry
& Oscar Levendoski

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Sun. Dec. 22: 9:30 AM: Priscilla Martin

Sacrificial Giving Tabulation

Tue. Dec. 17: Conrad & Nancy Kirby, Keith
Magnuson

Mon. Dec. 23: Arnie & Diane Pedretti; Dorothy
Stokke

Ushers (December 2024)

Saturday: John Nicklay; Tim Woodhouse

Sunday: Conrad Kirby; Tom Urbanek;
Chris Stokke

Prayer Requests

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

Sacraments and Prayer

Church Hours

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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
meeting 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.

Sacrificial Giving Dec. 7 & 8, 2024

Estimated Weekly Need	\$7,032.69
Adult Envelopes	\$5,547.00
Plate Offering	\$ 210.00
Votive Candles	\$ 21.00
Religious Education	\$ 30.00
Support Our School	\$ 500.00
Total	\$6,308.00

From the Pastor's Desk

Gaudete, Venite, Latine

Peace to you! I hope you all had a blessed week. The Kairos retreat for the High School students went very well last weekend. Thank you for your prayers!

After Mass this Sunday, our 2nd graders will be receiving their First Reconciliation. What a wonderful way to prepare for the great feast of Christmas! Whether it is your first time going to confession or your 191st time, let us rejoice that Jesus gave us a wonderful sacrament by which we can experience His mercy and forgiveness.

There will be lots of things happening next Sunday. So please plan to stay after Sunday Mass next week to help decorate the church for Christmas. When the decorating is done, we will have a parish Advent Mission talk given by Dominic Carstens. Details are below. You won't want to miss it! So please plan to stay, reflect, and pray. We should be completely done by Noon.

Today is known as "Gaudete Sunday." Gaudete is a Latin word, in the plural imperative form, which means "Rejoice." It is a command given to a bunch of people. "Hey all you guys, be joyful!" could be a translation of that one word. There are many other Latin words that seem to crop up this time of year: "Venite adoramus", which means "O come let us adore", "Gloria in excelsis Deo," which means "Glory to God in the highest," the word "advent" itself comes from the Latin "adventus", which means "coming", "nativity" comes from "nativitas" which means "birth", and so on.

Some of you remember learning some Latin when you were growing up. I consider myself fortunate that I had two years of Latin in high school and 3 more years of Latin post-high school. In my profession, it comes in handy quite regularly. One simple example is that some of our oldest record books at our parish were written in Latin... and I can read them (if I can decipher the handwriting)! This was handy, because back in the 1800's we had priests and people who spoke many different languages: German, Italian, Norwegian, French, English, etc... Having records in Latin helped the clergy to communicate with each other.

The Church has always required (until very recently... now it is a strong recommendation) that priests learn Latin. The Popes have always encouraged the faithful to learn at least some Latin, especially the basic Catholic prayers, such as the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be. The Mass can be and is still said in Latin. In fact, that is the language that the Pope uses for public Masses to this day.

I am excited to be looking into leading a Parish pilgrimage to Rome and Milan during the 2025 Jubilee year. Please let me know if you are interested in coming on such a trip (details below). Perhaps we will be able to pray the Angelus with Pope Francis (in Latin), or attend a Mass with the Pope (in Latin).

St. Charles Borromeo, ora pro nobis!
-Fr. Sedlacek

St. Charles Parish News

Advent Parish Mission: 65 Days with Christ

Please join us on Sunday, December 22nd after the 9:30 AM Mass for a time of reflection and prayer. Mr. Dominic Carstens will give a talk after Mass and there will be a time for prayer. Dominic Carstens, from Soldiers Grove, WI, is a faithful young man who was blessed to be able to participate in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Revival. He is excited to share some stories and lessons learnt from walking with Jesus for 65 days! Expect to hear moving stories and insightful lessons on our Eucharistic Lord and the work He accomplished this past summer!

Opportunities to Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Advent

There will be all day confessions at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman (530 Main Street, La Crosse) on Monday, December 16th from 9 am - 6 pm. There will be four to five priests available to hear confessions at any given time.

Confession Times at St. Charles

Every Saturday from 3:15-3:45 pm

Every Sunday from 8:45-9:15 am.

St. Charles Christmas Concert – Dec. 17th at 7 PM

Do you need a good reason to just sit and relax for a while? Are you tired of the hustle and bustle of holiday prep? Do you love listening to Christmas music? Do you have an appreciation for children's art? Well, here is an invitation to all! The St. Charles School children would like to say THANK YOU for all that you do to help our school! We would like to lift your holiday spirit a little more as we sing tunes from Christmas movies and TV specials. We hope "yule" love it! Our Christmas Concert and Art Show will be on Tuesday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m. Please come and join us and enjoy a night of fine arts!

St. Charles Parish Pilgrimage in 2025?

I am looking into leading a Parish pilgrimage to Italy in the Fall of 2025, during the Holy Year. I am looking at the dates September 29-October 8, 2025. The pilgrimage would include Rome and going through the Holy Doors, Assisi, Milan. In Rome and Milan we would stop at sites significant in the life of St. Charles Borromeo, our parish patron. Before getting a quote from the travel agent I am working with, I would like to get a sense of how many people would be interested in such a pilgrimage. If you are at all interested in going, please let me know ASAP so that I can proceed with the planning process. – Fr. Sedlacek

“Behold: Prayer of the Saints” Young Adult Retreat | Jan. 25, 2025

This retreat is for young adults aged 18-35 and will be held on January 25, 2025, from 9 am-5 pm at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in La Crosse. Hear inspiring talks about the prayer of the Saints, foster a deeper Catholic community with other young adults, and participate in the life of God via Mass, Confession, and personal prayer. There are also optional evening socials on Friday, January 24 at 7 pm at 608 Brewing Co. and Saturday, January 25 at 6 pm at Pizzeria Dolorosa. The cost is \$25 per person and includes a warm meal. Register at tinyurl.com/beholdprayer.

Diocese of La Crosse Guidelines for Reporting Instances of Child Abuse

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its [policies and procedures](#), seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local Parish and on the diocesan website. If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679 or tbrown@diolc.org.

St. Charles School News

Thank You - Santa Sale Donors

Thank you to all who donated for our school Santa Sale! The kids had a blast on Friday purchasing items and wrapping them to be gifts for their family members.

Gift Cards to Support our School!

Orders for physical gift cards were due back to the Parish Office on December 13th. Although you may have missed the deadline, you can still earn money back for St. Charles School by purchasing electronic gift cards on the RaiseRight app. Contact Megan Olson with any questions. Mitrussoni@gmail.com or 608-385-7815.

Donations Needed! Second Hand Shack

The Secondhand Shack are in need of donations – clean items in good condition. The Second-Hand Shack is located in the log cabin building at the intersection of South Avenue and 13th Street, La Crosse. Our School's Parent-Teacher Organization benefits from your purchases, volunteer hours, and donations at Second Hand

Shack. Sarah Studinger is the owner/operator and is passionate about supporting the community by donating a portion of her profits to local non-profits. Thank you to Second Hand Shack for partnering with St. Charles!

Save the Date! Bingo January 5th

Bingo will be played on Sunday, January 5th from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm after Fellowship.

News from the Diocese and our Community

Peace in the Womb Christmas Caroling

In the Christmas story, hope enters the world through the birth of a child, even in the midst of difficult circumstances. Join us as we sing carols and share this Christmas hope in front of Planned Parenthood.

What: Christmas Caroling

Where: In front of Planned Parenthood, 1201

Caledonia St. in La Crosse

When: 11:00 a.m. followed by lunch in the basement of St. James the Less Church. All are invited to stay for a short meeting of La Crosse Life League after lunch.

Advent Evening Prayer

Your friends at St. Patrick's Parish, 1031 Main Street, Onalaska, invite you to join us for the *Advent Evening Prayer*, where we will gather in anticipation and reflection for the Advent Season. *Advent Evening Prayer* includes psalms, scripture reading, a brief reflection, along with beautiful music to prepare you for a meaningful Christmas. Join Deacon Frank Abnet for this devotion, which will take place from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm on Mondays throughout the Advent season, December 16, and 23.

Upcoming Central Wisconsin Retrouvaille Marriage Help Program – Feb 14-16

Retrouvaille has been a lifeline for marriages for over 45 years. Whether a couple has drifted apart, separated, or even divorced, this 3-phase program offers hope for all who want to restore their marriages and rebuild loving relationships. Affordable, Catholic in origin and open to couples of all faiths, the next program begins with a weekend stay in Wausau area February 14-16, 2025. For local info and fully confidential registration call: 877-922-HOPE (4673). More at [HelpOurMarriage.org](https://www.helpourmarriage.org).

Save the Date! Men of the Cross: Forgiveness and Freedom

Will be held March 8, 2025 at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in La Crosse. We are excited to have Bob Kroll as our keynote speaker and Mass with Bishop Battersby. More information is coming soon!

After-Care Workers Needed

Blessed Sacrament Elementary School is looking for After-Care Workers, 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm (hours are flexible). Interested? Contact Kate Moll (kate.moll@aquinasschools.org / 608-782-5564)

La Crosse Jail Ministry

Here is an excerpt from an email I received from Harvey Witzenburg, the Past President of La Crosse Jail Ministry.

“Each week (the inmates) request address books, playing cards, writing tablets, stamped envelopes, pencils, games, hair ties, reading glasses, manilla envelopes, folders, Spiritual material, and other items. Haircuts and beard trims are available every month for 15 residents. Our extraordinary chaplain, Ann Wales, coordinates the distribution of the above materials, and meets with residents individually and in small groups to provide spiritual counseling, encouragement, or a listening ear. She organizes various volunteers to lead studies in the jail. Ann also works with our Circles of Support program that helps former jail residents' transition to the community when they leave. During these past six years I have come to greatly appreciate Ann and her dedication to the residents of the jail. I hope that you can help our ministry this holiday season with a donation of money or supplies to the La Crosse Jail Ministry. Information on giving or our needed supplies can be found on our website: us/ <https://lacrossejailministry.org/support-us/>.

Parish Events Calendar

Mon. Dec. 16: Confessions available from 9 am – 6 pm at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, La Crosse

Tue. Dec. 17: St. Charles School Christmas Concert. 7:00 PM

Wed. Dec. 18: MS and HS Religious Education 6:30-8:00 PM

Sun. Dec. 22: Advent Parish Mission. After 9:30 AM Mass

Tue. Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Mass. 4:00 PM

Wed. Dec. 25: Christmas Day Mass. 9:30 AM

Wed. Jan 01: Holy Day of Obligation: Mary, Mother of God. Mass at 8:30 AM and 7 PM