

The First Sunday in Lent March 8 & 9, 2025

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 March 10 - 16, 2025

03/10/25	Monday	NO MASS
03/11/25	Tuesday	8:00 AM † Dave Donovan
03/12/25	Wednesday	NO MASS
03/13/25	Thursday	8:00 AM † Tom & Bonnie Venner
03/14/25	Friday	8:00 AM † Mary
03/15/25	Saturday	4:00 PM † Shirley Elwing
03/16/25	Sunday	9:30 AM People of St. Charles

Ministry Volunteers

Lectors

Sat. Mar. 15: 4:00 PM: Kathy Pedretti

Sun. Mar. 16: 9:30 AM: CCD Students

Servers

Sat. Mar. 15: 4:00 PM: Volunteers

Sun. Mar. 16: 9:30 AM: Salvatori Trussoni,
Henry Levendoski, & Emma Kendhammer

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Sun. Mar. 16: 9:30 AM: Marj Gillespie

Sacrificial Giving Tabulation

Mon. Mar. 10: Priscilla Martin, Marian Naegle
Linda Pedretti

Mon. Mar. 17: Conrad & Nancy Kirby; Keith
Magnuson

Ushers (March 2025)

Saturday: Steve Woodhouse & Larry Kelsey

Sunday: Keith Magnuson, Arnie Trussoni &
Tim Gianoli

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

March 2 & 3, 2025

Estimated Weekly Need	\$7,032.69
Adult Envelopes	\$2,005.00
Plate Offering	\$ 241.00
Religious Education	4 40.00
Catholic Times	\$ 20.00
Total	\$2,306.00

From the Pastor's Desk

Parish Renewal

Happy First Sunday of Lent! Please note the special opportunities during Lent this year at our parish, such as Confession times, Fish Fries, and Stations of the Cross. For almsgiving, please consider taking home a Rice Bowl and collecting change and money for Catholic Relief Services. Please pick up a Rice Bowl in the vestibule after Mass and bring it back with alms before or at Easter. Bishop Battersby sent this message for me to communicate to you all that he encourages donating via Rice Bowls: "It seems to me in this time when donations for some of our relief agencies are challenged any extra support may be important in delivering aid to the desperate. Any way you see fitting... to support this initiative will be appreciated and a fine instinct of charity for our Lenten observance. Thank you for all your efforts on behalf of Jesus, may the drawing near of the Lenten season bless and challenge you."

How are you doing on Bishop Battersby's encouragement to fast from non-work media and social media on Fridays during this 2025 Jubilee Year? Imagine what you can do with all that time on Fridays, such as having a family night with your kids, going to visit a neighbor, taking a walk, reading a good spiritually-filling book, prayer, and much more. Or come to a Fish Fry at St. Charles (please note when those are below).

Lent is a preparation for the Great Feast of Easter. Because of the focus on the preparation for the celebration of the Paschal ("Easter") Mystery ("Sacrament") and our entrance in that Mystery through baptism, there is a focus on repentance and the forgiveness of sins. Lent is a time which lends itself to renewal. By turning away from sin and believing in the Gospel, we pray, fast, and give in order to become more spiritually "fit" for fighting for Christ and the Kingdom of God. I think that God deeply desires renewal for us as individuals, as a parish, and as a diocese!

As individuals, I ask you to take time to ask God the Holy Spirit "Lord, what do I REALLY need to do or not do in order to take the next step in my journey of faith in Jesus Christ?" And then do whatever He tells you. What would truly help you draw closer to God this Lent?

As a parish, I ask that we 1) Renew our focus and depth of prayer during Sunday Mass. Let us more deeply engage our hearts and minds during Mass. 2) Go to Confession. 3) Pray together for the renewal of our parish and guidance from the Holy Spirit about what our parish community should focus on in following Jesus Christ. 4) Reach out to at least ONE neighbor, parishioner, someone who hasn't been to church for a long time (or maybe ever!). Ask them what they need, pray with them, and maybe invite them to one of our parish events (like Trivia, Spring Carnival, or Mass and Fellowship).

As a diocese, there will be a Mass of Reparation on Thursday, March 27th at 10 AM at the Cathedral. I ask that, if you are able, to please attend this Mass. It will be one of the "first steps" that our Bishop is laying out for renewal throughout the whole Diocese of La Crosse. What is this Mass about? Bishop plans to precede the Mass with prayers seeking reparation for any and all grave harm perpetrated in our diocese during our 157 year history, including harm caused by our priests and bishops.

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

St. Charles Parish News

Lent Opportunities

Stations of the Cross: Wednesdays at 6:30 PM. Except April 2nd, which will be Reconciliation and Adoration with the HS/MS Religious Education students (families and parishioners welcome too!).

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sundays from 8:45-9:15 AM, Saturdays 3:15-3:45 PM.

Thursday March 13th 6:00-7:00 PM; Wednesday, April 2nd 6:30-7:30 PM (HS and MS Religious Ed)

Thursday, April 10th 6:00-7:00 PM; Monday, April 14th from 9 AM-5 PM at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral

Friday, April 18th after the 1 PM Good Friday Service

Church Discipline for Ash Wednesday and Fridays of Lent

All the Fridays of Lent are days of **abstinence** from eating meat for all Catholics ages 14 and older. Meat includes all beast and fowl flesh (beef, pork, chicken, duck, etc...), but not fish or seafood. These are days of solidarity for us as Catholics, who are walking together through this Lent. And so, as a worldwide Catholic family, we have common Lenten practices of fasting by which we lift our hearts up to God in prayer and love.

Birthright Baby Bottle Campaign – Return Donations by March 23

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 campaign has begun and will conclude the weekend of March 22-23, 2025.

Mass of Reparation for Whole Diocese – March 27th

Bishop Battersby invites all our clergy and the lay faithful to attend the **Mass of Reparation** at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman in La Crosse on Thursday, March 27 at 10:00 AM. What is this Mass about? Bishop plans to precede the Mass with prayers seeking reparation for any and all grave harm perpetrated in our diocese during our 157 year history, including harm caused by our priests and bishops. None of us can undo that harm, but we can call on Jesus to remove the barriers to his love that we have imposed, with confidence that He is eager to unleash the fire of his love throughout our diocese. With humility and repentance, we give Him full permission to do what only He can do.

Remembering our Children

St. Charles installed the Frances Garden section for babies and children in our cemetery six years ago. There are spaces for burial for babies and infants (stillborn and miscarried) and a memorial stone for all our parish children who were called home at such a young age. If you or someone you know who may want to add a name to the memorial stone this year, please contact Fr. Sedlacek or Beth Mitchell via the Parish Office. We will have a memorial/prayer service for all on our memorial stone on Sunday, July 6th.

ATTENTION High School Seniors – Scholarship Opportunity

The St. Charles School PTO will provide two (2) \$250 scholarships - one to a former St. Charles School student who is a graduating senior, and another \$250 scholarship to a graduating senior of a St. Charles parishioner (whether or not they attended St. Charles School). If you know of anyone interested in filling out a scholarship application for a graduating high school senior, the application will be available in the school office and in the church vestibule. They may be returned to office when completed. Applications are due April 15!

St. Charles School News

Fish Fry Dates – March 21 and April 4

Fridays of Lent: March 21 and April 4th! Eat in or get it to go. Serving from 5 pm - 7 pm or gone, in the cafeteria. Dinner includes - 3 pieces of cod fish, baked potato, coleslaw, baked beans and a bun for \$15. Drinks and desserts sold separately. While you visit, play some games & enjoy the camaraderie!

Spring Carnival is April 27th, 2025!

New and exciting games for even more family fun! **Raffle tickets** are HERE and have some really great prizes again this year! *Thank you to all our donors!!* Get your tickets from any kid/parent/staff member of St. Charles School. **Donations:** Do you have items you want to donate for games, prizes, bucket raffle, kitchen goodies, ect please either drop off labeled "Spring Carnival" or contact Jessie, or another parent/staff at school or back of church. **VOLUNTEERS:** We can't do it without you! Sign up will be coming out closer to but if you know where or what let Jessie Cina know now by contacting the Parish Office. Thank you so much!

Trivia Night – May 3

Our next Trivia Night will be Saturday, May 3 at 6 pm. Please get a team together and come give it a try. We think you'll have fun! You know a lot more than you think, so don't stay home thinking you "don't know anything." The game is very simple and you are never put on the spot. It's not about speed; it's about answering 10 different questions in 10 minutes and having loads of laughs with friends.

News from the Diocese and our Community

MMOC Fish Fry – March 14 and 28

Fish Fry Fridays at MMOC will be on March 14 and March 28 from 4:30 to 7:00 PM. Dine-in or Carry-Out. Choose from Baked or Fried Cod served with coleslaw, baked potato or fries, and a roll. A two piece dinner is \$13 and three piece dinner is \$16. Kids

Menu is grilled cheese, fries and fruit for \$5. Beer, wine and dessert will be available at dine-in for an additional cost.

You are Invited to Alliance Family Services' "Stories of Hope" on March 14

Come to an inspiring evening of delicious hors d'oeuvres, desserts, fellowship and stories of what God is doing for women and families through Alliance Family Services, which exists to protect life, proclaim the gospel and provide support in challenging circumstances. Whether it's a pregnancy test, ultrasound, STI testing, prenatal care, well-woman exam or mentoring in life skills, Alliance Family Services is there to provide free and confidential assistance. Join them for "Stories of Hope" on March 14, from 6:00-9:00 PM at First Free Church, 123 Mason Street, Onalaska, WI To get tickets: <https://www.alliancefamilyservices.org/events>

Chili Tasting at BSP - March 15

It is a perfect time of year for CHILI TASTING! Ten different homemade chili soups will be available for your tasting delight. Saturday, March 15, 2025 after the 4:30 P.M. Mass at Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall in La Crosse. Serving 5:15 – 7:00. Chili and toppings, cookies, brownies, bars included. Adults - \$10., Child-\$5., Family-\$30. (limit) This is a Catholic Daughter fundraiser to support our charities and projects.

Pause Netflix, Try ALPHA – March 17

Jesus' first words in his public ministry were "Come and see". Mary, Mother of the Church parish invites you to bring your friends, family, co-workers or anyone else who wants to explore the meaning of life and the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. ALPHA is a series of interactive sessions that will take place on Mondays from March 17 – June 9 from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. Dinner is provided each night! There are 11 sessions in the Parish Hall and a weekend away. To sign up please email Kimberly Krejchik at alpha@mmoclacrosse.org. Mary, Mother of the Church, 2006 Weston Street, La Crosse.

Morning of Reflection Women's Event - April 5

Sponsored by the La Crosse Deanery Council of Catholic Women and Catholic Daughters of America, Court 1183. Saturday, April 5th at Cathedral, 8 a.m. Mass, Breakfast, then a talk. Speaker this year is Kelly Wahlquist, a dynamic and inspiring Catholic speaker whose gift of weaving personal stories and Scripture together with practical advice allows her audience to enter more fully into what Pope John Paul

II and Pope Benedict have called us into - to be witnesses of our faith and part of the New Evangelization. She resides in Minnesota with her husband, Andy, and their three children, and is very active in their parish, Holy Name of Jesus. Please call and let us know you are coming; Kay Kesler 608-780-0485 (text is o.k.) Email: kay@pmcmgmt.com

April 26 - "Faith & Recovery: Catholic Keys to Freedom from Substance Abuse"

This inspiring morning program at Holy Cross Diocesan Center in La Crosse is a collaborative effort of the Catholic Medical Association La Crosse Guilds and the Diocesan Office for Ministries and Social Concerns. All are invited to a breakfast program featuring two extraordinary speakers:

- Joe McGivney – A lifelong alcoholic whose brain was so damaged it led to his being institutionalized with an incurable psychosis, until one morning he woke up suddenly and completely healed.
- Keaton Douglas – Executive Director of the iTHRIST initiative and creator of the iThirst Spiritual Companionship Training certified by Seton Hall University, which forms lay leaders and clergy for the mission of accompaniment of those suffering from substance use disorders and their families.

For more details and to register, visit www.dioc.org/faith-recovery

"Still the Answer" Eucharistic Rally – Aug 9

"Be still and know that I am God" (Ps. 46). Saturday, August 9th, 2025 at the Pablo Center in Eau Claire. Are you ready for a renewed encounter with Jesus, truly present in the holy Eucharist? Gather with people from around the diocese for "Still the Answer" including a eucharistic procession and Mass with Bishop Battersby, compelling speakers, music and more. More details coming soon

Coaches Needed – Aquinas Catholic Schools

- High School Boys Varsity Head Soccer Coach
- High School Boys Varsity Tennis Coach
- Middle School Softball Head 7th Grade & Head 8th Grade Coaches
- Middle School Track & Field Assistant Coaches

Interested? Email ACS Athletic Director Pam Donarski at pam.donarski@aquinasschools.org

Parish Events Calendar

Sun. Mar. 09: OCIA Gathering after the 9:30 AM Mass in the School
Wed. Mar. 12: Women's Book Club 6-8 PM. Lello Room St. Charles School
Wed. Mar. 12: Stations of the Cross 6:30-7 PM in the church
Wed. Mar. 19: Middle School and High School Religious Education 6:30-8:00 PM
Fri. Mar. 21: St. Charles School Fish Fry 5:00 – 7:00 PM
Fri. Apr. 04: St. Charles School Fish Fry 5:00 – 7:00 PM