

**THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
November 29 & 30, 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

Parochial Administrator: Fr. Timothy Reither
treither@diolclergy.org

Mass Schedule & Intentions for December 1 - 7, 2025

12/01/25	Monday	NO MASS
12/02/25	Tuesday	8:30 AM † Angie Shanky
12/03/25	Wednesday	NO MASS
12/04/25	Thursday	NO MASS
12/05/25	Friday	8:00 AM Mary K.
12/06/25	Saturday	4:00 PM † Joe & Ernabelle Cina
12/07/25	Sunday	9:30 AM People of St. Charles

Ministry Volunteers Lector

Sat. Dec. 06: 4:00 PM: Tom Jeffers

Sun. Dec. 07: 9:30 AM: Kelly Hutchison

Servers

Sat. Dec. 06: 4:00 PM: Volunteers

Sun. Dec. 07: 9:30 AM: Henry Levendoski; Giovanni Trussoni & Brad Klinkner

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Sun. Dec. 07: 9:30 AM: Kelly Hutchison

Sacrificial Giving Tabulation

Mon. Dec. 01: Tom & Pam Jeffers; Carolyn Umberger
Mon. Dec. 08: Priscilla Martin; Marian Naegle; Linda Pedretti

Ushers (December 2025))

Saturday: John Nicklay & Tim Woodhouse

Sunday: Conrad Kirby, Tom Urbanek & Chris Stokke

Prayer Requests

Call 608-689-2642 - requests will be passed to Father Reither & over 20 "prayer warriors" on 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

Eucharistic Adoration

1st Fridays: After the 8 AM Mass

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; November 15 & 16

Estimated Weekly Need	\$7,032.69
Adult Envelopes	\$625.00
Plate	\$254.00
Immaculate Conception	5.00
Christmas Flowers	30.00
Total	\$914.00

From the Desk of Father Reither

What is Advent?

Happy New (Liturgical) Year! Now that Thanksgiving is passed, we are officially in the ~~Christmas~~ ADVENT season! Advent (from, adventus; in Latin, meaning: “to come”) is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas. It is a time of waiting and preparation. In this often-busy time of year, we need more than ever times of silence and peace to remind ourselves of the true reason for the season, that Jesus has come and will return and we should prepare ourselves to meet him.

This Advent, take some time to intentionally plan where you will find times of silent prayer. Also, an indispensable part of preparing for the coming of the Lord is the sacrament of Confession. In addition to our usual times for Confession, we will have a special hour of Adoration with Prayer Teams and Confessions available in the evening on Friday December 19th.

Please see below more information about Advent from the USCCB: The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ’s second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord’s birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus’ promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36).

Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

As we prepare for Christmas, the General Instruction of the Roman Missal notes some differences to the Mass that should be observed during the season. For instance, the priest wears violet or purple during Advent, except for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) when rose may be worn (GIRM, no. 346).

Aside from what the priest wears, other aesthetic changes in the Church can include a more modestly decorated altar. The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, we focus on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the “O” Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well.

ST. CHARLES PARISH NEWS

Advent Calendars: Start the Advent season by purchasing an Advent Calendar. A great early St. Nick gift for grandchildren, school kids or even re-live your childhood by opening that Advent calendar door every day! St. Charles Women's group will be selling Advent calendars again on **November 29 & 30th** after Mass. Cost is \$5 for one and 2 for \$8.

Bake Sale: Bake Sale items will be available for purchase during Fellowship Sunday, **December 7th**. The proceeds will go towards supporting future retreats to Eagles Bluff for our St. Charles 4th, 5th, and 6th graders.

CCD: Kindergarten – 5th Grade: Sunday, **December 7th at 8:15 AM**; Middle School/High School: Wednesday, **December 10th at 6:30 PM**.

ST. CHARLES SCHOOL NEWS & EVENTS

PTO: We need Christmas bags and/or items for the Santa Sale on **December 5** where the kids get to shop and wrap for their loved ones. Any items can be brought to school labeled "Santa Sale" from now until the day of the event.



Holly Jolly Christmas Trivia: Come and join in the FUN at our 2nd Annual Holly Jolly Christmas Trivia next Saturday, **December 6**. Doors open at 5:30 PM, food and drinks can be purchased all night long, and trivia begins at 6:00 PM. Questions will be ALL about Christmas! The cost is \$10/person, and teams can have from 2-10 players - the more the merrier! If interested, please email or call the office at 608-689-2642 and sign your team up. See you there!!!

Scrip Gift Cards: The holidays are fast approaching! From finding the perfect gift to taking a break from the hustle and bustle of the holidays, there's a gift card for every need.

Earn money back for the St. Charles PTO by purchasing gift cards in the vestibule. Order forms for physical gift cards. Orders are due back by **December 12th**. The cards will arrive before Christmas. As always, you can use the RaiseRight app to buy and use electronic gift cards immediately. Contact Megan Olson with questions. Forms in the vestibule. Questions: Mjtrussoni@gmail.com or 608-385-7815.

3K (3-year old Kindergarten): St. Charles School is excited to announce the reopening of a 3K (3-year-old Kindergarten) program for the coming school year! Potential students must be 3 years old by **September 1st** to start at the beginning of the school year, or turn 3 by **January 23** to begin at the start of the second semester. There will be 3-day or 5-day options. Please call the school office (608-689-2642) to let us know of your interest, or pass the information along to someone who may be interested. Come join our school family!

The Second-Hand Shack: The Second-Hand Shack is located in the log cabin building at the intersection of South Avenue and 13th Street, La Crosse. They donate a portion of her profits to local non-profits, including St. Charles PTO. Parishioners can drop off clean, gently used items. The PTO benefits through your purchases, volunteer hours and donations. Please contact Sarah for donation times, acceptance and exclusions at (608) 615-1005.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE & OUR COMMUNITY

St. Mary's Annual Craft Show: Join us for St. Mary's Annual Craft Show on Saturday, **December 6th** (8 AM – 2 PM) at the Coon Valley Village Hall. Discover unique, one-of-a-kind gifts for the holiday season! Shop from a variety of talented local vendors and crafters.

Christmas Bazaar & Bake Sale at St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral on **December 6th 8 AM**

– 2 PM. There will be raffles, baked goods, candy, greeting cards, and many beautiful & unique items.

English Lutheran Church - La Crosse, WI.

Experience the true spirit of Christmas! 🌲
Registration for [#BethlehemEvent](#) tours is now open to the public! Join us for a heartwarming journey, a celebration of love, hope, and joy! Explore the village of Bethlehem on the night of Christ's birth. Tours are scheduled every few minutes from noon-5:00 PM on **December 13 & 14**. Click here:

www.englishlutheran.org/bethlehem Walk ins will be accepted as we are able, so we highly encourage you to reserve your spot today!

Mary, Mother of the Church parish will be holding their Cookie Walk & Craft Sale on Saturday, **December 13th** in the parish hall located at 2006 Weston St., in La Crosse from 7:30 AM – 1 PM. Homemade cookies, candles, breads, pies, Scandinavian sweets, handcrafted items, Scrip gift cards and raffles are available for sale. Serving breakfast (featuring egg bakes and cinnamon rolls) and lunch (homemade soup and chili). Door Prizes every half hour.

Karuna House (A La Crosse Non-Profit

Helping to House the Homeless: Karuna House is holding the 2nd Annual Gala “A Home for the Holidays” event on Saturday, **December 13** at the Radisson Hotel from 5:30 – 11 PM. This event will feature a cocktail reception, dinner, auctions, dancing and lots of fun surprises!

All Day Confessions at the Cathedral: There will be all day confessions at the Cathedral on

Monday, **December 22nd** from 9 AM to 6 PM. There will be four to five priests available to hear confessions at any given time.

La Crosse Jail Ministry (Chris Magnuson):

Tis the Season for giving. Consider donating to the La Crosse Jail Ministry. When you give, you are giving a second chance to someone who has made some poor choices. When people are down, they need to find hope again. The Jail Ministry helps residents find hope again, by teaching them to pray, to study the bible and to connect them with a Christian Community that can support them and lead them to a better tomorrow. Give or provide other support through our website

at: <https://lacrossejailministry.org/support-us/>
Thank you! Chris Magnuson

La Crosse SEEK January 29 – February 1,

2026: SEEK is a national conference for an encounter with God, personal transformation and growth in community! This year it will be locally at UW-La Crosse Student Union. Experience the transforming love of Jesus through inspiring speakers, worship, and community! SEEK is for everyone to attend: college students, families, and adults (under 18 years old must be accompanied by an adult). The 4-day conference is adapted to fit most work and school schedules: Thursday and Friday evenings, Saturday all day and Sunday morning. The price is \$50 for the entire event. There will be an optional free childwatch on Saturday, January 31st. Please register on the Roncalli Newman or Blessed Sacrament website.

Parish Events Calendar

Sat. & Sun. Nov. 29 & December 30th: Women's Group Advent Calendars
Sat. December 06: Trivia – St. Charles Gym 5:30 PM
Sun. December 07: K-5th Grade CCD 8:15 AM
Sun. December 07: Fellowship
Sun. December 14: OCIA 10:45 - Noon
Wed. December 10: Middle School/High School CCD 6:30 PM