

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 14 & 15, 2026

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

Email: treither@diolclergy.org

Mass Schedule & Intentions for February 16 - February 22, 2026

02/16/26	Monday	NO MASS	
02/17/26	Tuesday	8:00 AM	† Brian & Barry Haydysch
02/18/26	Wednesday (Ash Wednesday)	8:15 AM	† Larry Cina
		7:00 PM	† Gustavo Flores
02/19/26	Thursday	NO MASS	
02/20/26	Friday	8:00 AM	† Larry Cina
02/21/26	Saturday	4:00 PM	† Richard Kaczmarowki
02/22/26	Sunday	9:30 AM	People of St. Charles

Ministry Volunteers Lector

Wed. Feb. 18: 7:00 PM: Jayne Ballwahn

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

Sun. Feb. 22: 9:30 AM: Tim Gillespie

Servers

Wed. Feb. 18: 7:00 PM: Emma Kendhammer, Liam & Henry Klinkner

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

Sun. Feb. 22: 9:30 AM: Perpetua, William & Thomas Mitchell

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Wed. Feb. 18: 7:00 PM: Jayne Ballwahn

Sun. Feb. 22 9:30 AM: Marj Gillespie

Sacrificial Giving Tabulation

Mon. Feb. 16: Conrad & Nancy Kirby & Keith Magnuson

Mon. Feb. 23: Arnie & Diane Pedretti & Dorothy Stokke

Ushers February 2026

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 1 month 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; February 7 & 8

Estimated Weekly Need	\$ 7,032.69
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,753.00
Plate	\$ 223.00
Votive Candles	\$ 27.00
Catholic Life Magazine	\$ 60.00
Total	\$ 2,143.00

From the Desk of Father Reither

Once again, the season of Lent is rapidly coming upon us. For me, no matter how much I try to prepare beforehand it seems like Lent always hits me off guard. But despite its penitential nature, it is one of my favorite church seasons. It is a time of going back to the basics of Spiritual Life, like boot camp for Christians. It is a time of Asceticism. In English that word has taken on the meaning of self-discipline and abstinence from worldly pleasures, but in ancient times it referred to the training done by athletes to prepare for their sporting contests. Christianity adopted the word Asceticism and applied it to the training needed for living the Christian way of life, which often goes against our fallen human tendencies. During the times of persecution, as the early Christians found themselves being fed to the lions in the sporting arenas, they found themselves quite literally competing for eternal life.

For us today, we know that there are many things that can keep us from living up to the full potential of our Faith. All of us need this time to go back to the fundamentals of the Christian way of life. In the next few days before Lent begins, take some time to pray and come up with what your Spiritual Training plan will be for this Lenten season. As a parish we will have several extra opportunities for prayer with Stations of the Cross and our Lenten Penance Service. See more on Lent below from the USCCB. -Fr. Reither

From the USCCB

Lent is a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting. We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully. We recall the waters of baptism in which we were also baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ.

Many know of the tradition of abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent, but we are also called to practice self-discipline and fast in other ways throughout the season. Contemplate the meaning and origins of the Lenten fasting tradition in this reflection. In addition, the giving of alms is one way to share God's gifts—not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and talents. As St. John Chrysostom reminds us: "Not to enable the poor to share in our goods is to steal from them and deprive them of life. The goods we possess are not ours, but theirs." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2446).

In Lent, the baptized are called to renew their baptismal commitment as others prepare to be baptized through the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults, a period of learning and discernment for individuals who have declared their desire to become Catholics.

ST. CHARLES PARISH NEWS

Ash Wednesday, February 18

Mass times at St. Charles will be:
8:15 AM and 7:00 PM

Ash Wednesday is one of the two days when Catholics are required to fast (Good Friday is the 2nd). 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 Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence from eating meat.

Stations of the Cross

Wednesdays at 7 pm (2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18)
Fridays at 2:30 pm (2/27, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27)

Lenten Penance Service on Wednesday, March 25 at 6:30 pm

Tenebrae Service on Wednesday, April 1 at 7:00 pm

Holy Thursday, April 2 Mass at 7 pm followed by Altar of Repose from 8pm-12am

Good Friday, April 3 Commemoration of the Lord’s Passion at 3 pm

Holy Saturday, April 4 Vigil Mass at 8:30 pm

Easter Sunday April 5 Mass at 9:30 am

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 starting Saturday February 14th, and should be brought back by Sunday March 15th. Thank you and know your pro-life support will be appreciated by moms, dads, and babies to be.

CCD:

February 18: **ALL** students Ash Wednesday Mass
February 22: K-5 CCD Class & Mass participation
NO CCD on February 25
NO CCD on March 1

March 4: 6:30 PM **ALL** students for Stations of the Cross (meet at school)

ST. CHARLES SCHOOL NEWS & EVENTS

No School on Fri., February 20th - teacher in-service

Project Heifer update: The students decided on purchasing clean water pumps, pigs, garden seeds, and bees with the money raised by the students along with donations from people from the parish. Project Heifer will distribute these to villages in need, adding a teacher to help the villagers be successful with their gifts. Our contribution was matched by others so we doubled our efforts in taking care of God's family. In our prayers we asked God to bless these gifts and the people who desperately need them. The generosity of St. Charles parents and community is truly a blessing.

PTO:

Fish Fry - 2/20, 3/6, & 3/20 - 3 piece fish dinner with baked potato, baked beans, coleslaw and bun. Desserts and drinks available. Come join us for dinner! Serving 5-7 pm or until gone

Come join in the fun! Our next **Trivia Night** will be held on Saturday, February 28. Doors open at 5:30 and games begin at 6. Brush up on your 90s Grunge Music; it will be one of the categories - chosen by our 4th place winners last time. If you're interested in playing, please call the office at 608-689-2642 and sign your team up. If you REALLY want to have fun, dress in your best 90s costume. There will be a prize!

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE & OUR COMMUNITY

Evangelization Summit: Feb 14-15: Our first evangelization summit will be held on Tuesday, March 10, at Mary Mother of the Church Parish in La Crosse. Spend a day with others who are also eager to see their parishes more alive on mission, and grow into a shared vision. Following the day, based on needs identified by participants, we will begin offering specific formational resources (“How do we do this?”). Scan the QR code for more details.



“Warmth of Love” Winter

Donation Drive for Ukraine:

Our parish is participating in a collection of humanitarian supplies for Chalice of Mercy, to assist the suffering people of Ukraine. Russia's attacks on Ukraine's energy grid have left millions without heat, in freezing temperatures. In the words of Valentyna Pavsyukova, founder of Chalice of Mercy, “Every donated item whether it is winter clothing, blankets, medical supplies, or essential goods becomes a lifeline. Your generosity restores dignity, hope, and the knowledge that love is stronger than violence.” The donation boxes will be in place through the weekend of Feb. 21-22. Monetary donations are certainly most welcome. Visit chaliceofmercy.org or scan the QR code to the right.



The Primary Focus of Lent - God’s Love

Our relationship with God should always begin with a realization of His deep, deep Love for us and how He continues to pour out this love upon us daily in very concrete ways. This is always the starting point in our relationship with Him! And gratitude flows naturally as we ponder this love. During the 40 days of Lent, let us start by recalling some of God’s blessings the past few days. Name five things for which you are thankful, such as taking time for a conversation with someone, reading a book with a child, a beautiful sunset, etc.

The next step is that we realize that we fail in response to this Love and that is what we examine with Jesus’ help in order to eliminate any of our personal failures that would block our ability to receive His Love. Repentance means to turn away from sin and then turn toward God. Let us seek the beauty of a deeper friendship with Jesus, which brings peace and joy, and turn our backs to the ugliness of sin, which brings turmoil, discontent and ultimate misery. A great way to start is to acknowledge the sin and then be set free from it by speaking it out in the sacrament of confession. We can’t be set free from sin unless we first acknowledge that it is there.

Kevin Matthews Broken Mary Presentation

Kevin Matthews was the top disc jockey in Chicago on The Loop. Millions of people tuned into his radio station every day. A tragic health event led

him to a broken statue of Mary, where he heard a voice say, “Will you deny me? Will you deny My mother?” Realizing this was the voice of Jesus, Kevin embraced the statue of Mary and had the two pieces glued back together, but left the remaining chips and broken pieces as they were. “She is broken, just like I am”, he realized. Kevin asked a priest to bless the statue, and that is when the miracles began. Since then, Kevin has been traveling with this Broken Mary statue, bringing healing to our broken world. Come with your own brokenness and hear his story of God’s healing. FREE! All are welcome! Sunday, Feb. 22 1:30 pm St. Mary’s University in Winona, MN or Monday, Feb. 23 6:00 pm Aquinas High School Auditorium in La Crosse, WI.

Venerate the “Madre Peregrina” - Pilgrim Mother Sculpture | March 13 - 15 | La Crosse

The “Madre Peregrina” - Pilgrim Mother is a life-size sculpture depicting the Virgin Mary in her apparitions of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patroness of the Americas. Originating from the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City, this replica is crafted to closely resemble the original miraculous image as a living apparition. The primary purpose of the Madre Peregrina sculpture is to bring the spiritual presence and intercessory power of Our Lady of Guadalupe to communities worldwide, fostering peace, love and hope among Catholic pilgrims.

Venerations will also be held at these parishes: St. Charles Borromeo, Chippewa Falls, March 19 – April 5 and St. Peters, Stevens Point, April 16 – April 22. Further details to come soon!

Parish Events Calendar

- February 17:** St. Charles Quilters
- February 18:** Ash Wednesday 8:15am; 7pm
- February 20:** NO school
- February 22:** CCD Mass participation
OCIA after Mass
- February 23:** Women’s Book Club
Men’s Lectio Divina
- February 24:** PTO Meeting
- February 25:** Stations of the Cross 7pm
- February 27:** Stations of the Cross 2:30pm
- February 28:** Trivia