

5th Sunday in Lent

March 21 & 22, 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 March 23, 2026 - March 29, 2026

03/23/26	Monday	NO MASS	
03/24/26	Tuesday	8:30 AM	† Tom Walcker
03/25/26	Wednesday	NO MASS	
03/26/26	Thursday	NO MASS	
03/27/26	Friday	8:00 AM	People of St. Charles
03/28/26	Saturday Vigil Mass	4:00 PM	Shirley Elwing
03/29/26	Palm Sunday	9:30 AM	People of St. Charles

Lector Ministry Volunteers

Sat. Mar. 28: 4:00 PM: Lector: & Speaker: Dan Kaczmarowski & Narrator: Jayne Coster
Sun. Mar. 29: 9:30 AM: Lector & Speaker: Travis Klinkner & Narrator: Jayne Ballwahn

Servers

Sat. Mar. 28: 4:00 PM: Volunteers
Sun. Mar. 29: 9:30 AM: Abigail & Thomas Mitchell, Emma Kendhammer, Liam Klinkner

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Sun. Mar. 29 9:30 AM: Jayne Ballwahn

Sacrificial Giving Tabulation

Mon. Mar. 23: Arnie & Diane Pedretti & Dorothy Stokke
Mon. Mar. 30: Priscilla Martin, Marian Naegle, Linda Pedretti

Ushers April 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: March 14 & 15

Estimated Weekly Need	\$ 7,032.69
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,246.00
Plate	\$ 83.00
Total	\$ 1,329.00

From the Desk of Father Reither

As we move into the final week of Lent before Holy Week, one of the more striking traditions is the veiling of the crucifix and statues throughout the church. During this time of Lent leading up to Good Friday, the liturgical theme of the Mass is focused more and more on the suffering and death of Jesus as he makes his journey up to Calvary. It may seem, at first sight, counterintuitive that the Church would cover images of the cross and other statues during this time. However, the practice of veiling crosses and statues is meant as a kind of “fast for the eyes” so that the Passion of our Lord might be more deeply imprinted on our hearts. It helps foster a greater spiritual awareness because our senses must now be more attuned to hearing the words of scripture and not so much with familiar sights. It also is a reminder of how Christ “hid” his divinity during his suffering and death and only after the Resurrection did the disciples look again upon the glorified body of the Lord.

This practice of veiling crosses and other images in the church can also be brought into your own homes as well. So often we tend to ignore what has become familiar until it is removed from our sight. With the unveiling of the cross on Good Friday these images will stand out even more to our eyes as the sign of our redemption. As we move through these last days of Lent may your heart be stirred to a greater hunger for the Lord, so that you may celebrate with greater joy His Resurrection with the coming feast of Easter.

This Wednesday, March 25th at St. Charles we are also offering a special **Lenten Penance Service** from 7-8pm. I especially invite all of our parishioners to take part in the service. Here’s what to expect if you have not attended a Penance Service before. During the time of prayer, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for Adoration. Adoration is a special time to be before Jesus’ true presence in the Holy Eucharist. There are many graces available to us by simply being in the presence of Jesus. It does not require much work or a special prayer routine, but simply a heart open to receive. Throughout the time of Adoration, we will have a special guest Mariah who will be playing music to assist with our prayer. Also during the time of Adoration, we will have some of our parishioners who are trained in running prayer teams available to pray individually with anyone who would like to take advantage of the opportunity. Prayer teams are not some magic or weird soul reading exercise, but they are available to simply pray with any intentions you may have and to ask for a greater outpouring of God’s grace in your life. It is certainly possible to pray by yourself, but our Lord himself has promised that he is present in a special way whenever two or three are gathered in His name.

Finally, throughout the whole time the **sacrament of confession** will be available. I wholeheartedly encourage you to make a good confession this Lenten season. The whole goal of our Lenten penances and sacrifices is that we might become closer to God than we were at the start of Lent and there is no better way of drawing closer to God than by giving him our sins so that he can forgive us and fill us with a greater share of his own life within us. This is an excellent opportunity to take advantage of the grace that God is always wishing to pour within our hearts.

God bless, Fr. Reither

ST. CHARLES PARISH NEWS

Lent, Holy Week, and Triduum Schedule:

Wed. Mar. 25: 7-8 PM Lenten Penance Service
Fri. Mar. 27: 2:30 PM Stations of the Cross
Apr. 1: 7 PM Spy Wednesday, Tenebrae Service

The Sacred Triduum, “three holy days”

Apr. 2: 7 PM Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord’s Supper
Apr. 3: 3 PM Good Friday, Passion of the Lord
Apr. 4: 8:30 PM Easter Vigil Mass (no 4pm Mass)

April 5: 9:30 AM Easter Sunday Mass

CCD:

March 22: ALL NO CLASS/confirmation retreat
March 29: Mass Participation
April 1: Class Grades 6-10
April 5: NO CLASS grades K-5

MASS INTENTIONS

We have several openings for Mass intentions. To schedule Mass for a particular intention, please reach out to our parish office. The suggested offering is \$20 per Mass.

ST. CHARLES SCHOOL NEWS & EVENTS

PTO:

Spring Carnival - April 26th from 10:30-1:30 pm. Any donations (prizes, baskets or goodies) can be dropped off at school or back of church labeled Spring Carnival. If you would like to volunteer to help reach out to Jessie at 608-780-1148. We are looking forward to another fun event for all!

Raffle Tickets are here *and have so many amazing prizes!!* All students/families are selling. There will also be some at the back of the church and the school office (to buy/sell). If returning sold tickets please label spring carnival and make checks to St. Charles PTO. Thank you!

Scholarships - applications are available in the school office or the back of church for students to pick up, fill out and return to the school office via mail, drop off in the office or the black box outside of school. The deadline is April 10th.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE & OUR COMMUNITY

Healing Mass in Viroqua

There will be a special Mass and time of Adoration and prayer for healing on Monday March 23rd at St. Mary’s in Viroqua.

Schedule of the evening:

4:30pm – Adoration & Rosary

5:30pm Mass

6:15pm Healing Service

- Litany of the Precious Blood
- distribution of exorcised and blessed salt, water, oil
- corporate/individual prayers

A Healing Mass/time of prayer is simply a time to come and ask the Lord to give a greater outpouring of his healing grace for whatever intention we may have. All are welcome to attend and pray for the gift of healing for themselves and their loved ones.

Lent: The Proof of God the Father’s Love for Us

Let us recall each day that God’s mercy and unconditional love are central to our journey of life on our way to Heaven. The proof that the Father loves each one of us is the crucifixion—the suffering and death of the Son of God so that our sins may be forgiven.

Even when we fall, the boundless love of Christ transforms us through the forgiveness of our sin and compassion He offers, drawing us back to Himself. Jesus shows us that He loves the sinner but hates the sin. This merciful love invites us to approach Him confidently, knowing that He is always ready to forgive and heal. Mercy is the primary attribute of God.

When we enter the confessional, it is not merely a priest we face, but Christ Himself. The priest acts in the person of Christ—offering absolution in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Every confession is an encounter with Jesus, who lifts our burden of sin and restores the soul to the beauty of its baptismal innocence.

Our **second Evangelization Summit** will be held at St. Paul Parish in Mosinee on Tues, May 19, from 9am to 3pm. The theme will be “Paul as a Model of Discipleship and Accompaniment.” This is another opportunity for parish leaders to unite together around a shared vision of parishes fully alive on mission, and to connect you with more tools and resources. There will be fresh content for those who attended the first summit, but new attendees are welcome!



Stations of the Cross with and for Survivors of Clergy Abuse

Mary, Mother of the Church invites you to participate in a unique opportunity to pray the Stations of the Cross with and for survivors of Catholic Clergy abuse on Saturday, March 28 at 10:00 AM. Lent can be a difficult time for victim-survivors and showing support and a spirit of accompaniment is a gift to them. The prayer will follow the traditional Stations of the Cross devotion, with each station featuring a personal reflection written by a victim-survivor. The reflections are not graphic, but some do reference episodes of abuse. The Stations were created by the Awake Survivors Community which originated in 2018 in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Jennifer-Marie in the MMOC parish office at 608-788-8354 ext. 1 or email secretary@mmoclacrosse.org.

Divine Mercy Sunday - April 12

The Deanery of the La Crosse Diocese has chosen the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe for the celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday. You are invited to make a pilgrimage for Divine Mercy Sunday on April 12. The schedule for the day is as follows:

9:00 AM Latin Mass
11:00 AM Spanish Mass
12:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet (Spanish)
1:00 PM English Mass
2:30 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
2:45 PM Divine Mercy Reflection & Consecration
3:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet
3:15 PM Benediction & Reposition
3:30 PM St. Faustina Relic Blessing & Veneration
Confessions will be available 30 minutes before AM Masses and 12 Noon - 4 PM.
Cart shuttles will be available for pilgrims.
Polish food and Divine Mercy sundaes in honor of St. Faustina available all day at the Culina Mariana Cafe.
For more information, please call the Shrine at (877) 799-4059.

"On that day (Divine Mercy Sunday), the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." – Diary of St. Faustina #699

Making Saints Catholic Campus Ministry Banquet

Sometimes it can feel like all we hear is bad news. But we have good news! Our Church is thriving! Roncalli Newman Catholic Campus Ministry is witnessing our young adults' lives transformed by Christ. We invite you to join us at Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall on Saturday, April 18th for an evening of celebration and community, raising support for our La Crosse Catholic Campus Ministry. Enjoy a delicious meal and hear from our students as they share the great things the Lord is doing in their hearts and on campus. Join us for cocktails, dinner, a silent and dessert auction, and of course - swing dancing to finish off the night. Registration is open now. \$50 per ticket. Please contact Adele with any questions - media@newmanlc.org

Parish Events Calendar

March 23: 6:30 PM Men's Lectio Divina
March 25: 7:00 PM Lenten Penance Service
March 27: 2:30 PM Stations of the Cross
March 29: CCD Mass Participation
March 31: 10:30 AM Chrism Mass in La Crosse
5:15 PM PTO meeting
April 1: 7:00 PM Tenebrae Service
April 2: 7:00 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper
April 3: 3:00 PM Passion of the Lord
April 4: 8:30 PM Easter Vigil
April 9: 6:30 PM St. Charles Women's meeting
April 12: Fellowship & International Food Fest
after Mass
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