

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2 & 3, 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 May 4 - May 10, 2026

05/04/26	Monday	NO MASS	
05/05/26	Tuesday	8:30 AM	† Gloria VanErt
05/06/26	Wednesday	NO MASS	
05/07/26	Thursday	NO MASS	
05/08/26	Friday	8:00 AM	† Alfred & Marie Berra
05/09/26	Saturday	4:00 PM	† Harold & Myrabelle Pitzner
05/10/26	Sunday	9:30 AM	People of St. Charles

Lector Ministry Volunteers

Sat. May 09: Jayne Coster

Sun. May 10: Jayne Ballwahn

Servers

Sat. May 09: Volunteers

Sun. May 10: Abigail & William Mitchell & Brad Klinkner

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Sun. May 10: 9:30 AM: Jayne Ballwahn

Sacrificial Giving Tabulation

Mon. May 04: Tom & Pam Jeffers & Carolyn Umberger

Mon. May 11: Priscilla Martin, Marian Naegle & Linda Pedretti

Ushers May 2026

Saturday: Larry Kelsey & volunteers

Sunday: Keith Magnuson, Arnie Trussoni & Tim Gianoli

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: April 25 & 26

Estimated Weekly Need	\$ 7,032.69
Adult Envelopes	\$ 2,345.50
Plate	\$ 235.00
Endowment Trust	\$ 10.00
Support Our School	\$ 50.00
Total	\$ 2,640.50

From the Desk of Father Reither

First Communion

With great joy this weekend we celebrate with our First Communicants as they receive, for the first time, the greatest treasure we have on this earth: the Holy Eucharist. It is the gift of Jesus himself, truly present: body, blood, soul, and divinity. As human beings we are made for Communion, first with God and then with each other in Christ. Holy Communion is a taste then of the joys of heaven to come, but it is a hidden taste seen only with the eyes of Faith, though signs of its fruitfulness are abundant. Two saint quotes illustrate this fact for us:

If we really understood the Mass we would die of joy. - **St. John Vianney**

"Once you understand the Eucharist, you can never leave the Church. Not because the Church won't let you but because your heart won't let you." – **Mother Teresa**

First Communion is such an important occasion that the Church offers a plenary indulgence to those who receive their first communion and those who are also present at a First Communion Mass:

“A plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful [under the usual conditions], when they receive Communion for the first time, or when they assist at the sacred ceremonies of a First Communion”.

Many of us probably remember the great joy that we had on our First Communion day. The Church encourages all Catholics to receive the Eucharist frequently, even daily if possible, but over time the temptation for each of us can be to start to fall into a habit of routine or indifference. We have to remind ourselves that Holy Communion is not a participation prize for attending Mass, but a gift that we must prepare ourselves for. Before the faithful are to receive the Eucharist they are first called to examine their lives.

What does it mean to receive Holy Communion Worthily?

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church (1385) “To respond to this invitation we must *prepare ourselves* for so great and so holy a moment. St. Paul urges us to examine our conscience: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For any one who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself." ^{1 Cor 11:27-29}. Anyone conscious of a grave sin must receive the sacrament of Reconciliation before coming to communion [e.g. intentionally missing Mass on Sunday without serious reason, intentional hatred or unforgiveness toward others, engaging in sexual activity outside the bonds of a valid marriage, grave acts of violence against another, etc.]”

1387 “To prepare for worthy reception of this sacrament, the faithful should observe the fast required in their Church [One hour prior from all food and drink except water and medicine]. Bodily demeanor (gestures, clothing) ought to convey the respect, solemnity, and joy of this moment when Christ becomes our guest.”

At the same time, it is important to remember as Pope Francis said, that the Eucharist is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak. None of us are truly worthy of so great a gift, and that reveals the greatness of God's mercy. May we continue to grow in our hunger for Jesus hidden in the Most Holy Eucharist and to receive him frequently into our hearts that we may be in Communion with Him on this Earth and in Eternity forever.

-Fr. Reither

ST. CHARLES PARISH NEWS

St Charles Catholic Women's Group will be selling roses after Mass, Saturday May 9th and Sunday May 10th with all proceeds benefiting Wis. Right to Life. Freewill offering Help us support this cause and make a Mom, Grandmother, Aunt or friend feel special this Mother's day.

Homecoming Picnic Planning Meeting

Monday, May 11th @ 6:30pm in the school gymnasium. This is an open invitation to participate in planning St Charles Parish's main fundraiser for the year. All are welcome and encouraged to come to help with the planning and contribute ideas!

Service Saturday

The next service day will be Saturday, May 16th from 8:30-12. Sign up sheets are in the back of the church or call the office. If you know of a parishioner that is homebound or in an assisted living/nursing home, please contact the office.

Parish Wide Rummage Sale

We will be having a parish wide rummage sale along with Rummage Along the River. Please contact the office for details on what items are accepted and when you are able to work. Enough volunteers to work in shifts to cover the sale will ensure that we have a rummage sale. Proceeds are to benefit our parish & school. Donations will only be accepted on Thursday, May 14th from 4-6 PM.

Homecoming Picnic

Planning is underway and we are looking forward to another successful picnic. A Sign Up Genius will be coming out soon so you can volunteer for your favorite area. If you are new to the parish, jump in and pick a spot, we are all willing to help you out! We have some fun new activities planned.

We are planning to finalize the **raffle tickets** on **Monday, May 4**. If you usually donate and have not been contacted yet, please reach out to the office at 608-689-2642. If you have an item or would like to donate cash and be listed on the raffle ticket, please contact the office by end of day on Monday, May 4. Looking forward to some great prizes!

ST. CHARLES SCHOOL NEWS & EVENTS

Tuesday, May 19 @ 8:30 AM-School celebration of the Feast of St. Isadore the Farmer

Tuesday, May 19 @ 7:00 PM-School Spring Concert & Art Show

Friday, May 22 @ 11:30 AM-Volunteer Appreciation Lunch—sign up sheets in back of church. Please sign up by Monday, May 18.

PTO: Thank you to ALL who donated, volunteered, sold or bought raffle tickets, showed up and had some fun and all the things in between for the Spring Carnival this year! Our school and kids truly appreciate your support and help. We look forward to another one next year. Winners are posted in the back of the church on the bulletin board.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE & OUR COMMUNITY

Genoa Lions Club Cod Fish Fry-

Friday, May 8 from 4-7 PM at the Genoa Park
Dine in or carryout Tickets are \$15.00

FREE bags of Seed Corn for Farms in Need-Limited Supply

The Diocese of La Crosse Chapter of Catholic Rural Life, in partnership with a local family farm and a seed dealership, has been entrusted with a generous opportunity to give back to our farming community. We are pleased to offer 30 bags of current-year, high quality 99-day seed corn—free of charge—to be shared among three deserving recipients. This gift is intended to support approximately 25-30 acres for each family farm. We recognize that agriculture finances can present challenges, and it is our privilege to walk alongside those in our community during difficult seasons. Please direct all inquiries to our Rural Life Committee Chair—Anne Marie Elwing @ annemarie.elwing@wallstonellc.com

US Bishops' Action Alert - Urge Dialogue and Peace in Middle East

To make your voice heard in favor of dialogue and peace in the Middle East, respond to the U.S. Bishops' action alert by scanning the QR code on the right.



The Importance of Praying the Rosary in May

The Rosary is important because it focuses on the pivotal moments in the lives of Jesus and Mary, known as the “mysteries.” In reflecting on these major events of Jesus’ life, you will come to recognize more how much Jesus loves you personally. You will also be guided by the Holy Spirit to make connections between each mystery of Jesus’ life and your own life. And you may ask the Holy Spirit to help you see how this mystery gives guidance to your life right now.

Praying the Rosary, with the repetition of the Hail Marys, creates a quiet, contemplative space in a noisy world, allowing the mind and heart to focus on God. Take 5 minutes to pray a decade of the Rosary (one Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, and Glory Be) with your family.

Feast of St. Isidore May 15 - Patron of Rural Life

St. Isidore, patron saint of farmers, was himself a farm boy born in the city of Madrid, Spain, about the year 1110. He appeals especially to those who work the land as he did. But the good qualities that characterized him and his wife Maria – whole-hearted trust in God, enthusiasm and vigor in working, and a deep spirit of prayer – should be admired and imitated by all. For prayers and blessings associated with the Feast of St. Isidore on May 15, scan the QR code on the right.



Come to the Mayoral Prayer Breakfast on May 7

You are invited to the 30th Annual Mayoral Prayer Breakfast at the Radisson Center in La Crosse on Thursday, May 7, 2026, from 7:30-8:45 AM. Since 1997, this event has included prayer for our elected officials, educators, emergency responders, military personnel and area business and professional leaders. This year’s special guest speaker is Dr. Richard Trietley, President of Viterbo University. Tickets are available till April 30, by scanning the QR code on the right.



The Our Father: Learning to Pray Like Jesus

When we pray the Our Father, we are speaking to someone who truly listens, cares and responds. We are not merely individuals; rather we are adopted sons and daughters of the living God through Jesus’ costly sacrifice of His death and resurrection. Our heavenly Father knows us completely, loves us deeply and desires a relationship with each one of us. The Lord’s Prayer is a way to enter into a living relationship with God, who is not distant, but our loving Father.

We Need the Holy Spirit to Renew Our Hearts, Our Families, and the Church!

At this critical time when we need God the Holy Spirit to come powerfully upon us for a new Pentecost, we will provide parishioners with the 9-day Novena that begins Friday, May 15th. The time commitment will be three minutes per day. We encourage all members of the parish to participate in this first Novena that Jesus gave to the Apostles, Mary and the women to pray for the infant Church. Watch the bulletin next week for more details!

Parish Events Calendar

May 4:	5:15 PM PTO Meeting
May 5:	8:30 AM School May Crowning
May 7:	6:30 PM Women’s Group assemble May baskets
May 9:	5:00 PM Women’s Group selling Roses for Mother’s Day
May 10:	10:30 AM Women’s Group selling Roses for Mother’s Day 6:30 PM Men’s Lectio Divina
May 11:	6:30 PM Homecoming Planning
May 12:	6:00 PM Women’s Lectio Divina
May 15-16:	7AM-5PM Rummage Sale
May 16:	8:30-12 Service Saturday
May 19:	8:30 AM Feast of St. Isadore the Farmer 7:00 PM School Spring Concert
May 22:	11:30 AM Volunteer Appreciation Lunch