

**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 15 & 16, 2026**

St. Charles Borromeo Parish

707 Eagle Street, P. O. Box 130, Genoa, WI 54632

Website: www.stcharlesgenoa.org

Parish Office: 608-519-4391; Email: office@stcharlesgenoa.org

Pastor: Fr. Timothy Reither

Email: treither@diolclergy.org

Mass Schedule & Intentions for August 17, 2026 to August 23, 2026

08/17/26	Monday	NO MASS	
08/18/26	Tuesday	8:00 AM	† Andrew Granchalek
08/19/26	Wednesday	NO MASS	
08/20/26	Thursday	NO MASS	
08/21/26	Friday	8:00 AM	† Janie Cina
08/22/26	Saturday	4:00 PM	People of St. Charles
08/23/26	Sunday	9:30 AM	† Alfred & Marie Berra

Lector Ministry Volunteers

Sat. Aug. 22 Kathy Pedretti

Sun. Aug. 23: Crystal Lavey

Servers

Sat. Aug. 22: Volunteers

Sun. Aug. 23: Reagan Levedowski, Liam Klinkner,
Abigail Mitchell

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Sun. Aug. 23: Priscilla Martin

Sacrificial Giving Tabulation

Mon. Aug. 17: Conrad & Nancy Kirby, Keith
Magnuson

Mon. Aug. 24: Diane Pedretti, Dorothy Stokke,
Phyllis Munyon

Ushers August 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:

August 8 & 9

Estimated Weekly Need	\$ 7,032.69
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,510.00
Plate	\$ 310.10
Votive Candles	\$ 32.00
Total	\$ 1,852.00

From the Desk of Father Reither

“Who is that coming up from the wilderness, leaning upon her beloved?” *Song of Songs* 8:5

“Who is this that looks forth like the dawn, fair as the moon, bright as the sun, terrible as an army with banners?” “*Song of Songs* 6:10”

These words from the Song of Songs the Church has traditionally applied to Mary and are remembered especially on the Solemnity the Assumption of Mary into heaven. While this year with the Assumption falling on a Saturday it is not kept as full a celebration, I still wanted to include it in my bulletin letter.

In defining this dogma of faith as being handed down from Apostolic times, Pope Pius XII wrote in 1950 in *Munificentissimus Deus*:

"Finally the Immaculate Virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things, so that she might be the more fully conformed to her Son, the Lord of lords and conqueror of sin and death."

While on the surface, dogmas of faith may seem dry, but they are rather full of richness for our salvation when we examine them in depth. Mary stands in tradition as a type and model for the whole Church. Where she has gone, we hope to follow. In being taken up body and soul into heaven, she has become for each Christian, the sign of the hope of our salvation promised to us in Christ. She is a reminder for us that this world is not our true home; we await a new heaven and a new earth where Christ will be all in all.

It was fitting for her, who knew no stain of sin, that her body would not suffer corruption which is the penalty due to sin. Also it was fitting that through the mystery by which Mary was the Mother of God and gave a human body to our Lord, she would herself be taken up body and soul into heaven to be with her son. And Mary who worked so closely with her Son in his work of Redemption, should be the first to receive the full fruits of that redemption as a sign for all of us.

Though it was only formally defined in 1950 the definition of dogma means that it is divinely revealed and as such comes from the time of the Apostles. One of the pious stories that have come down to us was that the Apostles were together with Mary when her earthly life came to an end and they took her and laid her in a tomb. However, the Apostle Thomas was not with the others when Mary died and when he joined them shortly thereafter, he was so distraught and sad that he did not get to see or say his last goodbye to the blessed Mother that the disciples brought him to the tomb and since it had not been too long, they began to open the lid on the sarcophagus that Thomas might look upon her one last time.

But low and beyond when they removed the lid of the tomb, it was empty and the place where her body had laid was covered in a bed of roses. From there the Apostles realized that by a singular grace, Mary had been taken both Body and Soul into heaven and they spread that tradition amongst the brethren.

This feast also reminds us of who we are as human beings. At our essence, we are both body and soul. We are not simply spiritual beings, but physical beings as well. Jesus promised to raise not only our souls, but our bodies as well on the last day. That is why as Catholics we treat the human body with respect and this even after death, because we know that our bodies, as temples of the Holy Spirit, are destined to rise again one day. That is why it is important that we bury the dead in the sacred ground of our cemeteries as a witness to that faith. And so by a singular grace, Mary even now enjoys the fullness of the resurrection, body and soul, and as such, she has become the sign of our hope.

So as we remember Mary's Assumption this weekend, let us once again take her as our Mother. We have a Mother whose human heart now beats for us in heaven. If we hold fast to Mary in our lives we will not find ourselves far from her son. All the praises that we give her are in turn directed to her son.

Memorare prayer:

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

ST. CHARLES PARISH NEWS

Volunteer and Staff Training

We have safe environment training scheduled for our parish and school on **Thursday, August 27th** with several sessions as options to attend. Annual training is required for all those who volunteer and work in our parish and school. Training at 10:30 AM, 1:15 PM, 3:45 PM & 5:15 PM. There is school employee and volunteer training from 8:00 -12. This includes the mandatory annual training. Please call the office with questions.

ST. CHARLES SCHOOL NEWS & EVENTS

Family school packets were e-mailed last week. If you would like a printed copy, please reach out to the office.

Back to School

Back to school is being held on Thursday, August 27th from 3:30-6:00 PM at the school. Parents, please remember to bring your completed paperwork. Students can bring their items for school to be left in their classroom. There will be Safe Environment Training, background checks, transportation, etc. available for parents to complete at either 3:45 PM or 5:15 PM.

Religious Education

Registration for Catechesis of The Good Shepherd Levels 1 & 2, Sacramental Prep, God's Plan in Scripture & Encounter/Envision will also be on Thursday, August 27th from 3:30-6:00 PM at the school. There will be Safe Environment Training, background checks, transportation, etc. available for parents to complete at either 3:45 PM or 5:15 PM.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE & OUR COMMUNITY

Retrovaille:

Whether you have drifted apart, or arrived at separation or divorce, there is hope. Retrouvaille [rétro-vī] means rediscovery or joyful reunion. The Retrouvaille program is a lifeline of hope and healing for marriages of all ages, and even couples who are separated or divorced but want to try again. For more information, frequently asked questions, or to register please call Central Wisconsin Retrouvaille toll free local program info: 1.877.922.HOPE (4673)

Important Words to Know and Understand Characteristics of a Disciple of Jesus Christ: Receives the Sacraments

The third characteristic is that a disciple prayerfully encounters Jesus on a regular basis through the sacraments of the Church and lives in the power of the grace they have received through them.

A Catholic disciple of Jesus Christ understands that sacraments are “the” way of receiving God’s grace. We are made children of God through Baptism. We are forgiven of our sins through Reconciliation. We receive the Body and Blood of Jesus through the Eucharist. Jesus also instituted the Sacraments of Confirmation, Matrimony, Holy Orders, Anointing of the Sick for the sake of our salvation, so that the power He displayed in His public ministry would continue through the sacraments He gave to the Church. A disciple of Jesus frequently receives and cooperates with the graces he or she has received through the sacraments.

Legion of Mary at the Parish:

The Legion of Mary is a group of women who have a special devotion to our Blessed Mother Mary and who gather to pray the Rosary. One of their goals is to spread devotion to Mary and educate people on the power of praying the Rosary. Another goal is to have a statue of Mary that is placed in homes for a week at a time so that the family may gather and pray together. After reading Fr. Rocky’s book entitled *Mary at the Crossroads of History*, some women are interested in starting the Legion of Mary at their parish. If there are parishes who have an active group, please contact Ann Lankford at alankford@diolc.org as a reference for these women.

Mass of Hope and Healing | Sept. 8 | Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman:

Bishop Gerard Battersby will celebrate a Mass of Hope and Healing on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 6:30 PM, at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman, 530 Main St, La Crosse. This Mass will be offered for anyone grieving the loss of children through miscarriage, ectopic pregnancy, abortion, stillbirth, accident or infant death. A candle ceremony will take place at 6:30 PM, prior to the beginning of Mass. Please arrive early to receive your votive candle(s) in remembrance of any child(ren) lost. Candles will be lit and grieving families will carry them forward to surrender to a priest. After Mass, refreshments will be served and volunteers will be present to offer assistance, support, and comfort. We welcome all who mourn, and encourage anyone to come and be supportive.

Rural Life Day Sept. 23, 2026 - Creamery Creek in Bangor

Join us for the 45th Annual Rural Life Day Celebration at Creamery Creek, hosted by the John and Donna Hansen family and the Justin and Louisa Peterson family. Rural Life Day is a beautiful event that brings together several hundred members of the faithful to honor rural life in our communities. Our celebration begins with Mass at 10:00 AM, celebrated by Bishop Gerard Battersby, together with many priests and deacons of the diocese. This is followed by special awards and the blessing of crops, animals, and machinery of the farm. We conclude our celebration with a delicious lunch and a freewill offering to benefit Project Milk. Creamery Creek is located at W1250 County Road U, Bangor, WI 54614.

High School Leadership Retreat | October 23-25, 2026 | Crossroads Adventure Camp

This retreat will be a time for high school age students and chaperones to come together to pray and learn how to take active leadership roles in their parishes and schools. This year, we will be focusing on small groups and mentoring. Time and again, we witness how effective high school students are with engaging and encouraging their younger peers in the Catholic faith. Scan the QR code for details.



Catholics and Faithful Citizenship

The Office for Ministries and Social Concerns has a webpage dedicated to Faithful Citizenship, with both original commentary (“Politics, Voting, and Christian Faith” and links to resources from the Wisconsin Catholic Conference and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. In addition, there are links to information on registering to vote and on how and when to vote, as well as links to multiple websites that communicate where candidates stand on the issues. See these and more by scanning the QR code.



<u>Parish Events Calendar</u>	
Aug. 24	8:00AM teachers back to school
Aug. 27	8:00AM school & parish training
Aug. 29	9:00AM Altar Server training 5:00PM Lector & Eucharist Minister training
Aug. 30	10:30AM Lector & Eucharist Minister training
Sept. 1	8:00AM First Day of School