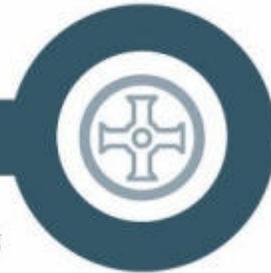




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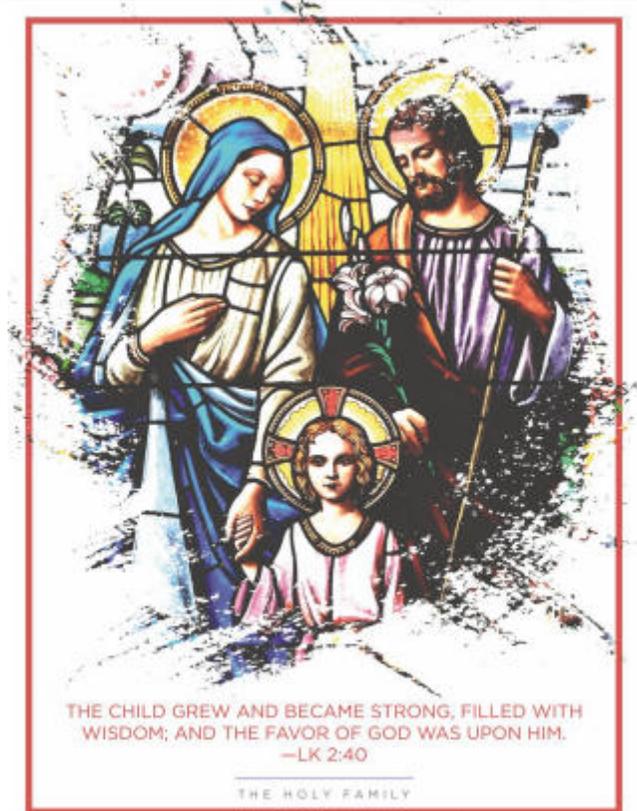
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
December 27, 2020

THE BANE AND THE BLESSED

I can't even recall how many years ago the photo was taken. I can tell you that to the best of my knowledge it was the last formal Parr family portrait. My parents were still living, and in the photo were their five sons, wives, grandchildren. All smiling and dressed to the 9's.

What the photo doesn't tell, however, is how hot it was that summer day. And the photo was taken at home which means there was a window air conditioner that was taxed to the limit. It doesn't tell how my father requested that the photo include at least part of the newly purchased sofa. And what the photo doesn't tell is that despite the smiles and good cheer, my mother had to use her strong arm technique to get the whole family together. The photo doesn't tell what was in our minds and hearts that day—the joys, the cares, the hopes, concerns, dreams and worries.

Every family of course is more than a photo or portrait. Every family at every moment is changing, growing, adjusting. I doubt there is anytime in a family that can be called "status quo." And that would be true for every family, including Joseph, Mary and Jesus. To be sure their family was fueled by God's extraordinary grace to Mary and Joseph in light of their role in God's saving plan. Still, it was a grace that called for their response. Despite all the uncertainties and challenges, threats and tragedies, they trusted that the love of God was at work in and through it all.



Our families are holy not when difficulties cease, but when we learn to turn to God as our only source of strength.

Our families are holy not when we never argue or disagree, but when we forgive.

Our families are holy not when we stop having problems, but when we courageously ask God for guidance, trusting he will be true to his promises.

Our families are holy not because parents and kids never have differences, but because despite our differences we never give up on one another.

Our families are holy not when parents always make the right decisions, but when they discover that wisdom comes from prayer—and that this side of the Kingdom we'll probably never know whether we're wise or not.

Our families are holy not when we appear outwardly as polished as a portrait, but when we realize that God is using all the moments of family life as the very means to make us holy.

SEAS STEWARDSHIP

In today's second reading, Saint Paul gives us excellent advice on how to live as Christian stewards. "Put on, as God's chosen ones, heartfelt compassion, kindness... bearing with one another and forgiving one another. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." May we all go forward in the New Year, striving to live these words, striving to live the Gospel values, loving and serving our brothers and sisters in Christ. May we also commit to growing in our relationship with God, the source of all that we are and do.

CATHEDRAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The La Crosse Diocese has launched a Christ Our Cornerstone campaign to restore the steeple and facilitate other restorations to our beloved St. Joseph the Workman Cathedral. The impact of the Cathedral is diocesan wide and beyond and stands as the iconic cornerstone of our faith which radiates as a place of prayer and worship to all our people. This structure, our faith in stone, was gifted to us by the hard work and sacrifices of generations past. It is now our time, our turn to honor our faithful patron St. Joseph the Workman and preserve this historic and magnificent Cathedral. In an unprecedented act of generosity, St. Ambrose Financial Services has offered to match \$2 for every \$1 generously pledged to this initiative up to \$3 million. That doesn't just double your gift to the Cathedral, it triples it! All families within our Diocese are invited to participate. Please know that while one-time gifts are appreciated, we are encouraging everyone to consider making a pledge. There are several pledge plans available in the brochures available at the church or by visiting cathedralsjworkman.org/cornerstone. We thank you for your kind assistance in this historic endeavor. It is only together as one that we can truly do great things!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Save the Date Blood Drive January 21, 2021

We are hosting a Blood Drive with Knights of Columbus Council 839 in La Crosse
Where : St. Joseph Workman Cathedral
Time: 12:30 - 5:30

To register and setup an appointment.
Visit redcrossblood.org to find our blood drive and register.

FOR YOUR MARRIAGE



Here are some ideas to strengthen and support your marriage in 2021.

- Resolve to do a weekly act of love or service for your spouse – a hidden sacrifice, a little surprise, an unprompted chore or errand.
- Resolve to do at least one service activity this year (or even one a month), as a family or a couple.
- Draw up your 2021 household budget together. Be honest about your finances. Discuss spending priorities, including charitable donations. Make giving a part of your life.
- Make a "spiritual New Year's resolution" together. Decide to read Scripture together, pray together at meals or before bedtime/in the morning, attend Mass together.
- Make concrete plans in your schedule to have fun together. They don't have to be elaborate or expensive. They just need to foster quality time and relaxation.

PRAYER REQUESTS



Lorraine Atkinson	Bob Langer
Mike Bruha	Deanna Mason
Rebecca Chatfield	Ken Proctor
Paul Collins	Cindy Rittman
William Alan Davis	Bailey Rohrer
Ethan William Doe	Mary Roerkohl
The Donaldson Family	Sascha Stephens
Sherry Hanson	Phyllis Thaldorf
June Kukovec	Colleen Tisil
Angela LaFleur	Addison Quinn Usitalo

Please remember, the sick, hospitalized, military members, homebound and anyone needing of our prayers.

May they experience the healing power of God.

WHEN REQUESTING THAT AN INDIVIDUAL BE ADDED TO OUR PRAYER LIST, YOU MUST HAVE THE CONSENT OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR THEIR FAMILY FOR THEIR NAME TO BE PUBLICIZED. ALSO, PLEASE REMEMBER TO INFORM US WHEN SOMEONE SHOULD BE TAKEN OFF THE LIST.

We will be starting fresh with the prayer list January 1. If you so desire to have the name you have submitted to remain on this list, please call the office by Dec. 28th. Thank you and God Bless you.

FAITH FORMATION

What are you dissatisfied with at this time in your life? We are all writing the story of our lives. Are you satisfied with yours?

Francis of Assisi is the most popular saint in the world. Eight hundred years after his death people are just as fascinated with him as they were during his lifetime. He became profoundly dissatisfied after he realized being the life of the party always left him feeling empty. He started to believe there must be more to life. These are feelings we all have experienced, but how we respond to them makes all the difference. Francis rebelled in a truly wild and wonderful way by allowing the Spirit to guide a new beautiful story with his life.

We all carry the seeds of greatness within us. Sometimes that greatness manifests in extraordinary things, but most of the time the greatness of God manifests in us through ordinary things done with great love.

There are so many small, ordinary things you can do each day to remind people that the goodness and generosity, thoughtfulness and compassion that make the human spirit great are alive and well. Collaborate with God and create holy moments. Each is a chance to let people know that somebody cares. The human spirit may be asleep but it is not dead. Let's awaken the greatness of the human spirit and start to live life on a whole new level.

Kelly, Matthew. Rediscover the Saints. Pg. 39. Print

Important Faith Formation Dates

Wednesday, Dec. 23 - No Faith Formation
Wednesday, Dec. 30 - No Faith Formation
Wednesday, Jan. 6 - No Faith Formation
Wednesday, Jan. 13 - Faith Formation Resumes in email format or packet pick up.

HOLY DAYS OBLIGATION

Due to the increase of COVID-19 cases, Bishop Callahan issued a decree that extends the suspension of the obligation to attend Mass to include the Holy Days of Obligation. This will be in place until further notice. "The upcoming Solemnities are at the heart of our faith. I ask that you keep these days holy. If you are able in a safe way, please attend Mass. If you have any underlying conditions, care for those who might be vulnerable or have concerns about COVID-19 know that the obligation to attend in person is lifted but our need to celebrate these great Solemnities for our spiritual health has never been greater."

—Bishop William Callahan

HOLY INNOCENTS



On Monday, December 28th, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Innocents. The Gospel of Matthew tells us the tale of King Herod ordering his troops to Bethlehem to kill every male child under two in order to try to kill the "newborn king of the Jews".

However, the massacre was fruitless because Joseph, forewarned in a dream, had already taken his family into exile in Egypt.

From the earliest centuries, the Church has commemorated the feast of the Holy Innocents. These little ones died unwittingly in the place of Christ. They were killed to stifle from birth any hope that the world might be changed. They represent all those who die in the dream of a different future, hoping but never knowing that their Redeemer lives. In remembering these victims of Herod's rage, the Church also celebrates Herod's failure. His power is doomed. The child, our King, lives!

~Give Us This Day

AQUINAS CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



Enrollment for 2021-22 school year will start soon!

At Aquinas Catholic Schools, your child will be ready to succeed in literacy, faith development, social skills, and preparing them for the future. We provide our students with an excellent education, but we also help them grow in spirit and embrace virtues that will stay with them throughout their life. To learn more or to schedule a virtual visit with one of our principals please call (608) 784-8585 or visit: www.aquinascatholicsschools.org

Looking to enroll in grades 7th or 8th Aquinas Middle School builds upon the students' solid foundation of knowledge in academics, arts, and athletics which gives them higher levels of comprehension and achievement for their future years in school. For more information on what Aquinas Middle School has to offer please visit <https://www.aquinascatholicsschools.org/ams-home>

Already apart of the Aquinas family make sure to follow us on social media pages Facebook and Instagram pages!

BULLETIN EARLY TO PRESS – FINANCIALS NOT AVAILABLE

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT FUND

Thanks for giving to the retirement fund for religious. "We are conscious of the great generosity of the many benefactors who support the Retirement Fund for Religious each year," says a Catholic sister. "Support from the fund has been a tremendous blessing to our retired sisters." Thank you for donating to support those who provided such great service to the people of God.

HUBERTERS WILD GAME FEED



On behalf of the Huberters, we felt it best to cancel our Wild Game Feed and Sportsmen Event slated for February 2021. However, we will still be holding our UTV raffle, and there may be a little surprise coming soon. We apologize for any

inconvenience this may cause, and we look forward to coming back even bigger and better next year. Tickets for the UTV raffle can be purchased at the parish office. Contact Pat Brueggen for more info.

SEAS FACEBOOK PAGE

Follow us on Facebook for parish news! We welcome your comments, pictures and feedback on our posts. It is nice for us to see and hear from fellow parishioners. We miss our SEAS parish family and hope to be worshipping all together soon.



DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL



We have had an amazing response to our parish target for the Annual Appeal. At the time of publication, we were at 65% of our goal. Thank you to those who have already sent in their pledge. If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail, we have extras in the gathering place or you can easily donate online at diolc.org/appeal.

Parish Target: \$86,710

Total pledged/received: \$56,549 as of 12/17/2020

Please send pledges directly to the Diocese of La Crosse. Thank you.

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH RECTORY & OFFICE

Phone526-4424
Fax Number.....526-3177
Email: office@seasholmen.org

STAFF

Pastor, Father John Parr526-4424
pastor@seasholmen.org
Pastor Emeritus, Monsignor Delbert J. Malin.....526-4908
djm133@charter.net
Pastoral Associate, Sister Bridget Donaldson, O.S.B.....526-4424
sbridget@seasholmen.org
Pastoral Minister, Carol Reider526-4424
carol@seasholmen.org
C.R.E. (3 years-gr. 5), Mary Luebke526-4424
reled@seasholmen.org
Youth Minister/D.R.E. (gr. 6-12), Patrick Brueggen526-4424
youth@seasholmen.org
Director of Music, Beth Lakmann.....526-4424
music@seasholmen.org
Secretary, Sandy Jerue.....526-4424
office@seasholmen.org
Sister Jean.....

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend: Sat. 5:00 pm and Sun. 8:00 & 10:15 am

Weekday: 8:30am

Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 8am-4pm, Fri. 8am - noon

Gluten Free Hosts: St. Elizabeth's has gluten free hosts available. Please contact Fr. Parr, and he will make the necessary arrangements.

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: Saturday 4:00 pm or by appointment.

Baptism: Baptism involves membership in the church. Parents are to attend a session early in the pregnancy.

Marriage: Our church is trying to create successful marriages. This takes some time. Arrangements for a wedding date are to be made at least six months before the anticipated date.

Anointing of the Sick: Individual celebrations upon request. Please call the office when family members are hospitalized.

Confirmation: Two year preparation program in grades 9 and 10.

PASTORAL VISITATION

Anyone who desires a personal home visit is invited to call the parish office.

CATECHUMENATE

Anyone wishing to become a full member of the Church is invited to visit the parish office.

Parish Council Members

Alyson Haugen
Jennifer Fisk
Brian Clements
Christine Olson

Mary Lenz
Kathy Nicklaus
Bill Heinz
Patty Heiderscheit

Finance Council Members

Larry Warzynski
Janice Dvoracek
Pat Stephens

Shawn Handland
Barry Ploessl

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 27		The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
8:00 am	Mass	People of SEAS
10:15 am	Mass	† Steven Golden
Monday, December 28		The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
8:30 am	Mass	† Delbert Welper
Tuesday, December 29		5th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
8:30 am	Mass	† Angeline Haug
Wednesday, December 30		6th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
8:30 am	Mass	† Cecelia Robinson
Thursday, December 31		7th Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
Parish Office Closed		
8:30 am	Mass	† Robert Brown
	Vigil:	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
		People of SEAS
5:00 pm	Mass	
Friday, January 1		Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Parish Office Closed		
9:00 am	Mass	† Brent Loken
Saturday, January 2		Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
4:00 pm	Sacrament of Penance	
	Vigil:	Epiphany of the Lord
5:00 PM	Mass	† Kyle Joseph Bertelsen
Sunday, January 3		Epiphany of the Lord
8:00 am	Mass	People of SEAS
10:15 am	Mass	† Judy Bockenbauer



Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Mass Times
Thursday, December 31st
at 5:00 pm
and
Friday, January 1, 2021
at 9:00 am

Parish office will be closed Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

THE HOLY FAMILY

JESUS, Son of God and Son of Mary,
bless our family.

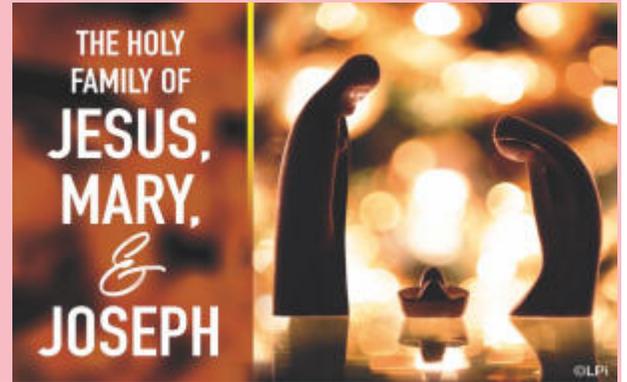
Graciously inspire in us
the unity, peace, and mutual love
that you found in your own family
in the little town of Nazareth.

MARY, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother,
nourish our family with your faith and your love.
Keep us close to your Son, Jesus,
in all our sorrows and joys.

JOSEPH, Foster-father to Jesus,
guardian and spouse of Mary,
keep our family safe from harm.
Help us in our times
of discouragement, illness, or anxiety.

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH,
make our family one with you.
Help us to be instruments of peace.
May we always have God
at the center of our hearts and homes
until we are all one family,
happy and at peace in our true home with you.

Amen.



THANK YOU

Our heartfelt thanks to the many people who contributed their time and talent to our worship this Christmas season. Because of Covid, some things may have been a bit different but many others remained constant here. We are ever grateful to Betty Schultz and Randy Stetzer for our beautiful décor, both inside and outside the Church. We give thanks for our lectors and to the cantors and musicians who, under the direction of Beth Lakmann, add so much to our liturgy. We are also extremely grateful for our Hospitality Ministers, who are vital to our ability to worship safely. To all, we offer our appreciation for their gifts and the love for Christ that inspires their generous service. Those who help others to pray give one of the greatest gifts.

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 Weekend Breakfast Sat and Sun 7am to noon
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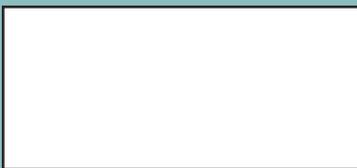
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