



Thankful and Hope-Filled

This week we will once again celebrate my most favorite holiday of the year – Thanksgiving. From childhood until now it has been a time of family and friends gathering in joyful celebration of food, togetherness, past memories, hope for the future, and fun and games. But more importantly, it is thanksgiving for what we have received and **blessings on those unable to be with us either because they couldn't make it (bad weather or work) or because the Lord had called them home to Himself.**

As the years progressed so did the table we sat at. There was the table in the kitchen for the younger kids, and the card table in the dining room for the older children. The adults (aunts, uncles, grandparents, and mom and dad) all sat at the big dining room table – to seat everyone all the leaves were put in to stretch the table the length of the room. There were varying political views and religious perspectives, but this was a time of true camaraderie, joy, and laughter as people let go of political biases and indifferences and settled into the spirit of thanksgiving and hope for the future.

These past nine months we have witnessed a disruption in life unequal to anything most of us have ever experienced before. It is not the first time people have been subjected to hardship, isolation, quarantine, loneliness, and fear in all its forms. As if the Covid-19 pandemic were not enough, other tragedies have gripped our nation: a destructive tornado in Iowa, fires in California, Oregon, Washington, and Colorado, and hurricanes have destroyed and are continuing to destroy peoples, homes, communities, and peace. Many lost everything they owned. Nearly everyone has had to start all over again rebuilding what was lost.

The Hebrew people in the time of the prophet Zechariah were in the midst of starting over. After many years of forced exile, they, too, had returned to their homeland, the land of their ancestors. There was excitement and enthusiasm as they returned and began rebuilding their lives, their homes, and the temple. However, they became disheartened, despair and apathy began to settle in. But, Zechariah, through his words and vision, brought a sense of hope and encouragement for the future to the Hebrew people. He saw their despondency and how demoralized they were. He knew they were secretly wondering where the God of their ancestors was. He helped them to look up from their despair and lack of vision to see a new reality. If they dared to look with him, to see in their eyes the vision he saw, they would be filled with hope and encouragement. He prophesied about a new and more glorious Jerusalem – a city even richer and more prosperous than the one inhabited by their ancestors.

Zechariah not only foresaw a more glorious future, he also spoke of a city without physical walls. A city protected by a wall of fire -- the glory of God who would surround their city. God would dwell among them and surround them with His glory (Zechariah 2:5-9, 14-15).

God dwells in our midst today. Jesus is here, present among us, protecting us, encouraging us, comforting us, not only spiritually but through the deeds and actions, prayers and words of those around us. Jesus came to be among us and thereby give us a deep hope for the future. Jesus is in our midst now.

Like Zechariah we are called to be prophets -- speaking words of hope to people, being voices of hope to others. But, we also need to live in that Hope. I think we all have experienced a sense of despair and/or fear about the future at some point in our lives. We also know people, perhaps friends or family members, who have suddenly found their world turned upside down. The loss of a job, a divorce, the death of a loved one, financial difficulties, a disabling injury or illness ... there are many ways we experience a sense of loss and exile. It is in these moments that we experience the need to start over. The best people for us in such situations, I believe, are the ones who see the bright side of things, who give others a sense of hope. In our hopefulness we may not have the vision our friends do, but our concern and message will gradually begin to change their hearts. Fear and despair will turn to rejoicing. There is hope, joy, and peace – the message of the coming Advent season. All will be well.

Fr Bob



Celebration of Sacraments



Confession

Saturday: 11:00 am - 12 noon or by Appointment

Baptism

A Baptism Preparation Class must be attended by the parents and the Godparents are encouraged to attend. You must register one week before the class by calling the Parish Center at 715-842-3148.

Next Baptism Class: Monday, January 11: 6:30 pm

Bautismo

Para Bautismos los padres y padrinos deben tomar una clase de preparación. Generalmente las clases son el primer martes de cada mes a las 6:30 pm en el centro parroquial. Para mayor informes y registrarse para la clase llame a Joy al 715-842-3148.

Marriage

Arrangements must be made 6 months in advance with Fr Bob.

Anointing of the Sick

Call Dorothy at 715-432-5519 to make arrangements for:

- Anointing of the Sick - available when you are seriously ill or before a scheduled surgery.
- Visits to the Homebound - visits to your home, assisted living facility, or nursing home.

Hospital Visits - Let the hospital know when you are admitted that you would like to have Fr Bob or Fr Juan Pedro visit you.

In Need of Prayer? - Our prayer group is always ready to pray for you when you need extra prayer. Call Bonnie at 715-675-9876.

* You may also call the Parish Center at 715-842-3148

La Crosse Diocese Televised Mass

Wausau TV channels (Ch):

Cable & Satellite: Ch 12 at 6:30 am Sunday
Public Access: Ch 980 at 6 pm Sat, 9 am Sun

La Crosse Diocese Weekday Mass:

Mass is available any time of day at:

- www.dioc.org/live
- www.dioc.org/tvmass;
- YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/diocesoflacrosse
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/pg/diocl/videos

EWTN: www.ewtn.com/tv/watch-live; EWTN App; YouTube Channel, & TV Sunday and daily Masses are at 7 am, 11 am, 6 pm & 11 pm

Relevant Radio: www.relevantradio.com & on Relevant Radio App
Live-streamed Sunday and daily Masses: 12 noon Sunday - Saturday.
Previous Masses available 30 minutes after live broadcast.



Visiting and Anointing of the Sick



With the current covid 19 situation, hospital and nursing home visits by a priest are not always allowed. If you or a loved one would like to receive the **Sacrament of the "Anointing of the Sick"**,

please call as soon as possible:

Dorothy at (715-432-5519) or the Parish Center (715-842-3148)

When you know in advance that you are going to the hospital for a procedure, it will be easier for a priest to come to your home to anoint you. The hospital and nursing homes may not always allow visitors.

Often we have not received information from the hospital when a parishioner has been admitted, so please call us to let us know. Even if Fr Bob or Fr Juan Pedro are not able to visit the hospital or nursing home, you and your loved ones can be prayed for. Critically ill patients may receive exceptions for a priest to come to provide them with the Sacraments, so please notify us. Thank you!

Westside Circle of Joy



Due to the continuing presence of and the increase in numbers of the COVID-19 Virus cases in our area, it has become more of a challenge to help those in need by risking contact with them "face to face".

We want to continue our mission. Therefore, we are asking, if possible, that you donate monetarily. Checks can be made out to "The Wausau West Side Circle of Joy", or put "cash" in a clearly marked envelope to the same. These can be dropped in the collection basket. SCRIP Cards can also be purchased at the Parish Center and donated.

We will continue accepting paper & personal products, diapers, and cleaning supplies but, at this time, no FOOD donations. Food donations can be donated to area food pantries such as The Women's Community, Salvation Army, or The Neighbors Place.

If you have ANY questions regarding this change please contact :

Lou at 715-848-4177 or Karen at 715-842-3717.

Thank you, again, for your continued support of our mission to serve (as Jesus said) "the least of our brothers and sisters".

Stay healthy and may God Bless You!

The Importance of Thanksgiving



During this season of Thanksgiving, let us become more aware, throughout each day, of the things for which we can be thankful, even in the midst of difficult circumstances. The following Scripture passages help us to know how to express our gratitude to God. Take a minute to stop and read these Bible verses aloud as you think about all the ways God has blessed you this past year!

- "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him" (Colossians 3:17).
- "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7).
- "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!" (Psalm 107:1).

From the "Wausau West Side Circle of Joy"



The Salvation Army Shelter is collecting Blankets, Spreads, Quilts, & "Snuggles" to give to their Homeless Residents so that they may have something in which to wrap themselves for the night once they leave the shelter. NONE of these have to be new, however, they do have to be clean and in good repair.

If you have any extra blankets etc. (any size) to spare, please drop them off in the BLUE BINS in church or call Lou at 715-848-4177 for other arrangements. We are very concerned about the HOMELESS in our area especially now that cold weather is setting in. Thank you very much!

We Are the Hands of Your Charitable Hearts

Soup Sale Fundraiser in December



St. Matthew Parish would like to be able to hold the "Soup Sale" fundraiser in December. The exact date is still undetermined because we need volunteers for preparation and selling. All workers/volunteers would be required to social distance and wear masks.

If you are interested in helping, please call the Parish Center, 715-842-3148, and we will write you in and then keep you informed.



This Week at Saint Matthew
(Please bring a mask.)

Tuesday, November 24

Bible Study - Church, Angelorum: 10:30 am - 12 noon
Bible Study - Church, Angelorum: 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Thursday, November 26 - Happy Thanksgiving!!

Parish Center Closed

Friday, November 27

Parish Center Closed



Subscriptions to "The WORD Among Us"



The Word Among Us magazine offers the daily Mass readings and meditations, inspirational essays, stories of the saints and more! If you are interested in receiving a subscription to "The WORD Among Us" (for \$18/year - a discounted group rate), please call Dorothy at: 715-432-5519 or Judy at: 715-675-9215. Subscription will be starting soon, so let Dorothy or Judy know as soon as possible if you are interested.



"The Book of the Dead"

In November, "The Book of the Dead" is in the Angelorum by the Memorial Table. We invite you to add the names of family or friends who have died, especially those who have died in this past year.



Sharing God's Blessings

Thank You for Your Continued Support!

Minimum Budgeted Amount Needed Weekly.....	\$9,612.00
Sunday Collection.....	\$6,535.83
3rd Sunday Collection.....	\$1,301.00

Calendar Raffle Winner: November 16 - Brandon Baumann (#233)

Parish Contributions: Our weekly offertory collection provides the necessary funds to meet our financial obligations - staff payroll, insurance payments, utility bills, building maintenance, etc. While public Masses are limited at this time, our daily work of parish and pastoral ministry will continue on. Please consider sending your weekly donations by:

- Mail (St Matthew Parish, 221 S 28th Ave, Wausau, WI 54401)
- Monthly Electronic Funds Transfer from your bank (to set up, contact Barb at: 715-842-3148 or email: barbfinance@stmatthewausau.org).
- Bill Pay through your Bank (contact your bank to set up).
- Online Giving: (via credit card or direct debit)
 - www.stmatthewausau.org/donations (one-time donations)
 - www.stmatthewausau.org/payments (recurring donations available)

Parish Staff (715-842-3148)

Pastor: Rev Robert C Thorn - frbob@stmatthewausau.org
Assoc Pastor: Rev Juan Pedro Roblez Baltazar- frjuan@stmatthewausau.org
Deacon: Rev Mr Tom Tierney
Pastoral Care: Dorothy Giallombardo - dorothy@stmatthewausau.org
Secretary:
Finance Secretary: Barb Splinter - barbfinance@stmatthewausau.org
Plant Manager: Jason Seliger
DRE & Hispanic RE: Joy Orozco - joydre@stmatthewausau.org
Bulletin Editor: Rosemary Beever - rosemarybulletin@stmatthewausau.org
Bulletin Deadline - 3 pm Monday



Mass Intentions

November 23 - 29, 2020



Pray for Us

Monday	8:00 am	†Loretta Gustafson
Tuesday	8:00 am	†John Bauer
Wednesday	8:00 am	†Alicia Orozco
Thursday	8:00 am	†Patrick McDonald
Friday	8:00 am	†Jenny Hack
Saturday	8:00 am	†Paul Wiegert
	4:30 pm	†Sally Borski
Sunday	8:00 am	†Mike Mosure
	10:00 am	†Florence Schneider
	12 noon	- St Matthew Parishioners

Scripture Readings

Monday, November 23 - Saint Clement 1, Pope/Martyr;
Saint Columban, Abbot; BI Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest/Martyr
Rv 14:1-3, 4-5/Ps 24/Lk 21:1-4

Tues, Nov 24 - St Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest & Companions, Martyrs
Rv 14:14-19/Ps 96/Lk 21:5-11

Weds, November 25 - Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin/Martyr
Rv 15:1-4/Ps 98/Lk 21:12-19

Thursday, November 26 - Thanksgiving Day
Sir 50:22-24/Ps 113/1 Cor 1:3-9/Lk 17:11-19

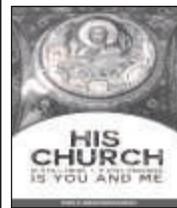
Friday, November 27
Rv 20:1-4, 11—21:2/Ps 84/Lk 21:29-33

Saturday, November 28
Rv 22:1-7/Ps 95/Lk 21:34-36

Sunday, November 29 - 1st Sunday of Advent



Diocesan Annual Appeal - 2020-2021 Target of \$72,700
His Church is Still Here, Still Provides, is You and Me.



When you receive your pledge cards, please fill them out and send to the Diocese in the envelope with the pledge card and your pledge amount. Your contribution is very important to the success of our parish target. Thank you for your commitment to our parish. We thank God for your generosity!

Weekend - Liturgical Ministers

Saturday November 28 4:30 pm	Sunday November 29 8:00 am	Sunday November 29 10:00 am
Lectors		
Lee Peek	Theresa Stubbe	Lynn Meyer
Musicians		
Cindy Blair Nancy Losinski	Marie Stubbe Annette Southworth	Gordon Crow Sara Schmitt

He will wipe every tear from their eyes,
and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain...Rev 21:4



**Our Prayers & Sympathy
go to the Family & Friends of:**

Jule Donofry

He died Thursday - November 12, 2020
He is the Brother-in-Law of Joan Woelfle

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him. Amen*



We're Hiring at St Matthew Parish

Bookkeeper-Finance Secretary
(30-35 hours/week)

We are looking for someone with experience to fill
the position of "Bookkeeper-Finance Secretary". If you are interested in
learning more about this position, please contact Fr Bob at:

715-842-3148 or email him at: rcthorn@imap.cc

Please send your resume with a cover letter and references to:

Rev. Robert Thorn
St. Matthew Parish
229 South 28th Ave.
Wausau, WI 54401

ADVENT VIRTUAL PARISH MISSION

Preparing for the Birth of the Christ Child through the Eyes of St Joseph

There will be four presentations, one for each week of Advent. The
length of the talks will be roughly 30-40 minutes and discussion
questions will be provided. The purpose of the Parish Mission is to
bring parishioners together to prepare for Christmas and to strengthen
the community.

St Matthew Parish Angelorum
Monday Evenings @ 6:30 pm

November 30, December 7, 14 & 21

Thursday Mornings after the 8 am Mass

December 3, 10, 17 and
December 22 (Tuesday)

Week 1

*St Joseph: The Man
selected by God
to be closest to
Mary and to Jesus*

Presenter:
Msgr Joseph Diermeier

Week 2

*Joseph and Mary:
A Holy Love Story*

Presenter:
Msgr Joseph Hirsch

Week 3

*The Holy Night through
Joseph's Eyes*

Presenter: Fr Woodrow Pace

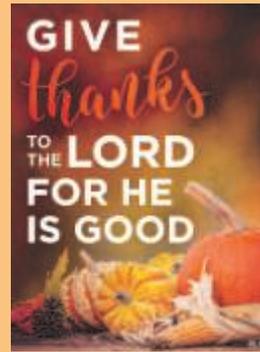
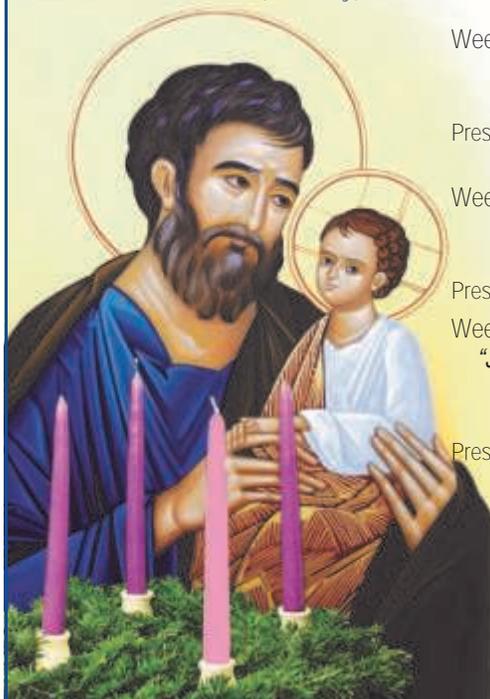
Week 4

*"Joseph, Son of David...
You are to give Him
the Name Jesus"*

Presenter:
Bishop William Callahan

For information call:
Kitty @ 715-297-7988 or
Kathy @ 715-571-4495

To view online please
visit: diolc.org/advent



We Wish You
and Your Families
a Blessed Thanksgiving
Day and many Blessings
Everyday of the Year!
Fr Bob, Fr Juan Pedro
and the
Saint Matthew Parish Staff



Advent Candles and Wreaths
Available for purchase in the Angelorum.

\$4.00 - Advent Candles
(1 box/4 candle set)

\$7.00 - Metal Wreath

Please place payment in the box on the table or in an envelope
(with note for what money is for) and put in the Collection Basket.

The Advent Wreath

*When you have a simple Advent Wreath on your family dinner
table and light a candle for each week of Advent, and you pray
together, you will enter more deeply into the proper preparation for
Christmas.*

*A wreath can be assembled by simply using evergreen limbs from
a tree in the yard and four candles.*

May you have a blessed Advent!



Donations for Advent and Christmas
Candles and Flowers



To beautify the church and sanctuary and to
honor the birth of Jesus you may donate a
candle or flowers in memory of loved ones.

Place your donations in an envelope, include your name and the name of the
person you are remembering and put in the collection basket at Mass or mail to:
(St Matthew Parish Center, 221 S. 28th Ave, Wausau, WI 54401)

Thank You and May You have a Blessed Christmas Season!!!



We are Thankful to our
Advertisers!
Please support them!



Collecting Calendars for Nursing Homes

If you have extra calendars you would like to donate
for nursing home residents, please put them in labeled
box by the Blue Bins in the Angelorum. Thank You!

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