



ST. BARTHOLOMEW, TREMPPEALEAU



ST. MARY'S, GALESVILLE

Sunday Bulletin August 17, 2025 Year C

20th Sunday
of
Ordinary

Pastor: Father Sebastian Saleth Pitchai

Phone: 608-534-6652

Deacon Kent Jacobson

Contact Parish office at: **St. Bartholomew, 11646 South Street, Trempealeau 54661**

Our website: www.saintbartholomew.net

Emails: Fr. Sebastian - ssebastian@diolclergy.org

Deacon Kent Jacobson - kjacobson@diolclergy.org

Secretary: Cherie - secretary@stmstb.diolcparish.org

Parish Councils

St. Bartholomew Parish

Finance: Dan Lilla, Ed Smith, Roger Amundson, Larry Sonsalla, Tom Greylak, Patty Behan, Kris Krett, Laurelle Lettner, Joe Plunger.

Pastoral: Cherie Schwertel, Darlene Schlessor, Daniel Lilla, Al Joyce, Candice Guenther, Kay Richtman, Jessi Haney, Laurelle Lettner.

St. Mary Parish

Finance: Tom Ladwig, Dave Mueller, Becky Harris, Sandy Salsman, Bruce Reedy, Roger Betthausen, Don Teska, Kris Gengler, Sarah Sagler

Pastoral: Kent Jacobson, Cindy Baer, Cindy Anderson, Sarah Sagler, Joseph Hellerude

The Fire That Purifies

My Dear Brothers and Sisters, on this Twentieth Sunday, we are reminded to follow Christ, who came to bring the “fire” that purifies, transforms, and saves us from evil.

In the first reading, Jeremiah faced grave injustice for proclaiming God’s truth. His message disturbed the leaders, who conspired to silence him. Though they succeeded temporarily, God did not abandon him. At the right time, the Lord came to his rescue.

As the Psalmist affirms: “I waited and waited for the Lord, and he heard my cry.” God is faithful and will deliver the just in times of trial. We must never give up, even when crushed by opposition.

The second reading from Hebrews urges us to “keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author of our faith.” We are to imitate Christ’s zeal and courage, trusting Him to give us the strength to persevere in hardship.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus speaks of bringing “fire” and “division” on earth. This may sound puzzling, since He is the Prince of Peace. Some misinterpret these words in a negative way, but Jesus’ fire is not destructive—it is the purifying fire of the Holy Spirit. It cleanses us from sin and strengthens us to live the Gospel.

St. Cyril of Alexandria explains: “The fire which Christ brings is for men’s salvation and profits... The fire here is, the saving message of the Gospel, and the power of its commandments”

Like the Old Testament fire that revealed God’s power, Christ’s fireworks to burn away immorality, injustice, corruption, and selfish attachments. It is a fire that heals and renews.

The Gospel can also be a source of division, not because Christ desires conflict, but because His message challenges the values of an unjust world. Those who choose to live by God’s truth will sometimes face opposition, even within their own families. Hence, we shall pray: “*Lord, come to my aid!*”

Have a Blessed weekend! God Bless You All!

LAST SUNDAY’S OFFERING

SBT SMG

Envelopes	\$2,447.00	\$ 1,436.00
Plate	171.01	145.00
Electronic Dep.	543.55	0.00
Youth Envelopes	0.00	0.00
Total Offering	\$3,161.56	\$ 1,581.00

Counters: Monica Bentzen, Kathy Kujak

Intention August 18 — August 24

Monday: 10:00 a.m. St. Bartholomew

+ Katie Scarborough

Tuesday: 6:00 p.m. St. Mary

Exposition and Confession at 5:00 p.m.

For Our Youth

Wednesday: 6:30 a.m. St. Bartholomew

+ Carol Bagley

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. St. Bartholomew

Exposition and Confession at 9:00 a.m.

+ Mary Ladwig

Friday: 10:00 a.m. St. Bartholomew

+ Kaye Benrud

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. St. Mary

+ For the Poor Souls in Purgatory

Saturday: 5:30 p.m. St. Bartholomew

+ Clayton Backler & Ed Schmitz

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. St. Bartholomew

All the People of Our Parishes

Sunday: 10:30 a.m. St. Mary

+ Bruce B.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY, Aug. 23

St. Mary 4:00 p.m.

Ushers: LaVonne Peterson, Doreen Emerson

Lector: Becky Harris

Comm. Min: Becky Harris

St. Bartholomew 5:30 p.m.

Ushers: Kirk Shimek, Volunteer

Lector: Suzanne Lane

Servers: John Severson

Comm. Min: Suzanne Lane

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SUNDAY, Aug. 24

St. Bartholomew 8:30 a.m.

Ushers: Jim Scherr, Volunteer

Lector: Bonnie Hicks

Servers: Eli Schwertel, Nathan

Comm. Min: Mary Skroch

St. Mary 10:30 a.m.

Ushers: Steve Grover, Justin Sagler

Lector: Nancy Wagner

Servers: Sarah Sagler,

Comm. Min: Nancy Wagner

FAMILY PRAYER CORNER:

At 7:00 p.m. Every evening all parish families are asked to pray: 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary and 1 Glory Be to the Father with this intention in mind: **Pray that the Virgin Mary, our mother will be our help at our most trying times.**

Personal Prayer Request: For a teacher or former teacher.

ATTENTION ST. BARTHOLOMEW PARISHIONERS

- ♦ **Feast of St. Bartholomew - August 24:** We will have a polka Mass at 8:30 a.m.. Donuts and coffee in the church hall following Mass and Bingo all cash prizes! There will not be a free will offering everything is free. We hope to have everyone attend. See you there! The Fall Festive tickets will be ready for you to pickup.
- ♦ We are still looking for some one to **volunteer to help in the 4th grade and the 6th grade**. Prayerfully consider taking on this ministry. Please contact the office at 608-534-6652 .
- ♦ **Religious Education Teachers' meeting** will be on Wednesday, August 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the church hall.
- ♦ **Need prayers** for any health or anxiety issue - big or small. Contact the prayer chain, Doreen Backler, 608-534-6118, Ethel Ouellette, 608-534-6520 or the Knights of Columbus (Greg Goltz) @ 608-865-1518.

ATTENTION ST. MARY PARISHIONERS

OUR MISSION: To love God, love others and go make disciples!

OUR VISION: To awaken the faithful, reach the Lost, and make Church matter!

- ♦ **1st Grade Teacher Needed** to share teaching responsibilities every other week for Family Faith Formation classes starting in September! If you are interested, or for more information, please contact Maggie Gengler at (608)865-1216 or genglermaggie@gmail.com.
- ♦ **St. Mary's PCCW annual mum sale** is August 22 & 23. The price will be the same as last year. If you could help work during the day on Saturday or before/after masses please call Becky (608-484-0630).
- ♦ **Need God's Help?** Contact St. Mary's Prayer Chain, Ellen Karow 608-582-2688 or ekarow@hotmail.com or the Knights of Columbus (Greg Goltz) @ 608-865-1518.

THE HOLY SPIRIT & YOU: (Pope Benedict XVI)

+ "Let us rediscover, dear brothers and sisters, the beauty of being baptized in the Holy Spirit."

COMMUNICATION TO ALL

- ♦ **Eucharist Ministers:** The workshop for Eucharist Ministers will be held Monday, August 25 at 6:00 p.m. in St. Bartholomew's church. This will be for both St. Mary's and St. Bartholomew's people. We would like to encourage all current and new people to attend. Jacob said that it would be around an hour.
- ♦ **LIVING WATER!** prayer meeting, Sunday evening, August 17th, 6:00-7:30 PM, St. Mary's Rectory. Following: **"Introduction to Evangelization, Part 1"**. St. Paul Street Evangelization with Dr. Mary Healy.
- ♦ **MUM SALE:** St. Mary's PCCW will be doing their annual mum sale on August 23 & 24. These mums are Amish grown and beautiful. Sales at St. Mary's Saturday 10:00 a.m. - after Mass and Sunday before & after Mass. Cost is \$20 each or 2/\$35.
- ♦ **The Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration** in La Crosse, Wisconsin invite young women who are interested in exploring how they might be called to live a life of community, prayer, and service according to the Gospel and the teachings of Sts. Francis and Clare of Assisi to join us for a Charism Immersion at St. Rose Convent September 17-21, 2025. Contact us by August 1st: vocations@fspa.org or 608-782-5610 ext. 292.
- ♦ Join us for the 44th annual Rural Life Day at the Van Wychen Family Farm in Warrens on Monday, Sept. 22! Mass with Bishop Battersby at 10:00 AM will be followed by awards, the blessing of farm animals, crops, and machinery and a delightful lunch. The Van Wychen Farm is located at 3365 Auger Road, Warrens, WI 54666. This is a day to celebrate rural life and to rejoice in the way its values contribute to the Church at large.
- ♦ **Catholic Charities: Support Specialists Needed!** Are you passionate about helping others and seeking a rewarding part-time opportunity? We are looking for dedicated Support Specialists to join our Adult Day Services program. As a Support Specialist, you will provide direct support to adults with developmental, cognitive, and physical needs. Hours are 15-29 hours per week and pay is \$15-\$18 per hour (based on education and experience). We're looking for someone who is patient, compassionate, and has a genuine desire to make a positive impact on the lives of others! For immediate consideration, please submit your application online at <https://cclse.org/employment-opportunities/> and attach your resume and cover letter. We look forward to hearing from you!

DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE: The Diocese of La Crosse, through its [policies and procedures](#), seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe Environment or on the diocesan website at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local Parish and on the [diocesan website](#). If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679 or tbrown@diolc.org.

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