



**CATHEDRAL of
ST. BERNARD
of CLAIRVAUX**

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Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

September 14, 2025

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish
but might have eternal life."*

- Luke 3:16



MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKDAYS

MONDAY 6:30pm (2nd-5th)
TUESDAY-FRIDAY 7:45am
1st SATURDAY 7:45am, with
confessions following

The Rosary is prayed after daily Mass. For a full listing of daily Mass devotional prayers, please visit our website or call the office.

WEEKENDS

SATURDAY 4:30pm
SUNDAY 8:00am & 10:00am
Confessions 9:15am

PRAYER LINE

The parish has many dedicated parishioners ready to assist you with prayer in times of need. To place your intentions on the Prayer Line, please call Carol (244-4817).

CONTACT

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**DIOCESE of
MADISON**

PASTOR’S PULSE ON THE PARISH



SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 14
2025

Dear Friends,

When I was in the seminary, we had a beautiful chapel where our larger Masses and liturgies would be held. Like the cathedral, the chapel had all solid surfaces. These types of surfaces are ideal for sacred music, as it gives a beautiful reverberation throughout the space.

Because the chapel was so large, however, the reverberation was quite lengthy - in excess of seven seconds (which is long)! It proved to be a challenging environment in which to sing. The choir would sing in the loft, located in the back of the chapel. It was absolutely paramount that everyone focus exclusively on the choral director and pay no attention to anything else that was happening.

The assembly reverberation was one half measure behind what the choir was singing. To the ear in the choir loft, it sounded like a train wreck! ☺ If you sat in the assembly, however, it was beautiful - and everyone was singing together. Danger would ensue if those singing in the loft would try to match what the assembly was singing. If the choral director had smoke coming out of her ears, it meant someone wasn't paying attention! ☺

As much as I wanted to see the beautiful things happening during ordination Masses and other special liturgical events, I could only concentrate on the music and keeping everyone in time with the direction that was being given.

Another difficult week

It's been another difficult week, friends: the killing of Iryna Zarutskya on a city bus in Charlotte, North Carolina. What was most tragic about this event is that, once the killer departed and moved to the front of the bus, those sitting around Ms. Zarutskya also

left, leaving her to collapse in her seat and die with no one around her. I would imagine that many were themselves in shock, but it saddened me that this poor young girl was left all alone with no one to comfort her or be with her as she breathed her last breaths.

On September 10th, we were informed of a high shooting in the city of Denver, Colorado. A 16 year-old student was the shooter, and he critically wounded two students before killing himself. Sadness abounds for the injured students, for the shooter and his family.

Then, on the same day, many watched in horror as Charlie Kirk was shot in the neck and killed during a rally at a Utah college campus. He leaves behind a wife and two beautiful children: a one-year-old son and a three-year-old daughter. They will not have the joy of growing in the loving care of their father. Details are still sketchy at the time of this writing as the shooter is still at large, and there hasn't yet been an established motive (though many are assuming that hatred for Mr. Kirk and his views were a significant contributing factor to his death).

The beauty of our country is that we can disagree on many different things, but where agreement should be united is in the dignity of every human life. To many, Mr. Kirk was a radical conservative with views that were incongruous with American life. He was also a husband, a father, and a son.

Mr. Kirk's family is left with a huge void, and it points to the fact that the dignity of life is no longer sacred and held in the highest esteem between those of differing opinions. If I don't like what you say and I think that your talking points are poisoning your life. That seems to be where so many people are, friends. We have lost the Natural Law that was established by God Himself and handed down to us. We are redefining the natural law, and we have no right to do that.

Stay in sync with Our Lord

If we look at this from a spiritual perspective, what's really happening here, friends? The evil one is trying to make us take our eyes off the Lord. When we succumb to the temptations of the evil one and remove our focus from the Lord, what happens? We are no longer in sync with the will

“Stay focused, remain steady, and rest in the Lord.”
- Fr. Michael

of the Lord for us, and we get way out of whack - just like the choir example. The Lord is wanting us in one place, but we're in a place that's entirely different, and we lost that unity with our heart in the heart of Christ.

The events of September 11th was one of the most heinous acts of the evil one which caused profound disorientation for so many as we watched thousands of our brothers and sisters perish 24 years ago. Yet, there were many others who drew from the wellspring of their faith and rested in the Lord as they searched for survivors and placed their own lives in jeopardy to seek out the lost and the injured.

In the midst of such tragedy and sadness, God could be found doing His work and drawing near to His children in need. The Lord is always front and center. The evil one will constantly do his dirty work on the peripheries, and he will want us to draw our attention to him. Now more than ever, friends, we must keep our eyes on the Lord's gaze, keep our hearts in His merciful heart, and keep our hands tightly grasped in His hands. We are the Lord's, and no matter what the evil one tries to do, we will be victorious over him. Stay focused, remain steady, and rest in the Lord.

Progress around campus

It was another week of progress across the campus. We have paint on the second floor of the rectory! We'll now be able to move to flooring and finishes, and I'll finally be able to get the toilets from the other suites of the apartment dining room! ☺ Work continued on the covered parking entrance, with steel work wrapping up and roofing work set to begin. The pit for the handicap lift is almost completed, and fabrication of our lift has now commenced!

In the undercroft, work on the sacristy ramp should be wrapped up in the next week and a half, allowing us to drywall the

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OUR GIFT OF TREASURE

2024-25 OFFERTORY BUDGET	
Envelopes.....	\$370,000.00
Loose (Cash).....	\$ 75,000.00
TOTAL.....	\$445,000.00
NEEDED EACH WEEK.....\$ 8,558.00	
OFFERTORY:	
September 7, 2025 (Week 10 of 52)	
Envelopes.....	\$ 4,281.00
Loose.....	\$ 568.00
e-Offertory August 2025..	\$ 10,342.64
B & G/Molesme Fund.....	\$ 50.00
Women of St. Bernard....	\$ 155.00
TOTAL.....	\$ 15,596.64
OFFERTORY PROGRESS:	
Collected to date.....	\$ 61,717.70
Needed to date.....	\$ 85,580.00
Surplus / (Short-fall)..<	(\$ 23,862.30)

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choral library and paint the entire undercroft. There have been some supply delays on a few of the parking lot plantings, which will delay the landscaping until the end of this month. We're also hopeful to get the bells up in the tower by the end of September / beginning of October. The new light fixtures in the church are slated for installation at the end of this month, and we'll also be working on the lightning protection system that will be installed in the tower and upper roof areas of the church.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for the cathedral work - I appreciate you more than words can say. I'll be working with Paul to set up some dates for the cathedral to be open so you can check out all the progress! I'll communicate those dates to you next weekend.

We pray for the gifts of love, peace, and charity now more than ever - our world is in desperate need of returning to what true love really is. It is rooted in God, and we find His love in the heart of the Savior.

With love in the Sacred Heart,
Fr. Michael

For those involved or interested in Mental Health Ministry



Keynote Speaker
Deacon Ed Shoener:
President of the Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers



Sat. Sept. 20th
9AM – 4PM
Mass 4-5PM

Camp Gray Inc
E10213 Shady Ln Rd
Reedsburg, WI 53959

Lunch provided.
Free will offering.

To register, scan code or visit
madisondiocese.org/mentalhealth
Questions? Call 608-821-3050, or email
apd@madisondiocese.org

Sponsored by the Apostolate
for Persons with Disabilities
Diocese of Madison

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Monday, September 15th		Our Lady of Sorrows (M)
The 24th Week in Ordinary Time		
1 Tim 2:1-8 ✕ Ps 28 ✕ Jn 19:25-27		
5:45pm	Confessions	
6:30pm	Michael Keegan †	
Tuesday, September 16th		Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian (M)
1 Tim 3:1-13 ✕ Ps 101 ✕ Lk 7:11-17		
7:45am	L/D members of the Rickey Family †	
Following	Rosary	
Wednesday, September 17th		St. Robert Bellarmine (m)
1 Tim 3:14-16 ✕ Ps 111 ✕ Lk 7:31-35		
7:45am	Dorian Brazy	
Following	Rosary	
Thursday, September 18th		Weekday
1 Tim 4:12-16 ✕ Ps 111 ✕ Lk 7:36-50		
7:45am	John Macker †	
Following	Rosary	
Friday, September 19th		St. Januarius (m)
1 Tim 6:2c-12 ✕ Ps 49 ✕ Lk 8:1-3		
7:45am	L/D members of Scovill & Larson Families & June Courtney-Brazy †	
Following	Rosary	
Saturday, September 20th		Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul Chong Ha-sang & Companions (M)
1 Tim 6:13-16 ✕ Ps 100 ✕ Lk 8:4-15		
8:00am	Holy Mass at the Schoenstatt Shrine	
Sunday, September 21st		25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Amos 8:4-7 ✕ Ps 113 ✕ 1 Tim 2:1-8 ✕ Lk 16:1-13		
4:30pm (Sat.)	Phil Buechner †	
8:00am	Pro Populo	
9:15am	Confessions	
10:00am	Kathy Jobst †	

HIGHLIGHTED TIME = LIVESTREAMING

BULLETIN SPONSORS

This week’s bulletin is sponsored in memory of:

Raymond Neitzel

Each week our bulletin will feature the names of those who made a donation toward our bulletin, which is now published in-house. For more information, contact the Parish Office. Thank you so much for your support!



LIVES OF THE SAINTS

September 15, 2025

The following information is reprinted with permission from www.catholicculture.org:

Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows

This feast dates back to the 12th century. It was especially promoted by the Cistercians and the Servites, so much so that in the 14th and 15th centuries it was widely celebrated throughout the Catholic Church. In 1482 the feast was added to the Missal under the title of “Our Lady of Compassion.” Pope Benedict XIII added it to the Roman Calendar in 1727 on the Friday before Palm Sunday. In 1913, Pope Pius X fixed the date on September 15. The title “Our Lady of Sorrows” focuses on Mary’s intense suffering during the passion and death of Christ. “The Seven Dolors,” the title by which it was celebrated in the 17th century, referred to the seven swords that pierced the Heart of Mary. The feast is like an octave for the birthday of Our Lady on September 8th.



—Excerpted from *Our Lady of Sorrows* by Fr. Paul Haffner (*Inside the Vatican*, September 2004)

This feast is dedicated to the spiritual martyrdom of Mary, Mother of God, and her compassion with the sufferings of her Divine Son, Jesus. In her suffering as co-redeemer, she reminds us of the tremendous evil of sin and shows us the way of true repentance. May the numerous tears of the Mother of God be conducive to our salvation; with which tears Thou, O God, art able to wash away the sins of the whole world.

As Mary stood at the foot of the Cross on which Jesus hung, the sword of sorrow Simeon had foretold pierced her soul. Below are the seven sorrows of Mary:

- 1) The prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:25-35)
- 2) The flight into Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15)
- 3) Loss of the Child Jesus for three days (Luke 2:41-50)
- 4) Mary meets Jesus on his way to Calvary (Luke 23:27-31; John 19:17)
- 5) Crucifixion and Death of Jesus (John 19:25-30)
- 6) The body of Jesus being taken from the Cross (deposition from the Cross) (Psalm 130; Luke 23:50-54; John 19:31-37)
- 7) The burial of Jesus (Isaiah 53:8; Luke 23:50-56; John 19:38-42; Mark 15:40-47).

CURRENT CATHOLIC EVENTS

UPCOMING QUO VADIS DISCERNMENT EVENT FOR YOUNG MEN



DIOCESE of
MADISON
OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

High school aged men are invited to attend the Diocese of Madison’s monthly Quo Vadis group meetings for prayer, talks, and discussions about the priesthood, and fellowship with other discerners. The next meeting is Friday, Sept. 26, 6:30 to 9pm at Holy Name Heights, Madison. For more information, email lorie.ballweg@madisondiocese.org or 608-821-3089.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY’S BENEFIT SEPT. 17

For more information on the Centennial Benefit from 5 to 8:30pm on Wednesday, Sept. 17, at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison, visit svdpmadison.org/event/adapting-to-a-changing-world.



SCRIP ON SALE AFTER MASSES SEPT. 27 & 28



SCRIP cards will be on sale after Masses on Saturday, Sept. 27, and Sunday, Sept. 28. Thank you for your support of this important fundraiser.

3rd Friday Mass at Resurrection Cemetery



September 19, 2025
10:00 a.m.

*All are invited to pray
for those buried in our
Catholic cemeteries at
this monthly Mass*



CATHEDRAL DATES AT A GLANCE

Sunday, Sept. 28, after 8am & 10am Masses

Hospitality Sunday: Stop in the St. Veronica Room for coffee, doughnuts, and fellowship after Mass!

Sunday, Oct. 5, after 10am Mass

Rosary March with Fr. Michael Radowicz

