

**INTRODUCING Rev. Chandra Ery**, the Sacramental Minister from the clustered parishes of St. Joseph in Barron, St. Boniface in Chetek, St. Peter's in Cameron, and the Assumption of Our Blessed Virgin Mary in Strickland. **A PRIEST YOU SHOULD DEFINITELY GET TO KNOW!**

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Fr. Chandra is from the southern part of India, the Diocese of Kadapa. He was ordained on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014, and was the secretary to the Bishop in India before deciding to move to the United States.

Fr. Chandra still has family in India. His elderly mother is 65 years of age. His family also includes 2 brothers and 1 sister. His father is deceased as is one of his younger brothers. Fr. Chandra can claim the title of being a 'middle child' and states, "that is very interesting"!

Fr. Chandra has served at St. John the Baptist in Webster besides working one month at the Most Holy Rosary Parish in Mellen, and at the St. Francis Xavier Parish in Merrill. In fact, this is the 13<sup>th</sup> place he has been working as serving as a priest. He calls Barron home for now. Fr. Chandra softly laughs as he doesn't view moving to different areas a challenge. When he was in India, he moved many times. He enjoys the opportunity to meet the people. He finds the people easy to get to know, receptive and kind.

Fr. Chandra's favorite season is summer! He is used to tropical summers with the temperatures in the high 90's – 100 plus degree range! Although Wisconsin summer temperatures do not quite get that warm it is a welcome relief from the cold and chilly winters.

Fr. Chandra's favorite holiday is his birthday, which was on March 19<sup>th</sup>! He feels double blessed as this is also the Feast of St. Joseph, the Patron Saint of St. Joseph's Parish in Barron. The plans for his birthday include being available for Reconciliation and two Mass celebrations on Saturday and two Baptisms.

Fr. Chandra describes his diet, as eating anything that is available for him. He does enjoy preparing Indian foods.

His hobbies are taking part in outdoor games: soccer, volleyball, and badminton. He is a football fan of the Packers. Fr. sounds very willing to pick up a soccer ball or a racquet to play a game of badminton. He recently tried ice-fishing for the 1<sup>st</sup> time. He wanted to know how it was done and it turned out he caught 7 fish! It was a good experience and took some courage for him to walk on the ice! Fr. also like to keep abreast of the news, enjoys watching some sport games on television and enjoys reading books.

This SDCCW President had a most delightful and interesting conversation with Fr. Chandra. His voice portrays a most friendly and welcoming gentleman. It is evident he is filled with the Holy Spirit and has a loving and most generous heart! Plus, he has an infectious laugh!

Fr. Chandra thank you for the opportunity to interview you and allow me to share your story with the women in the Diocese of Superior.

Jane Schizik, President of the SDCCW