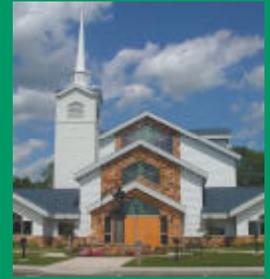




St. Mary
 1812 Lynn Avenue
 Altoona, WI 54720
 715-855-1294
www.stmarys-altoona.com

St. Raymond of Peñafort
 E10455 Mallard Road
 Fall Creek, WI 54742
 715-877-3400
www.straymond.us



Welcome to the Catholic Parishes of
ST. MARY & ST. RAYMOND
 OF PEÑAFORT

Thirty-Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time | November 22, 2020



ST. MARY & ST. RAYMOND
 ALTOONA, WI | FALL CREEK, WI
 SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

"Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." - Mt 25:34

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

November 21 through November 29

Sat., Nov. 21	4:00p	SM	†Bob Collodora
	6:00p	SR	Priest Intention
Sun., Nov. 22	8:30a	SR	†Ray & Joan Ruiz
	11:00a	SM	†Dolores Liedl
	1:00p	SM	Priest Intention
Mon., Nov. 23	————	No Mass	————
Tue., Nov. 24	8:00a	SR	Joe & Marlene Gallick
Wed., Nov. 25	————	No Mass	————
Thu., Nov. 26	9:00a	SR	†Gelene Harrison
Fri., Nov. 27	————	No Mass	————
Sat., Nov. 28	4:00p	SM	†Francis Maenner
	6:00p	SR	Parishioners of SM & SR
Sun., Nov. 29	8:30a	SR	†Loretta Quirk
	11:00a	SM	Kevin Klimisch
	1:00p	SM	Priest Intention

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Sat., Nov. 21	10:00–12:00am	SM (In confessional)
Sat., Nov. 28	10:00–12:00am	SM (In confessional)

Pastor

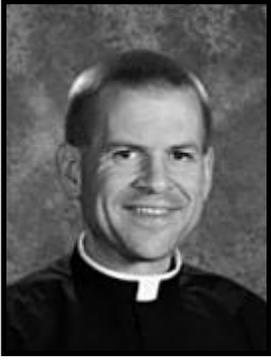
Fr. Derek Sakowski
 715-855-1294 ext. 101
frsakowski@gmail.com

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Peter Kieffer
 715-855-1294 ext. 140
frpeterkr@gmail.com

Rectory: 715-514-5113

Reflections from Fr. Sakowski



The King Shall Come

“He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.” Countless Christians profess these words in the Nicene Creed every single Sunday. But do we pause to reflect on the reality of Judgment that is coming?

Perhaps we are uneasy or afraid at the thought of all things being laid bare for all to see. As Jesus tells his disciples, “Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed, nor secret that will not be known” (Matthew 10:26) – an unsettling thought indeed.

Yet we beg God repeatedly that this Judgment will happen. Every time we pray the Our Father, we beseech Him, “Thy Kingdom Come.” Or we pray with great longing, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

Somehow, this Judgment, painful though it may be, is definitively Good News for us. Rather than dread it, we can learn to hope and long for it, to see it as our one and only way to true freedom.

A wise man once told me, “The truth can hurt, but it will never harm.” An even wiser man once said, “You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” (John 8:32).

Truth is indeed a central theme in Judgment. Jesus, the just one, will bring forth the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. There will be no shading of the truth on that day, no half-truths or equivocations, no pretending or putting on masks, no selective reporting of the facts. Those are tactics that we sometimes get away with presently, but they won’t work on the Day of Judgment. The full truth will emerge.

Paul perhaps puts it best, in his typically confusing way: “At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known” (1 Corinthians 13:12).

We will know ourselves as God knows us. Our full truth will be brought to the light of day. Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. He is God’s eternal Word. In the beginning, God spoke that Word, and it was made. On the Day of Judgment, He will speak that Word in glory. And our true and definitive self will emerge, with all falsehood melting away once-and-for-all.

Thankfully, the full and definitive truth about ourselves includes God’s tender and merciful love for us as his beloved children. He only wants to love us. He is not out to get us. In our distorted view of God, we tend to think that He is trying to trip us up, catch us in our sins, yell “Gotcha!!” and then smite us. Those are lies about God and ultimately lies about ourselves.

Yes, hell is a real possibility. Jesus speaks of it often. But God is not out to get us. Hell is real because Love is real. God has created us to love and be loved. That includes freely receiving and freely giving. He will never force us – otherwise it would not be love!

If there is any consistent theme in Scripture, it is that God always respects human freedom. He never makes anyone do anything. He invites and entices. He exhorts and urges. He corrects and chastens. But He created us as free sons and daughters, and desires to save us as free sons and daughters. Our free “yes!” is part of the story. In the end, God gives us what we want. His Judgment lays bare all that we have freely chosen for ourselves. Jesus is God’s Word, and he says “Amen!” to what we have chosen during the time allotted to us.

Thankfully he does not leave us alone and unaided in our exercise of human freedom. We truly share in the death and resurrection of Jesus. His life becomes our life. And the Day of Judgment becomes a Day of Justice. Our King comes to settle all affairs, and to set things right once-and-for-all. Is that not our heart’s deepest longing?

For that setting right, our own hearts must be set free. Our false self must die definitively so that our new self can emerge victorious. The experience will be painful and liberating at the same time.

The image offered frequently in Scripture is that of fire. “Our God is a consuming fire” (Hebrews 12:29). His love blazes mightily. The prophet Malachi foretells the great and terrifying Day of the Lord, coming like refiner’s fire. Gold is plunged into the furnace, not to destroy it, but to purify it of all that is not gold. God wants each of us to pass through the fire of Judgment and emerge as his free and glorious children.

When Paul talks about being known as we are known by God, he also says, “Faith, hope, and love endure, these three. But the greatest of these is love” (1 Corinthians 13:13). All else is burnt away in the fire of Judgment, except that which is graced by our trust in the Lord Jesus. Earlier in the same letter, Paul speaks of many of us being saved on the Day of Judgment, “but only as through fire” (1 Corinthians 3:15). All within us that is wood and hay and straw will be burnt away – our own feeble attempts at self-assertion and self-protection. But the gold, silver, and precious stones will endure – all that we have freely received from God in faith, hope, and love. In the beautiful words of Pope Benedict XVI, the fire of Christ’s love will sear us through. We will become truly and totally ourselves, and thus truly and totally of God.

Come, Lord Jesus!

Saint Mary and Saint Raymond of Peñafort Parishes

St. Mary Parish News

A Christmas Surprise?

Father has planned a special surprise for the St. Mary Parish to be unveiled at our Christmas celebration. Stay tuned for hints to see if you can figure out what it is...

???

Looking to volunteer?

If you've been looking for a way to get involved in the parish and if you enjoy proofreading or working with technology contact Ellen Hernandez or Jon Jones to get involved with proofreading the bulletin or helping with livestreaming!

Virtual Baby Bottle Campaign

Pro-Life Wisconsin's Helping Both Program fills the gap for families and gives hope to moms in crisis pregnancies. Your generosity provides the financial resources to continue supporting families in need.

Donate at: www.prolifewi.org/donate

St. Mary's Elementary School

Regis High School

The junior class at Regis High School will be holding a wreath sale fundraiser. Orders must be placed by November 9. They will be delivered on November 23.

Casual for Christ

November 17th is Casual for Christ Day. This month, St Mary's Elementary School will be donating their treasure in the form of Christmas Stockings donated to Wisconsin Foster Closet. Please send all filled stocking to the office by November 17th.

Virtual Learning Days

Nov. 23-24—No in-person instruction provided

Nov. 25-27—Thanksgiving Holiday

St. Raymond Parish News

Knights of Columbus Blood Drive

The SR Knights of Columbus will be having a Blood Drive in the parking lot from 12:00pm-6:00pm. Please call 1-800-RedCross to schedule an appointment.

Advent Devotional

50 free copies of Word Among Us Press' Advent Devotional are available. Stop by the parish office to get your copy today!

Poinsettia Memorials

If you would like to have a poinsettia placed in the church in memory of a loved one look for a special envelope in your envelope packet or place your request in a blank envelope with the label "Christmas Flowers" and the name of the your loved one. Please return to the parish office or place it in the offertory by December 13. All names will be listed in a bulletin insert on Sunday, December 20.

ST. MARY'S PARISH STAFF

FULL TIME DIRECTORS (SM & SR)

Pastoral Ministry

Jon Jones 715-855-1294, x 108

↳ smsrpastoralmin@gmail.com

Evangelization & Faith Formation

Jacqueline Van Hemert 715-855-1294, x 106

↳ JacquelineEVanHemert@gmail.com

Business & Finance

Bonnie Firkus 715-855-1294, x 146

↳ bfirkusstraymond@gmail.com

PART TIME COORDINATORS

Communication Coordinator

Ellen Hernandez 715-855-1294

↳ smcommcoord@gmail.com

Sacred Music Coordinator (SM & SR)

Tyler Andreae

↳ tja5300@gmail.com

Marriage Preparation (SM & SR)

Kaylee Peikert 715-855-1294, x 142

↳ Kaylee.Peikert@gmail.com

Pastoral Outreach (SM & SR)

Carla Kostka 715-225-7419

↳ kostkacarla@gmail.com

Family Faith Formation (SM)

Maria Ricciardi 715-855-1294, x 106

↳ FaithFormationSM@gmail.com

Maintenance (SM)

Charles Thurner 715-855-1294, x 141

↳ Stmarymaintaltona@gmail.com

Magnificat Orders

Need to renew your yearly subscription?

Order renewals at discounted price now through **December 15**. Stop by the parish office or check out the St. Mary's website! Only **\$30!** It is a great source of prayer with access to daily readings, meditations, prayers, and more!

Confession Ministry

In preparation for colder weather confessions at St. Mary's will now be held indoors. Starting Saturday, November 21st, confessions will be moved to inside the confessional. Confessions will still be at their normal time, 10:00 am-12:00 pm with social distancing measures in place.

St. Mary's Stewardship:

Not available at the time of publication.

SUPPORTING YOUR CHURCH

THANK YOU! Thank you to everyone who has continued to support our parishes through your weekly offering! We have had a good response even though we have not been in Church together! If you have questions about how you can get your offering to Church, please feel free to call Bonnie Firkus at 715-533-0629.

St. Raymond's Stewardship: Last Week

Not available at the time of publication.

ST. RAYMOND'S PARISH STAFF

Parish Secretary (SR)

Carla Kostka 715-877-3400

↳ straymondparish@gmail.com

Family Faith Formation (SR)

Marianne Callaghan 715-877-3400, x 119

↳ macallaghan115@gmail.com

Business & Finance (SR & SM)

Bonnie Firkus 715-855-1294, x 146

↳ bfirkusstraymond@gmail.com

Maintenance (SR)

Robert Grzyb 715-492-9677

↳ autobobs@outlook.com

Communication Coordinator

Ellen Hernandez

↳ smcommcoord@gmail.com

Sacred Music (SM & SR)

Tyler Andreae

↳ tja3500@gmail.com

Marriage Preparation (SR & SM)

Kaylee Peikert 715-855-1294, x 142

↳ Kaylee.Peikert@gmail.com

Pastoral Outreach (SR & SM)

Carla Kostka 715-225-7419

↳ kostkacarla@gmail.com

Senior Priest In Residence (SR)

Fr. John Schultz 715-271-0018

↳ schultzjohna@gmail.com

What's Happening

Vocations— Joseph Lynch



Hello Fellow Parishioners, I'm excited to be able to share with you that I am discerning

religious life. Little by little, the Lord has been inviting me to join the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and their life of prayer, service to the poor, and evangelization. I'm ready to

follow His call, but before I can do that I must overcome a significant obstacle stopping hundreds of men and women like me from entering religious life. This obstacle is student loan debt.

As a next step, the Franciscans and I have partnered with the Labouré Society. I'm grateful to have Fr. Sakowski's support in this work and I hope that you will join me as well. I humbly ask you for your prayers as my

Labouré classmates and I work to overcome this obstacle by December 31st.

I look forward to speaking with you all soon to invite you on my journey. God Bless and see you soon - Joseph

rescuevocations.org/Joseph

LABOURÉ
HELP RESCUE VOCATIONS

Information about Returning Safely to Public Masses

Public Mass AND Social Distancing

As we return to Mass, each of us has a serious moral duty to do our part to prevent COVID-19 from spreading, while also respecting emotional and spiritual needs and the centrality of the Eucharist in our lives. Unfortunately, this virus is not going away just yet. Any of us could be carrying the disease without knowing it. As we gather for Mass, we will be taking appropriate precautions:

- (1) **No Obligation.** All of us are dispensed from our obligation to attend Sunday Mass - probably for several weeks. No one is obliged to come, and for those who come, no one is obliged to receive Communion. If you are at risk, please be safe!
- (2) **Wearing Masks and Washing Hands.** The Governor of Wisconsin has declared a State of Emergency, effective August 1, including a requirement for everyone over 5 years old to wear masks in public buildings. The fine for not wearing a mask is \$200. Bishop Callahan encourages us to comply with the Governor's decree. Please bring your own face covering if you have one. We will also provide them while supplies last.
- (3) **Socially Distanced Seating.** Our team of trained ushers will seat everyone. We will limit ourselves to 25% capacity, and will keep each individual/household at least 6 feet apart from the next one. We expect that 50-70 people will fit safely in the church. If more than this amount choose to come, we plan to direct the overflow to the parish hall, where people will be seated a safe distance apart, and where they can participate via live stream and be brought Holy Communion during Mass.
- (4) **Limited Ministries.** We are limiting the number of people in the sanctuary. Over time, we will start scheduling in servers, lectors, Extraordinary Ministers, etc.
- (5) **Communion Precautions.** The priest distributing communion will wear a mask during that time, for your protection. The communion line will keep each household 6 feet apart as they wait. Hand sanitizer will be on hand both for communicants and for the minister. Please wait until you are dismissed into the communion line. Take your time and be reverent.
- (6) **Holding Off on Congregational Singing.** Unfortunately, research is showing that singing propels our germs much like coughing or sneezing does. We will use instrumental music or one-person singing for now. One step at a time.
- (7) **Stationary Offertory Basket.** We will not be passing any baskets. You can drop off your offering on the way into Church or on the way out
- (8) **Dismissal After Mass.** When Mass is ended, our team of ushers will dismiss the people row by row. There will not be the opportunity to stay after Mass or to congregate or visit. Everyone will have to exit so that we can lock the Church and allow our cleaning crew to sanitize everything.
- (9) **Sanitizing.** A crew of volunteers will sanitize after Mass. It doesn't take long, but is an important safety step. We need regularly scheduled volunteers to do this. Please consider signing up!

St. Mary's & St. Raymond's Schedule for Thanksgiving Week

Sunday, November 22nd

- 8:30 am Mass at St. Raymond's
- 11:00 am Mass at St. Mary's
- 1:00 pm Spanish Mass at St. Mary's
- Office OPEN from 12:00-3:00 pm

Monday, November 23rd

- St. Mary's & St. Raymond's Offices & Churches are CLOSED

Tuesday, November 24th

- Public Mass at 8:00 am at St. Raymond's
- St. Mary's & St. Raymond's Offices & Churches are CLOSED

Wednesday, November 25th

- St. Mary's & St. Raymond's Offices & Churches are CLOSED

Thursday, November 26th: Thanksgiving Day

- St. Mary's & St. Raymond's Offices & Churches are CLOSED
- Public Mass at 9:00 am at St. Raymond's

Friday, November 27th

- St. Mary's & St. Raymond's Offices & Churches are CLOSED

Saturday, November 28th

- 10:00am - 12:00pm Confessions at St. Mary's
- 4:00 pm Mass at St. Mary's
- 6:30 pm Mass at St. Raymond's

Sunday, November 29th

- 8:30 am Mass at St. Raymond's
- 11:00 am Mass at St. Mary's
- 1:00 pm Spanish Mass at St. Mary's
- St. Mary's & St. Raymond's Offices are CLOSED

Monday, November 30th

- St. Mary's Office will be OPEN 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Happy Thanksgiving!



Chilson Subaru
 Hwy 93
 Eau Claire
 www.chilsonsubaru.com

Mega CO-OP
 Proud to Participate
 In the Scrip Program!
 For more information call Mega 715-839-5272
 Holiday 10% Discount

CERTIFIED
 PLUMBING-HEATING-INDUSTRIAL
 350 Sunday Dr., P.O. Box 26 Altoona, WI 54720
 715-834-5409 MP#232816 Fax# 715-834-9039

GK LAWN CARE
 • 715-828-3779 •

Maureen Anderson Director
 Family Owned Since 1954
ANDERSON FUNERAL HOME
 715-286-2222
 312 S. STONE, AUGUSTA
 Toll Free 1-866-715-2250
 www.Andersonhaugusta.com
 Trenton Berg Director and Pre-need Insurance Agent
 Cremation & Pre-Arrangement Services Available
 Monuments & Markers

Team Tiry
 Real Estate LLC
 Aaron & Cheree Tiry
 TeamTiry.com 715-835-2129

Piltz Glass & Mirror
 * Fogged/Broken GLASS REPLACEMENTS
 * Glass tabletops * Mirrors cut to size
 * Storm window and screen repair
 * Custom Tub/Shower Enclosures
 * Aluminum Storefronts
 1011 Vernon St., Altoona • 715-835-3144
 2 blocks off Clairemont Ave. & Hastings

Cent Doctor
 715-286-5180
 Auto Repair | Auto Body Refinishing
 24/7 Towing

Krische Law Office
 Matthew J. Krische • Attorney
 715-318-2737
 21 S. Barstow St., Ste. 209, Eau Claire
 www.eauclaireattorney.com

MARKIN MICKELSON
 FINANCIAL GROUP
 of Wells Fargo Advisors
 715-832-6171

Wells Fargo Advisors is a trade name used by Wells Fargo Clearing Services, LLC, Member SIPC, a registered broker-dealer and non-bank affiliate of Wells Fargo & Company.
WELLS FARGO ADVISORS

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME
ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE
 Contact Gary Stang to place an ad today!
 gstang@4LPi.com or (800) 950-9952 x5838

Lenmark-Gomsrud-Linn
 FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES
 www.lenmarkfh.com
 814 First Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54703
 715-832-8301
 1405 N. Clairemont Ave., Eau Claire, WI
 715-834-4456

70% of people misusing prescription painkillers get them from friends or relatives.
 Rx Don't share Lock up Dispose safely
 Find a disposal location
 GetInvolvedASAP.org
 Alliance for Prescription Recovery

SPREAD THE WORD
 A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters
SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Cremation Society of Wisconsin
 Stokes, Prock & Mundt
 Funeral Chapel
 535 S. Hillcrest Parkway, Altoona, WI 54720
 715-834-6411 (CSW) 715-832-3428 (SPM)
 www.cremationsociety-wi.com
 www.stokesprockandmundt.com

relevant 1050AM radio
 Eau Claire Catholic Radio
 Station- AM 1050
 relevantradio.com

Affordable Alternative to Larger Tax Services
ACTION TAX SERVICE
 1122 Birch St., Eau Claire 715-832-1534
 New Client Discount \$10

ATS COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR
 (715) 830-7444
 www.ATServicecenter.com

B & BOHL & PROULX
 PLUMBING WATER SYSTEMS
 715-832-4795 • 715-723-9655
 MP# 682390

catholicmatch® Wisconsin
 CatholicMatch.com/WI

Altoona Family Restaurant
 • Open 6am-9pm Every Day • Breakfast Served All Day
 • Homemade Specials • 10% Senior Discount
 • All American Homestyle Cooking
 2000 N. Hillcrest Pkwy Altoona, WI 54720
 (715) 830-5000

Apple
 EARN WHILE YOU LEARN
 Want help to be a great parent?
 We'll mentor & teach you AND you'll receive diapers, formula, clothing & much more.
 2600 Stein Blvd. Eau Claire
 PREGNANCY CARE CENTER (715) 834-5254 • applepcc.org

DHCC
 Erin Tessendorf, DDS, Parishioner
 "Professional, quality dentistry for your entire family"
 715-723-6800 38 E Grand, Chippewa Falls
 www.dhccwi.com

RYAN KOSTKA
 715-823-0363
 EAU CLAIRE, WI
 www.Rock-N-Stonemasonry.com

NEW HOMES FROM 59K!
 Eau Claire & Altoona
 Finance or Rent to Own
 715-834-6802
 www.hillcreststates.net

MULDOON'S
 MEN'S WEAR INC.
 SINCE 1950
 832-3502 | 1-800-942-0783
 www.muldoons.com

Patrick Kroll Carpets
 CARPETS & VINYL PRODUCTS
 Installation & Sales
 715-832-4223

Too Sick for Mass?
 SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE!
 Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered right to your inbox!
 www.parishesonline.com

CANCUN MEXICAN GRILL
 Open 7 Days a Week
 2120 Highland Ave. • Eau Claire

CHASE PROPERTIES
 Andraya Albrecht, Broker
 chasepropertyllc@gmail.com
 715-456-0320

ALTOONA AUTO BODY
 COLLISION CENTER
 Quality auto body repair you can trust.
 1528 Spooner Ave, Altoona
 715-832-2756 AltoonaAutoBodyLLC.com