



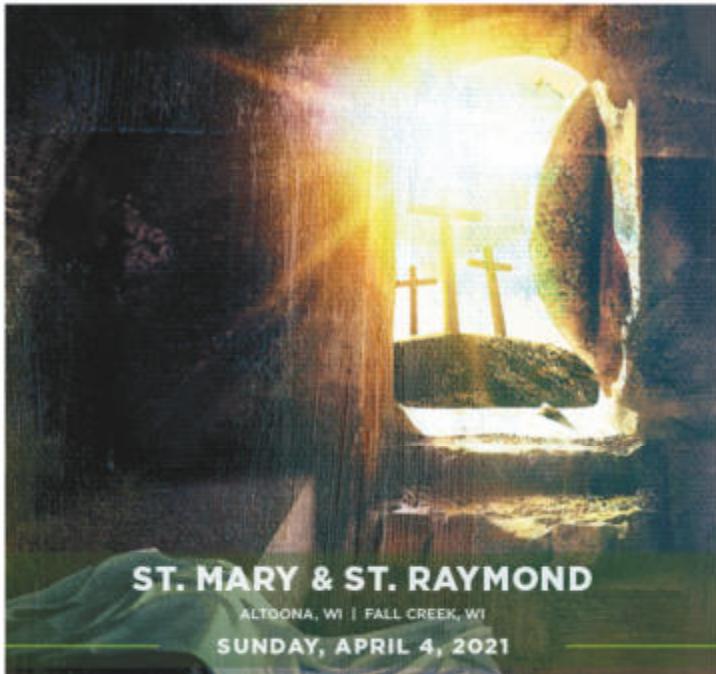
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# Welcome to the Catholic Parishes of **ST. MARY & ST. RAYMOND** OF PEÑAFORT

**Easter | April 4, 2021**



## EASTER SUNDAY

He bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. - Jn 20:5-7

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

OLR

### Pastor

**Fr. Derek Sakowski**  
715-855-1294 ext. 101  
[frsakowski@gmail.com](mailto:frsakowski@gmail.com)

Rectory: 715-514-0161

### Parochial Vicar

**Fr. Peter Kieffer**  
715-855-1294 ext. 140  
[frpeterkr@gmail.com](mailto:frpeterkr@gmail.com)

### WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

#### April 3 through April 11

|                   |           |         |                         |
|-------------------|-----------|---------|-------------------------|
| Sat., Apr. 3      | *9:00p    | SM      | † Olivia Klimisch       |
| Sun., Apr. 4      | *8:30a    | SR      | † Gerald Haas           |
|                   | *10:30a   | SR      | Priest Intention        |
|                   | *11:00a   | SM      | John Weiss Jr           |
| (Misa en español) | *1:00p    | SM      | Parishioners of SM & SR |
| Mon., Apr. 5      | —————     | No Mass | —————                   |
| Tue., Apr. 6      | 8:00a     | SR      | Tammy Whiteley          |
| Wed., Apr. 7      | 8:00a     | SM      | † Joanne c Poppe        |
| Thu., Apr. 8      | 8:00a     | SR      | † David Hehi            |
| Fri., Apr. 9      | SM School |         | † John & Arlene Weber   |
| Sat., Apr. 10     | 4:00p     | SM      | Special Intention       |
|                   | *6:00p    | SR      | Parishioners of SM & SR |
| Sun., Apr. 11     | *8:30a    | SR      | † JoAnne Ahlers         |
|                   | *11:00a   | SM      | † Andrew Condinho       |
| (Misa en español) | *1:00p    | SM      | Priest Intention        |

\*Incense

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

|          |               |    |
|----------|---------------|----|
| Thursday | 7:00–9:00p    | SR |
| Saturday | 10:00a–12:00p | SM |

### EUCARISTIC EXPOSITION & ADORATION

|          |            |    |
|----------|------------|----|
| Tuesday  | 5:00–9:00p | SM |
| Thursday | 5:00–9:00p | SR |

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SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES**

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## Reflections from Fr. Peter Kieffer

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Happy Easter everyone!

Back on Friday, March 19 I was eating lunch in my office at Regis. I had gone out earlier in the day to order a cheeseburger, and I was eager to eat it. Before I took my first bite, one of my co-workers stopped in my office and said, "Father, it's Friday (during Lent)." I happily replied, "It's a solemnity!"

If you're confused, let me give a little background. When the Church celebrates a feast known as a solemnity during Lent, Catholics are not obligated to abstain from meat on those Fridays. Those days (e.g. the Solemnity of St. Joseph or the Solemnity of the Annunciation) are meant to be days of rejoicing and feasting, hence my decision to celebrate by getting lunch from Culver's.

What does this have to do with Easter?

During Lent I occasionally would watch the daily reflections offered by *Dynamic Catholic*. Their program this year was entitled "Best Lent Ever: It's Not What You Give Up; It's Who You Become." With that theme, they taught that the goal of Lent is not primarily what we give up, but rather what we develop or who we become as a result of what we give up. This is consistent with the Church's teaching on Lenten disciplines over the centuries. Practicing Christian fasting, rooted in the teaching of Jesus Christ in the Gospels, is meant to help Christians develop good habits like self-discipline and self-control. Applying this to Lent, the goal of Lent is not primarily to give up eating things like M&Ms for forty days, but rather to grow in virtues like temperance, moderation and self-control so that it is easier to make good choices in the future and to live as a disciple of Jesus.

Today we celebrate Easter Sunday: the Solemnity of the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. This is the high point of our liturgical year. Christ's Resurrection has conquered the power of sin and death. We begin today what's known as the Octave of Easter, the eight days from Easter Sunday until the Sunday after Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday). Every day from now until April 11, the Church celebrates as if it is Easter Sunday. Every day in

that time period is a solemnity, meant to be a day of rejoicing and feasting. You could even go order a cheeseburger to celebrate. Just as God gives us days of fasting in Lent to grow in virtue, God also gives us days of rejoicing and feasting in Easter to celebrate Jesus' rising from the dead.

As we begin the Easter season today, a good reflection question for us is: **how am I going to rejoice?**

Before you begin pondering that question, let me make a distinction. The question is, "*How* am I going to rejoice?" not "*What* am I going to do to rejoice?" The latter question looks at particular ways of celebrating, e.g. doing something good and fun, having an extra special dessert at a meal, etc. The first question examines the disposition of our hearts as we celebrate. The question "How am I going to rejoice this Easter?" is an important one because it will determine how you transition from your Lenten practices to your post-Lenten way of life.

Take, for example, the story I mentioned above. On that Friday during Lent, I decided to celebrate the Solemnity of St. Joseph. What did I do to celebrate? I ate a cheeseburger. How did I celebrate? I ate the cheeseburger as a way to celebrate. I celebrated to recognize the gift that St. Joseph and his example is to all of us. I celebrated his virtues and example of fatherhood, hard work, and love for his family. All the while, I still strove to maintain the good habits I had developed during Lent.

As you are reading this article, how have you started to celebrate Easter? Do you feel as though you haven't started yet? If so, get started! Do you feel as though you're continuing forward with the virtues and good habits you've developed over Lent? If so, great. Do you feel as though you've put Lent back on the shelf until Lent 2022? If so, don't lose the good you've accomplished. One of the teachings this year in "Best Lent Ever" is that our celebration of Easter should be a continuation and a growth in the virtues we've developed during Lent. Lent is over, but the good of Lent should continue.

A Happy Easter again to all of you. Christ has risen. He has risen indeed. Alleluia.

# Saint Mary and Saint Raymond of Peñafort Parishes

## St. Mary Parish News

### Part-time Marriage Prep & Wedding Coordinator

This is a part-time position, usually involving Saturday weddings and Friday rehearsals, in addition to meeting with couples prior to the wedding. Interested candidates should send a résumé and cover letter describing interest and experience with marriage ministry to Jacqueline Van Hemert, Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation, at JacquelineEVanHemert@gmail.com. Please include the subject line "Marriage Prep and Wedding Coordinator."

### St. Mary's PCCW

SM PCCW will have their Low Sunday Collection the weekend of April 11 after each Mass. All money collected will be sent to LaCrosse Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. Thank you for your generosity!

## 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

#### Music & Liturgy

Tyler Andreea  
↳ tja5300@gmail.com

### PART TIME COORDINATORS

#### Communication Coordinator

Ellen Hernandez 715-855-1294  
↳ smcommcoord@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

## Looking to Volunteer?

If you enjoy working behind-the-scenes & looking to get involved at St. Mary's in a meaningful way, contact Maria Ricciardi to learn about how you can help with Family Faith Formation! Just a few short hours can make a huge impact.

### Marriage Blessings

We are happy to announce that Marriage Blessings are back! They will be given the 2nd Sunday each month at each parish, please sign up in the parish office if your anniversary is next month and you would like to receive a blessing!

## St. Mary's Elementary School

### Memorial for Kylie Pope

If you would like to support the Pope family in this time, Regis has set up a memorial fund in Kylie's honor for those who would like to make a financial donation. To donate, drop off cash or check at the school's office or Regis Catholic Schools Central Office, located 2728 Mall Drive in Eau Claire (Please include a note that you are donating in support of the Kylie Pope Memorial Fund). Checks should be made out to Regis Catholic Schools.

### St. Mary's Stewardship: This Week

Unavailable due to early submission

#### Diocesan Appeal Goal

\$39,460.00

Received ..... \$28,510.00

Thank you!

### St. Raymond's Stewardship: This Week

Unavailable due to early submission

#### Diocesan Appeal Goal

\$45,925.00

Received ..... \$22,843.04

Thank you!

## St. Raymond Parish News

### SR PCCW Baby Bottle Fundraiser

Looking for volunteers to help with the Right to Life Baby Bottle Campaign. It runs from Mother's Day to Father's Day! Anyone interested please contact Carla Kostka at the parish office. With our current status on abortion this is so needed! All supplies are provided and you will get all the information needed!

### SM & SR EMHCs

What does EMHC stand for you ask??? It stands for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion! Praise God that we have been able to begin taking Communion to some of our homebound parishioners. If you are interested in joining this ministry, please contact our Pastoral Outreach Coordinator, Carla Kostka, at straymondparish@gmail.com

## 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 Andreea  
↳ 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

## SM & SR

### Parish Council

Newest approved minutes are posted to the bulletin board in the narthex/gathering space and uploaded to the website.

### Divine Mercy Sunday

Next weekend April 11

### Lost & Found items at St. Mary

Lost and Found items will be taken to Goodwill by April 10. Please check if you have any items (dishes, bags, eye glasses, etc) before these are gone.



### Knights of Columbus

*For updates from the KOC, call St. Raymond Parish (715-877-3400) and push "3" to reach the KOC mailbox. There you will hear the latest news and meeting information.*

### St. Mary

We will begin praying the Rosary before Mass every weekend beginning April 11, we currently only have volunteers to lead before the 11AM Mass, if you would like to help lead for either Mass, but especially the 4PM Mass, please contact Jon Jones.

### Food Drive

Bring those nonperishable food items that you have in your homes! February 27 through March 28, St. Raymond's will be collecting food items to donate! Some items that are most needed are; peanut butter, jelly, cereal, and canned items with pop tops!

St. Mary and St. Raymond are also joining together to coordinate a Virtual Food Drive! In case you can't make it over to St. Raymond to drop off food, you can donate money! Check out the link below to donate! The Virtual Food Drive will end April 11! Thank you so much!

<https://give.fmpfoodbank.org/parishfoooddrive>

## Diocese

### New Lay Formation Institute (LFI)

Class starts in the fall – Registration underway! Registration is open for the next two-year Lay Formation cycle that begins in fall of 2021. Draw closer to Christ and deepen your knowledge of the Faith in a joyful community of learners! See complete information, schedule and application form at [diolc.org/layformation](http://diolc.org/layformation). Discuss with your pastor and contact the Office for Ministries and Social Concerns at [ministries@diolc.org](mailto:ministries@diolc.org) or call (608) 791-0161.

### Planned Giving— Leaving a Legacy, Wills, Bequest, and Endowments.

Our Estate Planning Guide can help people save several hundred dollars in legal and financial estate planning costs. If you would like more information, please contact our office. Our Planned Giving website is [diolclegacy.org](http://diolclegacy.org). People can find calculators, additional information, sign up for a newsletter and request copies of specific estate planning guides and information.

### New Leader of Prayer Class

Begins in July 2021. Applications are now open for a new class of men and women who wish to serve as Leaders of Prayer for the Diocese of La Crosse. This is a three-part course of study by which lay persons are prepared and commissioned to serve their parishes by bringing Holy Communion to the sick; conducting a Liturgy of the Word on weekdays when a priest is unavailable (or on Sunday in care facilities or jails); and by leading parishioners in prayer at other times. Applicants must have completed the Lay Formation Institute and be sponsored by their pastor. For more information and to apply, visit [diolc.org/ministries](http://diolc.org/ministries) and click on "Leader of Prayer."

### April is National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month:

In 1982, President Ronald proclaimed April to be the first National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and that tradition continues on today. May survivors of abuse experience God's profound love for them, and receive comfort and healing.

### Heroic Men Website

If you haven't done so, check out the Heroic Men website here, and let the Catholic men in your parish know about this great site. It is a 100% free Catholic streaming platform designed especially for men who want to discover (or re-discover) the truth, beauty and goodness of the Catholic faith. Offering more than 100 feature-length films, TV shows, documentaries and short films, Heroic Men seeks to source the best Catholic media available and bring it all to you, all in one place. <https://heroicmen.com>

### Courage / EnCourage:

Are you or a loved one experiencing same-sex attraction and looking for answers? Courage is a ministry dedicated to the spiritual needs of persons with same-sex attraction. EnCourage is a ministry dedicated to the spiritual needs of parents, siblings, children, and other relatives and friends of persons who deal with same-sex attractions. If you are interested in being part of a Courage Chapter, or an EnCourage Chapter, please contact Ann Lankford, Office for Catechesis and Evangelization, Diocese of La Crosse. 608-791-2658 or [alankford@diolc.org](mailto:alankford@diolc.org) Resources can be found here: [www.couragerc.org](http://www.couragerc.org)

### COVID-19 Vaccine

U.S. Bishops cite ethical problem with Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 Vaccine. The U.S. Bishops, citing the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, have judged that, if one can choose among equally safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines, the vaccine with the least connection to abortion-derived cell lines should be chosen. While the vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna did use an abortion-derived cell line for testing, they did not use the problematic cell line in their vaccine development and production. By contrast, the Johnson & Johnson vaccine was developed, tested and produced with abortion-derived cell lines, raising additional moral concerns. Therefore, if one has the ability to choose a vaccine, Pfizer or Moderna's vaccines should be chosen over Johnson & Johnson's. Sadly, when it comes to a number of vital vaccines – such as the one for Rubella – there is no other choice than either to make use of a tainted vaccine or to forgo vaccination altogether. For a broader discussion, visit [www.diolc.org/respect-life](http://www.diolc.org/respect-life) and click on the tab for "COVID Vaccines-Ethics."

### Christ our Cornerstone Restoration Campaign Update

Our \$6.1 million restoration need is well within reach! We hope you will join us in one final effort to bring this campaign to a successful conclusion. Total Restoration Need: \$6.1 million Overall Total Pledged: \$5.8 million & Need Remaining \$350,135.

## The Holy Family Statues



Recall how a few weeks ago we announced that Mary would be gone for a couple repairs??

We are happy to welcome her back along with this beautiful statue of St. Joseph and the child Jesus! A wonderful addition to be added to our parish here at St. Raymond in the year of St. Joseph!



We want to thank the individual who wanted to donate a St. Joseph statue and gave the initial funding! We were able to get this beautiful statue from a convent that is closing in Milwaukee!





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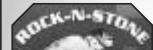
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