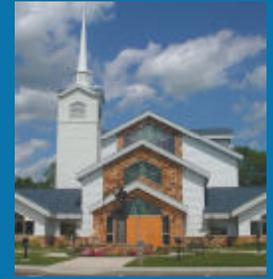




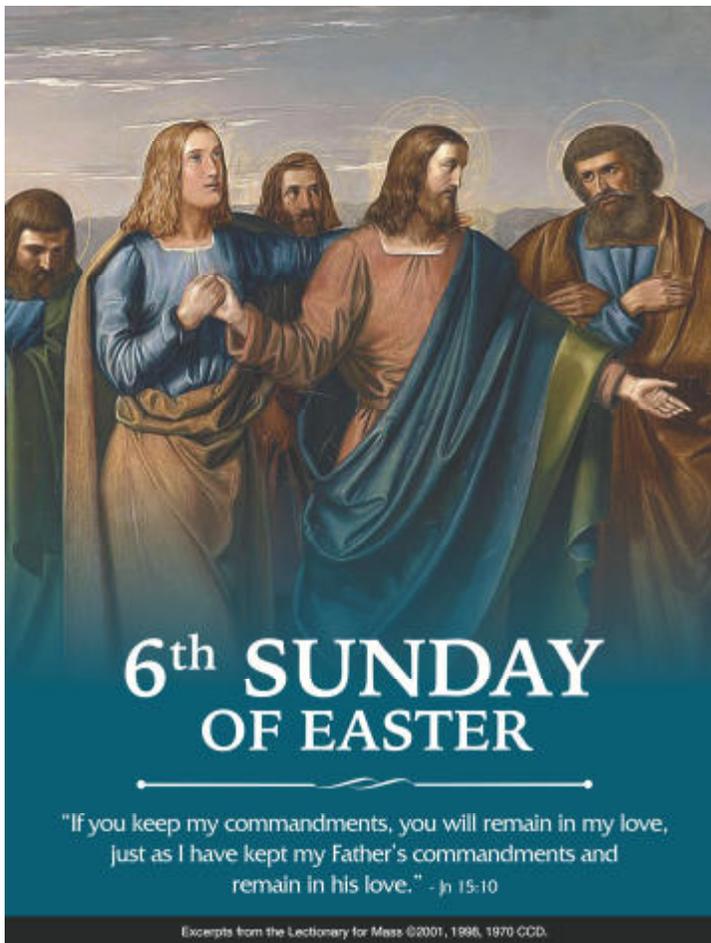
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 715-855-1294
www.stmarys-altoona.com

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 715-877-3400
www.straymond.us



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

Sixth Sunday of Easter | May 9, 2021



WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

May 8 through May 16

Sat., May 8	4:00p SM	Robert & Joan Manthey
	6:00p SR	Parishioners of SM & SR
Sun., May 9	8:30a SR	All Mother's of the Parish
	11:00a SM	†William & Marie Gallagher
(Misa en español)	1:00p SM	Priest Intention
Mon., May 10	No Mass	
Tue., May 11	8:00a SR	† Don Ida
Wed., May 12	8:00a SM	†Timothy Kilmisch
Thu., May 13	8:00a SR	Toni Peterson
Fri., May 14	SM School	John Weiss Jr.
Sat., May 15	4:00p SM	Robert & Joanne Manthey
	6:00p SR	† Gerald Haas
Sun., May 16	*8:30a SR	† Deceased PCCW Members
	*11:00a SM	† John & Arlene Weber
(Misa en español)	*1:00p SM	Parishioners of SM & SR

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION & ADORATION

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

PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR A MASK & TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES

Pastor

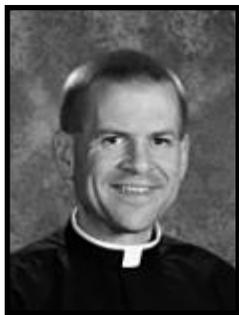
Fr. Derek Sakowski
 715-855-1294 ext. 101
frsakowski@gmail.com

Parochial Vicar

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

Rectory: 715-514-0161

Reflections from Fr. Sakowski



Learning to Saunter

Have you ever had that experience of always assuming you knew what a word meant, only to discover that it actually bears quite a different meaning?

I had one of those moments with the word “saunter.” I had encountered it often in books, usually with the same

phraseology: “He sauntered in.” To me, in context, it always felt synonymous with “strutted,” and I never bothered to look the word up.

But one day I was on vacation, a guest at the home of friends, and I was reading one of those life-coaching plaques in their home (I’ll leave it to your imagination to guess which room of the house it was in). The plaque gave dozens of tidbits of advice for joyful living.

One of those sage counsels was “Saunter aimlessly.” It didn’t seem to fit with the rest of the phrases on the plaque. “Strut aimlessly”?? I suddenly found myself hearing the admonition of Inigo Montoya, “*You keep using that word – I do not think it means what you think it means...*”

So I got out my dictionary. Actually, let’s be honest – I got out my smart phone, which is ironic, because the smart phone is quite possibly one of the greatest disrupters of sauntering in all of human existence. But it gets the job done as a dictionary. The scales fell from my eyes as I read the following:

saun·ter

/ˈsɒn(t)ər/

verb

walk in a slow, relaxed manner, without hurry or effort.

It was so much more than an “aha!” moment. It was one of those divine taps on the shoulder. Perhaps I had misunderstood this vocabulary word all my life because I am not so skilled at sauntering.

Well actually, that’s not true. Deep down, my heart LOVES to saunter. Have you seen those *Family Circus* installments that trace little Billy’s meanderings with a dotted line? I definitely have a little child inside that absolutely loves to saunter – to explore the nooks and crannies of God’s creation in a spirit of curiosity, awe, and adventure. But many other parts of me rise up to squelch those childlike moments.

My workaholic and perfectionistic tendencies don’t tend to leave space for little Derek to saunter. I experience restless urges within me – an urge to “get caught up,” and urge to be constantly productive, and an urge to meet the impossible expectations of others. My inner critic warns me that there is no time for such childish pursuits. If I stop to smell the roses, an inner alarm goes off, warning me to move on to the next

thing or raising my internal level of guilt about being selfish or lazy.

In truth, we cannot live as humans without sauntering sometimes. Our ultimate purpose in life is to abide with the LORD forever. Each one of us carries deep within us a yearning for rest. If we do not honor that yearning, it will find ways to express itself – often in fruitless fantasies or mindless escapes that do not actually refresh us.

Desiring our happiness and wellbeing, God commands us to engage in Sabbath rest. He rests on the seventh day and invites us to participate in his rest. Easier said than done! I remember the summer of 1995, at the end of my freshman year of college. I felt a conviction that, as a student, my labor was academic – which means observing Sunday as a day of rest from my studies. I made the decision not to do homework on the LORD’s Day. I thought it would be incredibly hard to “get my work done” without utilizing Sunday. I was wrong there. Those adjustments proved easy to make, and helped me be more intentional about my time the rest of the week. There was no challenge academically. Rather, what surprised me was how exceedingly challenging it proved to spend the newly found time on Sunday in real rest and rejuvenation. I found my heart restless as it tried to indulge in various kinds of entertainment or pleasure. My prayer felt scattered and distracted. It surprised me that rest could be so hard! I think “sauntering” can be even harder for me, because sauntering still includes a certain sense of movement and purpose, albeit in a more carefree manner. I tend to set myself up with impossible tasks and then always feel in a hurry, always under stress. I walk fast. I drive fast. I plow through tasks. I am disciplined and driven. In that setup, there is little permission to move at a slower pace, to welcome interruptions, to wonder at and delight in the amazing beauty that surrounds around me.

These moments of sauntering, puttering, or meandering are so essential for me to feel safe, to be open and receptive, to notice and to care, to be in awe and to wonder, to learn, to grow, to be generous, to appreciate, to be grateful, to affirm and encourage others, and to praise God. I am so much less human if I do not allow space for sauntering in my life.

Thankfully there are those moments when beauty breaks through anyway, and then I have a choice to make. Will I rush on to the next thing and miss an opportunity to abide with the one who loves me so much? Or will I be kind to myself, allowing myself to take in the goodness, to savor it, to delight in it, and to praise the God who gives such good gifts? Jesus, teach me to “saunter aimlessly” and be at peace when I do so!

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."

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.

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 Andreae 715-820-2613
↳ 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

WANT TO USE YOUR VOICE FOR THE CHURCH AND INSPIRE PEOPLE TO FOLLOW CHRIST?

St. Mary's and St. Raymond's Parishes are currently hiring candidates for part-time Communication Coordinator. This position serves an important role by keeping everyone well-informed of parish events and helps foster a culture of evangelization. Interested candidates should send a résumé and cover letter describing your interest in and experience with communication, journalism, and/or marketing to Jon Jones, Director of Pastoral Ministry, at smsrpastoralmin@gmail.com. Please include the subject line "Application: Communication Coordinator."

For more information see the Parish websites

St. Mary's Elementary School

Are you considering providing your child(ren) with a Catholic Education for the year of 2021-2022?

St. Mary's Elementary School is now enrolling students from three-year-old preschool through fifth grade! Financial assistance is available, making Catholic education more affordable. Please contact Carisa Smiskey (715) 830-2278 to learn more!

St. Mary's Stewardship: This Week

Adults\$2,740.00
Offertory (Plate)\$347.00
Total Envelope & Plate..... \$3,087.00

Diocesan Appeal Goal \$39,460.00

Received\$28,510.00

Thank you!

St. Raymond's Stewardship: This Week

Adults..... \$3,076.00
Offertory (Plate) \$81.00
Holy Day \$110.00
Total Envelope & Plate \$3,267.00

Diocesan Appeal Goal \$45,925.00

Received \$22,843.04

Marriage Blessing

Marriage blessing to be given this weekend. Sign up if your anniversary is next month and you would like to receive a blessing.

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 kostkacarla@gmail.com

ST. RAYMOND'S PARISH STAFF

Parish Secretary (SR)

Shelli Julson 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 715-820-2613
↳ 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

Parish & Community

Parish Council SM & SR

Our next Pastoral Council Meeting will be this week on May 11. Please pray for our Council members as they gather to discuss the state of our parish and consult with our Pastor. If you have something you wish to discuss with a Council member, see the roster posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Community

Eau Claire Catholic Women's Club

On May 17th the Eau Claire Catholic Women's Club will hold their Spring Banquet at The Eagles Club. Social hour will begin at 5:00pm with dinner served at 6:00pm. The menu includes salad, rolls, chicken cordon bleu, baby reds, broccoli spears, apple crisp with ice cream and coffee. The total cost is \$25 and payment should be sent to Judy St. Arnault by May 8th. Following dinner we will conduct the installation of new board members. If you have any questions contact Renee Liming (715) 379-6782.

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

MOTHER'S DAY ROSE SALE

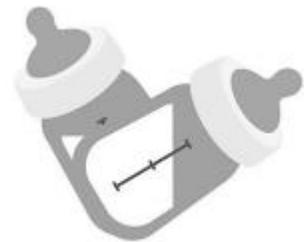
The Eau Claire County Chapter of Wisconsin Right to Life is holding its annual Rose Sale after the Masses on Mother's Day weekend. The beauty and delicacy of the rose reminds us of the dignity of each human life; its red color and thorns reminds us of the untold lives lost to abortion. Please consider purchasing a rose for the special woman in your life or in memory of that special person. Suggested donation: \$3 each or two for \$5. **Because of Covid, we will not be able to make change, so please bring the correct amount for donation.**

St. Raymond Parish News

The Right to Life Baby Bottle Campaign

Will begin on Mother's Day May 9th! Bottles will be distributed that day for you to take home and fill! Then you return them on Father's Day June 20th with your change collected!

Please consider participating to support your local Right to Life Organization as they promote and fight for life at conception to natural death! Thank you for your support!



Scripture Study

St. Raymond's Scripture Study will be next Sunday May 15th, after 8:30am Mass. Everyone in the parish is welcome and encouraged to come. Please bring along your Bible. There will be coffee and donuts served in the parish hall after Mass. Come visit with fellow parishioners and explore how God is speaking to you through scripture.



WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 9, 2021

- SUN 5/09** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17
- MON 5/10** Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26—16:4a
- TUE 5/11** Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11
- WED 5/12** Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15
- THR 5/13** Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Jn 16:16-20 Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20
- FRI 5/14** Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/Jn 15:9-17
- SAT 5/15** Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28
- SUN 5/16** *Ascension:* Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20
Seventh Sunday of Easter: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 [19a]/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19



First Communion



Congratulations once again to our First Communicants this past Weekend!



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