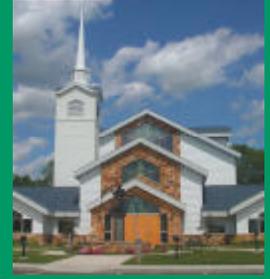




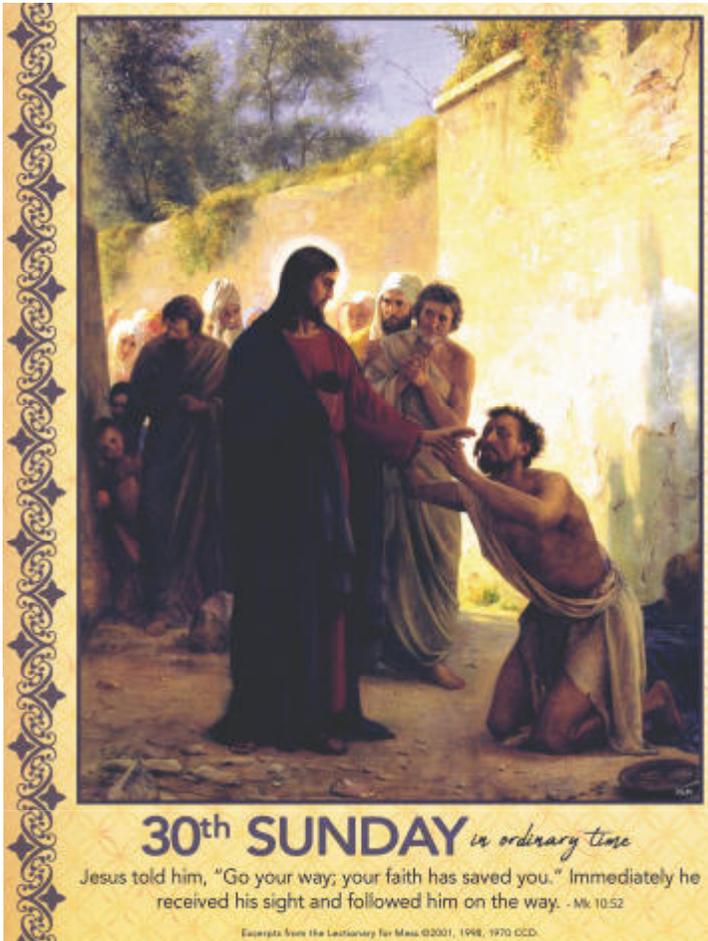
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Welcome to the Catholic Parishes of
ST. MARY & ST. RAYMOND
 OF PEÑAFORT

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time | October 24, 2021



WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

October 23 through October 31			
Sat., Oct. 23	4:00p SM	† John Onsanger	
	6:00p SR	† Lorraine Kamrowski	
Sun., Oct. 24	8:30a SR	Pete & Lisa Melrose	
	11:00a SM	† Virginia Polenz	
(Misa en español)	1:00p SM	Priest Intention	
Mon., Oct. 25	No Mass		
Tue., Oct. 26	9:00a SR	† Bob Severinski	
Wed., Oct. 27	5:30p SM	† Daniel Redlich	
Thu., Oct. 28	8:00a SR	† Alice Gunderson	
Fri., Oct. 29	2:30p SM	† Fred Hartlich	
Sat., Oct. 30	4:00p SM	† Jerry Shermo	
	6:00p SR	† Tom Fallon & Family	
Sun., Oct. 31	8:30a SR	† Order of Foresters	
	11:00a SM	† Ken Colby	
(Misa en español)	1:00p SM	Priest Intention	

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION & ADORATION

Tuesday	5:00p-9:00p	SM
Thursday	5:00p-10:00p	SR

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Thurs	9a-noon or by apt	SM
Sunday	noon-3p	SM
Tues/Thurs	9a-noon or by apt	SR

Pastor

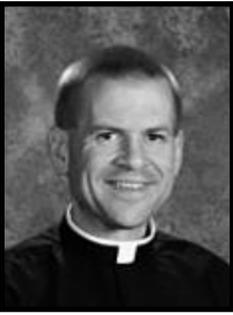
Fr. Derek Sakowski
 On Sabbatical

Parochial Vicar

Fr. Peter Kieffer
 715-855-1294 ext. 140
PKieffer@diolclergy.org

Rectory: 715-514-0161

Sabbatical Reflections from Fr. Sakowski



Christlike Obedience

The Rule of Saint Benedict is one of the most enduring spiritual works of all time. Consisting merely of a prologue and 73 paragraphs, it is filled with spiritual and practical wisdom, and a keen insight into human nature.

It has been refreshing for me to hear from the *Rule* again, drip by drip each day, during these 3 months of Sabbath renewal, here in the midst of a community of 20 Benedictine monks. Each evening at the end of supper we listen to a few lines before closing in prayer.

Regardless of our calling in life, the threefold Benedictine vow of obedience, stability, and conversion of life bears lessons we can all learn from. During this installment, I will reflect on obedience.

Obedience is ultimately as a matter of obeying God the Father, in imitation of Jesus, who said, "I have come not to do my own will, but the will of Him who sent me" (John 6:38). Christ's obedience involved a total self-emptying, freely and wholeheartedly laying down his life in sacrifice. Monastic life allows obedience and self-emptying to take on a visible form. The monks vow obedience to their abbot (a name meaning "father") and habitually submit their own will to the will of the abbot and of their elder monks.

Benedict has no illusions of abbots being perfect; rather, he is aware that often they are awful. Many of the instructions of the *Rule* are directed at the abbot and the grave responsibility that he bears. *If there are problems or toxic dynamics in the life of the monastery, they are ultimately his fault – unless he has truly been just and loving and the faults are ultimately due to the obstinacy of the unwilling followers.*

Benedict is clear about this Christ-like authority not being one of power or control, but one of humility – including attentive listening and consulting. The abbot is not to make major decisions without pulling together other monks and listening deeply to what they have to say. He must make the final decision, but not before listening with an open mind and heart.

As one who has often borne the burden of authority amidst multiple seasons of disorienting change and turmoil, I can relate! Sometimes I haven't liked listening to truths that expose my failures or invite me to pour more of my already depleted energy into solving a problem. Other times I have put off making the right decision from a fear of domineering or manipulative people, leaving the righteous ones to suffer in silence. Still other times it is tempting to avoid making decisions and over-consult – hoping someone will "just tell me what to do" and rescue me from my responsibility. When we leaders (whether parents, bosses, pastors, or bishops) abdicate our authority, it is often more damaging than when we abuse our position of power. Either way, Benedict repeatedly reminds the abbot that he will give an accounting

to Jesus on the Day of Judgment, when our full story will be told by the all-seeing God.

You may be surprised that I am spending so much time talking about the duties of those in authority, but it is essential to see obedience in the context of healthy and holy relationships, not within the context of power or exertion of will. Too many Christians have only known "authority" as an abuse of power or an abdication of responsibility. They haven't experienced enough of the real thing. Authentic authority and obedience enrich human freedom.

Obedience, lived well, directly overturns the strongholds of the evil one. He tempts Adam and Eve – and each of us – to replace the words "thy will be done" with "MY will be done!" In our pride and self-protection, in our fears and insecurities, in our shame and isolation, we resist the intimacy involved in freely submitting to another's will.

Benedict describes the good fruit that grows in the heart of monks as a result of their obedience: "They no longer live by their own judgment, giving into their whims and appetites; rather they walk according to another's decisions and directions." Benedict's understanding is that those who can obey and submit to an imperfect human being will be more free in submitting to a perfect and loving Father.

Obedience balances individual and communal needs, reflecting the truth that we are not isolated individuals, each doing whatever we feel like, but all interconnected in relationships and called to love and serve one another. There are times in a monastery when an individual and talented monk is asked to give up his own personal dreams in order to fill a role needed by the rest of the community. The same often holds true in married life, in the workplace, or in the diocesan priesthood. *In the Rule, these kinds of decisions aren't to be made lightly by the abbot, but only through dialogue and consultation. Hopefully in a happy marriage, in a healthy work environment, or in a healthy bishop-priest relationship, there is a similar dialogue and consultation when challenging decisions need to be made, and a freedom in moving forward.*

The church bells fill the Benedictine day with hourly moments of obedience. The bells ring, and the obedient monk promptly rise or pray or come to a conference. In matters small and large, each monk learns to die to his own willfulness and discover freedom and new life in Christ.

Pride is the ancient sin of the devil and of our first parents. Each of us daily is tempted to cry out, "My will be done!" in a hundred different ways. Obedience chips away at our pride and selfishness and teaches us to love and serve others, freely, not because "I have to." It looks different for the monk, the employee, the spouse, or the priest. But we all are called to Christ-like authority and Christ-like obedience in healthy and holy relationships. How do you allow obedience to set you free in your daily life?

Staff Directory

Pastoral Ministry

Jon Jones, Director

715-855-1294, x 108 (SM)

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Shelli Julson, Parish Receptionist

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Pastoral Outreach

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Evangelization & Faith Formation

Jacqueline Van Hemert, Director

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Carmen Nuñez, Bilingual Faith Formation

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Marianne Callaghan, Faith Formation Coord.

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Finance, Building & Grounds

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Charles Thurner, Maintenance (SM)

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Robert Grzyb, Maintenance (SR)

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↳ RGrzyb@SMSRCatholic.com

Music & Liturgy

Tyler Andreae, Director

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↳ TAndreae@SMSRCatholic.com

St. Mary's Stewardship: Last Week

Adults \$3,592.00

Offertory (Plate)..... \$736.00

Total Envelope & Plate \$4,328.00

St. Raymond's Stewardship: Last Week

Adults \$2,956.00

Offertory (Plate)..... \$700.00

Total Envelope and Plate..... \$3,656.00

Thank you!

Seeking Nominations for Pastoral Council!

The Pastoral Council is a consultative body made up of elected and appointed members who give consultation to our pastor regarding our parish' fulfillment of its mission and priorities. At this time we are seeking nominations for whom you believe would represent our parish well. Please submit a nomination slip with the name of the nominee and why you believe he/she would be a good candidate for serving on the Pastoral Council. You may submit a nomination online using the code below, or you may fill out a nomination slip in the narthex and drop it in the basket. *We will be accepting nominations through Sunday, October 31.*



SM Nomination



SR Nomination

Job Opportunities

Job Opportunity - Pastoral Outreach Coordinator for St. Mary's & St. Raymond's: This



is a part-time position, usually 8-10 hours per week. Position Overview is to provide structure, resources, and vision necessary for activating parishioners as channels of God's love through hands-on, practical deeds of compassion to those in need or suffering. Interested candidates should send a résumé and cover letter describing interest and experience with Pastoral Outreach to Jon Jones, Director of Pastoral Ministry, at JJones@SMSRCatholic.com. Please include in the subject line *Pastoral Outreach*.

Do you have a knack for dotting "i"s and crossing "t"s? Do you love meeting parents and their little (or not-so-little) ones? Are you a disciple of Jesus looking for a place to serve Him with your professional gifts? The St.



Mary's Faith Formation Coordinator role is a flexible, part-time position that usually works remotely, except when on-site to host our dynamic family events. You'll receive meaningful ministry training, ongoing spiritual formation, and personal growth, all while collaborating creatively with the Faith Formation & Evangelization team as we help families grow strong in faith, with Jesus, and with each other! Be part of a team that's making a significant difference in the Church and in the lives of each individual we encounter. If that sounds like you or someone you know, contact Jacqueline Van Hemert at JVanHemert@SMSRCatholic.com to learn more!

Job Opportunity - Communication Coordinator for St. Mary's & St. Raymond's -

Transforming Lives by Communicating Truth: St. Mary's and St. Raymond's Parishes are currently seeking candidates for a 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 and accompaniment. 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 JJones@SMSRCatholic.com. Please include the subject line "Application: Communication Coordinator."

St. Mary's & St. Raymond's Parish News

The St. Raymond of Peñafort Parish Council of Catholic Women (PCCW) is seeking nominations for the offices of our Executive Committee:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer/Historian
- Commission Chairs
- Spirituality Commission
- Leadership Commission
- Service Commission



If you are interested in serving or would like to nominate someone, please contact Elaine Welin at ewelin327@gmail.com or Kim Gonyo at tkgonyo@icloud.com

A few of the reasons to serve St. Raymond Parish in the PCCW:

- To assist the pastor in the welfare of the parish, both spiritual and material
- To unite all parish women in religious, educational and community activities
- To develop leadership potential and motivate individuals to act upon current issues in church and society
- To serve as a medium through which the Catholic women of the parish may speak and act as a unit on matters of public interest
- To provide consolation and help to members who are ill, shut-in, aged or in distress
- To welcome any new members to our parish family and to our community

Some of the PCCW Activities:

- Pray Rosary Together
- Package Cookies for Seminarians
- Provide Spiritual Bouquets for Seminarians and for our Priests
- Take Up Collection at Mass on Divine Mercy Sunday
- Organize and Work at Funeral Dinners
- Sponsor A Family at Casa Hogar Orphanage, Peru
- Financially Help Youth in Our Parish Attend Spiritual Growth Opportunities
- Host Lenten Soup & Sandwich Suppers
- Host and Attend Deanery Council of Catholic Women Meetings
- Provide Gifts for Youth as They Receive The Sacrament of Holy Eucharist
- Provide Gifts for Youth as They Receive The Sacrament of Confirmation
- Send out Prayer Requests in timely manner
- Work together on Making Quilt for Fall Festival Raffle

Links:

- La Crosse Diocesan Council of Catholic Women: <https://www.ldccw.org/>
- National Council of Catholic Women: nccw.org

Saint Teresa of Calcutta:

"Life is a song, sing it. Life is a struggle, accept it."

"There is no key to happiness; the door is always open."

Executive Board: May God keep you safe!

Claire Parr parrstrum@gmail.com 715-878-4181

Mary King kingmarter@gmail.com 715-878-9472

Elaine Welin ewelin327@gmail.com 715-877-2532

Save the Date!

- Oct. 26 St. Raymond's Mass moved to 9am - Open to the Public
- Nov. 3 Family Formation (K-5) and Middle School (6-8) Edge - St. Mary's - 5:30pm-7:30pm
- Nov. 7 Family Formation (K-5) and Middle School (6-8) Edge - St. Raymond's - Classes from 9:45am-11:15am
- Nov. 7 Newcomers Dinner - St. Mary's 6pm-8pm
- Nov. 8 St. Raymond's Knights of Columbus Blood Drive Noon-6pm
- Nov. 9 SM & SR Pastoral Council Meeting
- Nov. 10 Confirmation Prep Youth Night - St. Mary's 6:30pm-8pm
- Nov. 11 PCCW Meeting - St. Raymond's Parish 6pm
- Nov. 13 Regis Catholic Schools Auction - The Florian Gardens Eau Claire
- Nov. 17 Confirmation Prep Retreat for 9th Graders (1st year Confirmation) - St. Raymond's Parish 5pm-9pm.



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2021
The Florian Gardens | Eau Claire

Tickets are available for the 2021 Regis Catholic Schools Auction! Can't attend in-person? Register to bid on our great silent auction items online. (Online bidding will open Thursday, November 11 at 9 a.m.)

<https://regiscatholicsschools.ejoinme.org/2021rcsauction>

The Regis Catholic Schools Auction is the single biggest fundraiser for our St. Benedict Tuition Assistance Scholarship Program, which makes tuition at our schools affordable for all families.

World Mission Sunday - October 24, 2021

Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for World Mission Sunday 2021

Quotes from the message of Pope Francis for the celebration
of World Mission Sunday 2021.

WE CANNOT KEEP THE LORD TO OURSELVES

Once we experience the power of God's love, and recognize His fatherly presence in our personal and community life, we cannot help but proclaim and share what we have seen and heard.... "Go therefore to the highways and byways, and invite everyone you find" (Mt 22:9). No one is excluded, no one need feel distant or removed from this compassionate love.... As Christians, we cannot keep the Lord to ourselves: the Church's evangelizing mission finds outward fulfillment in the transformation of our world and in the care of creation.... The theme of this year's World Mission (Sun)day – "We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20), is a summons to each of us to "own" and to bring to others what we bear in our hearts.

THE EXPERIENCE OF THE APOSTLES

The first Christians began the life of faith amid hostility and hardship...those experiences impelled them to turn problems, conflicts and difficulties into opportunities for mission... Nothing and no one was to be excluded from the message of liberation. Like the Apostles and the first Christians, we too can say with complete conviction: "We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). Everything we have received from the Lord is meant to be put to good use and freely shared with others....The first Christians, far from yielding to the temptation to become an elite group, were inspired by the Lord and His offer of new life to go out among the nations and to bear witness to what they had seen and heard: the good news that the Kingdom of God is at hand....

THE PANDEMIC NECESSITATES MISSION OF COMPASSION

The pandemic has brought to the fore and amplified the pain, the solitude, the poverty, and the injustices experienced by so many people. In these days of pandemic.... there is urgent need for the mission of compassion, which can make that necessary (social) distancing an opportunity for encounter, care and promotion. "What we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20), the mercy we have experienced, can thus become a point of reference and a source of credibility enabling us to recover a shared passion for building "a community of belonging and solidarity worthy of our time, our energy and our resources" (Fratelli Tutti, 36).

AN INVITATION TO EACH OF US

On World Mission (Sun)day, which we celebrate on the penultimate Sunday of October, we recall with gratitude all those men and women who by their testimony of life help us to renew our baptismal commitment to be generous and joyful apostles of the Gospel. Let us remember especially all those who resolutely set out, leaving home and family behind, to bring the Gospel to all those places and people athirst for its saving message. To be on mission is to be willing to think as Christ does, to believe with Him that those around us are also my brothers and sisters. May His compassionate love touch our hearts and make us all true missionary disciples.

READ THE HOLY FATHER'S COMPLETE MESSAGE AT THIS [VATICAN WEBSITE](#).



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY
Society for the Propagation of the Faith

"WE CANNOT BUT SPEAK
ABOUT WHAT WE HAVE
SEEN AND HEARD"
[ACTS 4:20]

2021

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY



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