## A letter from our Pastor...

Dear Sisters and Brothers of St. Raymond:

I am excited to announce that we will be receiving a new Associate Pastor on July 1. Fr. Rodlin Rodrigue will be joining the pastoral team at St. Raymond. In addition, Fr. Gilbert will be remaining with us for the rest of his term of service until next July. We have been blessed with the opportunity to have a positive and planned transition!

Below is a letter from Fr. Rodlin, introducing himself to the parish. Please pray for Fr. Rodlin as he prepares to move to St. Raymond, and pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide us in the path of renewal.

Peace Be With You,

Fr. Scott Hebden, Pastor

Dear St. Raymond Community,

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I am pleased to introduce myself to your parish community. My name is Fr. Rodlin Rodrigue, I am from Haiti and grew up in a small town called Hinche (located in the center of Haiti just two hours from Port-au-Prince which is the capital city). I am the middle child of four in my family.

In 2003, I came to the United States to start my missionary studies with the Divine Word Missionaries (SVD). After spending two years at Divine Word College in Iowa studying philosophy, I felt the call to become a diocesan priest instead of a missionary priest. I still, however, consider myself a missionary because I left my homeland to come to the States to learn a new language and culture for the sake of the Gospel.



I joined the Archdiocese of Chicago in August 2005 and completed my philosophical studies at Saint Joseph College Seminary, which is located at the Loyola University Campus Lakeshore (it is always cooler by the lake). In August 2009, I began my theological studies at Mundelein Seminary. I was ordained a priest in May 2013. I have been the Associate Pastor at St. Joseph and Francis Xavier in Wilmette for the last 6 years. And for the last 6 months I have served as the Administrator for St. Joan of Arc in Skokie while their pastor was on sabbatical.

It is an honor and a privilege for me to be appointed by the Cardinal to serve you as an Associate Pastor here at Saint Raymond Parish. I am looking forward to meeting and serving you, praying with you, learning from you, and worshiping with you the Triune God from whom all good things come. I assure you of my prayers and I humbly ask that you keep me in yours as well.

Pax et Bonum, Fr. Rodlin Rodrigue

## **FUN FACTS:**

Fr. Rodlin's family still lives in Haiti
He speaks 4 languages: Creole, French, English, Spanish
He is an artist and has a published book called "Haitian Proverbs"