



ST. RAYMOND DE PEÑAFORT CATHOLIC CHURCH

WE ARE A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

REJOICING IN GOD'S LOVE FOR US. SHARING GOD'S LOVE WITH ALL.

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME January 14, 2024



So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day. (Jn 1:39)

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday at 8:30 a.m.	Saturday at 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday at noon	Sunday at 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.	Sunday at 11:00 a.m. (live stream 11AM)
Thursday at noon	Sunday Evening at
Friday at 8:30 a.m.	6:30 p.m. check calendar

The Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday, from 4:00-4:30 p.m.

CHAPEL HOURS

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Monday (13 Hour Adoration) 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Eucharistic Prayer
Tuesday - Saturday
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

DAILY READINGS

Mon:	1Sm15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17,21 & 23/Mk 2:18-22
Tues:	1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28/Mk 2:23-28
Wed:	1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6
Thurs:	1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13/ Mk 3:7-12
Fri:	1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11/Mk 3:13-19
Sat:	2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/Mk3:20-21
Sun:	Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/1 Cor 7:29-31/ Mk 1:14-20



from **Jacob's Well**

Dear Parishioners,

I am very grateful for the warm welcome I have received this past week as I have begun a new chapter in my journey as the next pastor of Saint Raymond. I was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Chicago in May of 1992. I have served as the associate pastor of Saint Hubert and Saint Raymond. I became the pastor of Saint Edna in 2002 and then was assigned as the pastor of Saint Mary of the Annunciation in 2014. I have spent my entire priest-



hood as a parish priest and understand the pastoral realities of parish life. In many ways, my return to Saint Raymond is like returning home. I

have so many beautiful memories of the time I served serving as associate pastor at Saint Raymond beginning 25-years ago. The community of Saint Raymond has always been special to me. While I may be 25 years older, I still possess the passion and energy that I believe it will take to lead this community forward.

As many of you know, Fr. Bernie Pietrzak was a dear friend and confidant of mine. As a member of my priest prayer group, he strongly encouraged me to consider my move back to Saint Raymond. His sudden death has affected me deeply. I pray that Fr. Bernie will be pleased with the direction I hope to lead this parish in the years to come. Before I said "yes", I prayed about this for two months. This was not a move I anticipated, as I was happy and doing good things at Saint Mary.

But I was also strongly encouraged by my classmate Bishop Grob and also the Vicar General Bishop Casey, who has family at Saint



Raymond. I met his nephew at Saint Raymond School last week. In addition, Cardinal Cupich told me that I could not remain at Saint Mary until retirement. I guess you could say the "deck" was stacked. I believe saying "yes" was the right decision at this time in my life and in the life of Saint Raymond. My predecessor, Fr. Scott, was also very welcoming and did all that he could to assist in this transition.

On a side note, Fr. Scott's Mass of Thanksgiving is Saturday, January 13th at the 5:00 p.m. mass this weekend. A word of gratitude to Fr. Scott for his vision and generosity in accepting this assignment as he took leave of his teaching assignment at Saint Mary of the Lake Seminary in 2019. I pray that Fr. Scott may have a healthy and productive retirement



and that he will have the time to pursue his passion as a teacher and as a missionary disciple. May God watch over and protect him.

As we begin this new season of ministry together, I ask for your prayers and patience. I am still in the process of moving into the rectory and already feel at home. I am grateful for the generosity of an anonymous parishioner who has paid to have the carpeting removed from the first floor of the Pastor's house and for the installation of maintenance-free laminate flooring. Such incredible generosity is the hallmark of the people of Saint Raymond. When this work is completed, I will be able to fully move into the rectory. I pray this is my last move, and I look forward to the next seven years serving this wonderful community.

There are many challenges and opportunities for us in these coming years. I have a vision of this community coming fully alive. It is a priority of mine for us to find ways to work together. We have to believe that we are in this together. There is so much at stake if we do not listen and encourage one another. We live in a time where religious practice among Catholics is often trivialized or dismissed. I know that without my faith and the support of a vibrant faith community, I could very easily lose hope in our time.

As we settle into Ordinary Time after the festivity of the Christmas season, we hear in the scriptures a

sense of being open to responding to all of God's callings. Biblical stories can sometimes inspire envy among those who do not get to hear God's call so clearly. For most of us, myself included, our work of discernment, of learning to listen to God, is long and slow. With practice and daily attentiveness, we become more and more familiar with the many ways God works in our hearts. We also learn to hear and see God at work in the people in our lives, in the needs present to us, and in our own giftedness.

I ask for your prayers on this journey of faith we are on together. I also ask for your openness to what may be asked of us as a community of Faith. In July, we will celebrate our 75th anniversary as a parish community. I was a part of our 50th celebration, and my parents were also alive to join in that celebration. While plans have not yet been finalized, I hope to include my installation as pastor into our liturgical celebration.

Finally, I want to thank the pastoral staff for the warm welcome I have received and for not only their openness, but also for their dedication and commitment for the future of Saint Raymond. I pray that we will recommit to our ministry of service for the greater glory of God.

Let us pray for one another.

Fr. Jerry Jacob

Fr. Jerry, Pastor

