

APRIL 26, 2026 | 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY



THE PARISHES OF

ST. MARY

310 Nobbe St.
Farmersville, IL 62533

ST. RAYMOND

306 S McElroy
Raymond, IL 62560

ST. MAURICE

706 SE 4th St.
Morrisonville, IL 62546

Fr. Florent Kanga, Pastor
(414) 460-0335
fkanga@dio.org

Kateri Marten, Secretary
kmarten@stmrm.org

Bulletin Deadline:
End of Monday

Parish Website:
stmrm.org

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting
and Investigation: (217) 321-1155

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

5:00 pm St. Mary: Velma Langen

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

8:00 am St. Raymond: The People of Our Parishes

10:00 am St. Maurice: Howard & Rita Fishburn

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

8:00 am St. Mary: Glenn Rovey

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

8:00 am St. Raymond: Edward Weitekamp

FRIDAY, MAY 1

8:00 am St. Maurice: Ted Millburg

SATURDAY, MAY 2

5:00 pm St. Mary: Special Intentions -
Peggy Niekoff

SUNDAY, MAY 3

8:00 am St. Raymond: Toots Walch

10:00 am St. Maurice: The People of Our Parishes

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS

3:00-3:30 pm St. Maurice

4:00-4:30 pm St. Mary

SUNDAYS

7:00-7:30 am St. Raymond

ADORATION

ST. RAYMOND

8:30 am Wednesday - 8:00 am Thursday

ST. MAURICE

8:00 am - 9:00 pm Wednesday

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

April 27: St. Simeon, Bishop of Jerusalem & Martyr

April 28: St. Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr

April 29: St. Catherine of Siena,
Virgin & Doctor of the Church

April 30: St. Pius V, Pope

May 1: St. Joseph the Worker,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Patron of Workers

May 2: St. Athanasius,
Bishop & Doctor of the Church

May 3: Ss. Philip and James the Less, Apostles

FATHER'S COLUMN

So Jesus said again, "Amen, amen, I say to you,
I am the gate for the sheep...

Whoever enters through me will be saved,
and will come in and go out and find pasture.

Gates can reveal a lot about what is beyond them. A broken-down, vine-covered gate suggests an abandoned house or one where the occupants don't care much about keeping up property and appearances. An easy-swinging gate suggests many people pass through. A decorative gate with an artistic "Welcome" sign suggests that whatever is beyond is pleasant and hospitable.

The word "gate" occurs five times in this Gospel. Twice it is personified; twice Jesus says, "I am the gate." Jesus is ever the compassionate, welcoming, protecting gate. That he is the gate suggests what is beyond is more than pleasant and hospitable, what is beyond is abundant Life. His risen Life.

On this Fourth Sunday of Easter we celebrate what we have traditionally called "Good Shepherd Sunday."

This year's Gospel is particularly interesting in that the image for Jesus is not that of shepherd, but that of gate. The image of the gate directs our attention to Jesus as the risen One who always recognizes us and cares for us (yes, Jesus is the Good Shepherd). The wide-open gate is the goodness of the Shepherd.

The twist of the Gospel is that the gate is also a symbol for the Shepherd and how the Shepherd acts toward us: the gate itself is a metaphor for Jesus' care, his openness to call and welcome everyone, his desire to protect and guard us. Thus, the gate (the Good Shepherd) invites us to cross through, to enter into the safety and protection Jesus offers.

The gate opens up a space of security, peace, and protection ("Whoever enters through me will be saved"). This is where resurrection faith calls us to enter the Gate, "that we might have life and have it more abundantly." Jesus states clearly that he came so that his followers might have abundant Life. Jesus uses the metaphor of a caring shepherd and sheep to indicate how his followers might receive that Life: by hearing his voice and their name, by following the Good Shepherd, by recognizing whose voice calls them. Hearing, following, recognizing: we are to open our ears in faith, open our hearts in trust, open our minds in love. This is the way to abundant Life.

The Gate is wide open. Will we enter?

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

ST. MARY

LECTORS

Saturday, April 25:
Dan Martin

Saturday, May 2:
Kathy Rovey

Sunday, May 9:
Carol Hupp

Saturday, May 16:
Mary Jane Fuchs

Saturday, May 23:
Tony Krager

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday, April 25:
Mary Ann Rimini
& Emily Martin

Saturday, May 2:
John &
Mary Jo Brown

Sunday, May 9:
Patty Clarke
Mary Ann Rimini

Saturday, May 16:
Mary Jane Schmidt
& Patty Clarke

Saturday, May 23:
Emily Martin
& Mary Jane Schmidt

ST. RAYMOND

APRIL

LECTOR Christine Meisner
CANTOR Tim Marten
HOSPITALITY Joe Pope
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
Lerry Weitekamp
Dianne Hampton

HOMEBOUND MINISTER:
26: Noller/Morehouse

SERVERS:
Sun, April 26: Denny Held

MAY

LECTOR Linda Hocking
CANTOR Deb Held
HOSPITALITY Carl Walch
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
Verne Pinkston
John Barto

HOMEBOUND MINISTER:
3: Hocking/Krager
10: Dick Lyons
17: Carl Marten
24: Noller/Morehouse
31: Dick Lyons

ST. MAURICE

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

LECTOR Gerry Goebel
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
Ed Goebel
Carl Goebel
Linda Sheedy
USHERS Bill O'Connell
Dan & Linda Johnson

SERVERS
Adelaide, Gentry and Rigby Dunkirk

SUNDAY, MAY 3

LECTOR Pat Wolf
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
Brian Grundy
Gerry Goebel
Diane McWard-Sullivan
USHERS Cindy Folkerts
John Fleigle, Albert Emery
and Diane McWard-Sullivan
SERVER
Lucas, Noah, and Emma Grundy

SUNDAY, MAY 10

LECTOR Larry Goebel
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
Ed Goebel
Carl Goebel
Charlie Golitko
USHERS Cindy Folkerts
John Fleigle, Albert Emery
and Diane McWard-Sullivan
SERVERS Nathaniel DeBrun
Rian Deardorff and Abbie Grundy

PARISH ENGAGEMENT FOR APRIL 18/19

ST. MARY

Collection: \$1,070

ST. RAYMOND

Collection: \$2,218

ST. MAURICE

Collection: \$955
Attendance: 102

OUR PRAYER LIST

Thelma Goebel, Janet Locander, Alan McFarlin, Lucy McGrath, Quinn Broverman, Carl Armes, Georgetta Dean, Larry Boston
and for the end of all war, especially for peace in Cameroon, Fr. Florent's home in Africa.

Remember to pray for our Pope, Bishop, priests and seminarians, and for the increase of vocations to priesthood and religious life

To add a name to the prayer list, please email Kateri at kmarten@stmm.org and specify how many weeks you'd like that name to appear for (1 week up to a maximum of 12 weeks). You're always welcome to re-add the name at the end of this period if the need for prayer is still present, but this will help keep the list focused and fresh.

Afternoon Program Today with Visiting Priest in Raymond

Today Sunday, April 26
2:00 pm at the K of C Hall in Raymond
Topic: How Is the Mass a Sacrifice
and How Do We Participate?

Fr. Herman Joseph from the Springfield Corpus Christi Priory will lead our afternoon discussion. Bring your questions and invite anyone wishing to learn more about our faith!

Light refreshments will be served.

St. Maurice to Host Senior Activity

Join us Thursday, April 30 for a fun filled lunch and fellowship. We will be going to Sugar Daddy's in Taylorville. Please meet at the church at 11:15 am and we will car pool to the restaurant. If you have any questions, contact Marietta Dunkirk at 217-825-6018.

Pro-Life Prayer

Friday mornings 9:00 am at St. Raymond

May Crowning at Our Lady of the Highways Shrine in Raymond

Join us Saturday, May 2 at 11:00 am for our annual May Crowning and picnic at the Our Lady of the Highways shrine located at 22353 W Frontage Rd, Raymond (Carl Marten's). Please bring your own sack lunch and lawn chair. Hope to see you there.

St. Maurice Cemetery Announcement

Please remove all ground decorations from graves to prepare for the mowing season by May 2. Thank you.

St. Raymond CCW Sponsoring Mums for Moms for Mother's Day

If you would like to honor a mother who is living or deceased, please have forms completed by Sunday, May 3 or call Missy Dean at 217-556-2439. Forms will be passed out and in the back of the church.

St. Raymond Sunday Social for May

Join us Sunday, May 3 after Mass for coffee, donuts & more at the KC Hall. Hope to see you there!

St. Maurice Church Picnic Save the Date

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 28 for this year's church picnic. There will be more information in the next months on the event.

St. Mary Centennial Campaign Announcement

The Centennial Committee is glad to announce that our campaign is doing well, and would like to thank everyone for your contributions. This is a 3 year project with 2 years remaining. We will reach our goal with continued support!

St. Mary School in Taylorville Hiring Reading Teacher

Now hiring a part-time Title I Reading Teacher. Must be certified in reading. 3 or 4 days per week (18-20 hours total) - \$23.00/ hour

For questions contact Joanne Coady
jcoady@st-maryschool.com or call 217-824-6501

Send resume and transcripts to
jcoady@st-maryschool.com or mail to:
Joanne Coady - St. Mary School
422 S. Washington, Taylorville, IL 62568



Photo of our youth singing songs at the end of the Youth Mass held at St. Maurice on April 12