

“Mission 2018”

**A pilgrimage to Peru sponsored by St. Raymond of Peñafort Parish
(co-sponsored by St. Mary’s Altoona, conducted by Fr. Derek Sakowski)**

Dates: July 11th-23rd, 2018

We will meet at St Raymond’s at 4 PM on Wed, July 11th, and have Mass, supper, and an orientation. Overnight lodging can be arranged for those from out of town. On Thurs, July 12th, we will then travel to Peru – most likely from the Minneapolis Airport (MSP). We plan to return by the afternoon or evening of Mon, July 23rd.

Purpose of Mission 2018: A greater awareness of the larger Church and our responsibility to find Christ and serve Him; a retreat experience to grow in your love for the Church, prayer, and the call God has for you; to learn from the people of Peru and to bring those lessons of faith and awareness back to our Diocese.

Cost: Very close to **\$1,700**. This includes travel, lodging, meals, and the side trips

Fundraising: Fr. Sakowski is willing to encourage parishioners and parish groups (Knights of Columbus, PCCW) to be supportive of the trip, and willing again to give permission for parish space to be used for fundraising purposes. But the organization of fundraising will be primarily the responsibility of the participants and their families.

Housing at Casa Hogar Juan Pablo II orphanage in Lurin, Peru. There will be rooms with bunk beds. There will be a section of rooms for the guys and another for the girls.

Worksites at Juan Pablo II orphanage, Villa Marta orphanage, and local soup kitchens

Pilgrimage Sites: Tombs of St. Rose of Lima and St. Martin de Porres in Lima, special sites in the life of Fr. Joe Walijewski

You need: Passport and immunizations, spending money (\$200 - \$300 spending money is recommended if you want to buy souvenirs, gifts, candy, etc), good morals, and a commitment to the Catholic Faith.

Age of members: High School Juniors, High School Seniors, College Students, or young adults (under 30) at the time of the trip.

Chaperones: Fr. Derek Sakowski (bi-lingual) is in charge of the trip. 2 other adult chaperones will also be required with a preference for individuals who are bi-lingual and/or have medical expertise). Other adult chaperones may be able to come, but the priority is forming young disciples. St. Raymond’s Secretary Elaine Welin will be assisting with many of the details.

Group Size: Total group size cannot exceed 20 (that includes the priests & chaperones). That only leaves room for 17 non-chaperone participants.

How many other trips has Father done? Fr. Sakowski assisted Msgr. Hirsch with *Mission 2004*, led a group of young adults to Peru in 2005, and led youth himself in *Mission 2006* and *Mission 2015*.

How to sign up? Because only a total of 20 people can go, ***there will be an application process.*** If more than 20 apply (which is likely) Fr. Sakowski will have the difficult task of selecting who goes based on the applications.

To apply, make **2 copies** of the following information. Send one to Fr. Derek Sakowski, and the other to Elaine Welin [their contact information is below]. Either e-mail or a hard copy is acceptable. ***Applications must be received by September 30, 2017.***

Last name

First name

Email

Father's name

Mother's name

Home address

Phone number

Birth date

Year in school

Parish

300-600 word essay describing why you want to be part of *Mission 2018*

2 Letters affirming your moral character and level of Faith commitment

--From a teacher, principal, or other adult (non-relative) who knows you very well

--If not from St. Raymond's or St. Mary's, a letter from your pastor or a priest who knows you well must be one of the 2 letters.

Group Meetings to prepare for Mission 2018: We will be calling a meeting over Christmas break 2017 to begin the process of getting to know one another. We will meet again in the summer before Mission 2018.

How to stay in contact: Email is the best way for us to stay in contact. But if you need to reach me the other ways here is the information:

Email: frsakowski@gmail.com (Fr. Sakowski)

straymondparish@gmail.com (Elaine)

Phone: (715) 579-8827 (Elaine's cell)

US mail:

Fr. Derek Sakowski
1812 Lynn Ave
Altoona, WI 54720

Elaine Welin
St. Raymond of Peñafort

E10455 Mallard Road
Fall Creek, WI 54742

Payments will be made to St Raymond of Peñafort Catholic Church, between January and April. The first installment will be due by January 31, 2018 to insure your reservation. All installments need to be in by April 15, 2018. At that time we will purchase all tickets. Once we purchase the airline ticket we will not be able to reimburse the cost of the ticket if a person is not able to make the trip.

Passport:

1. You will need to go to the Post Office to get the form
2. Obtain photos for the passport application.

Immunizations: yellow fever, Hepatitis A and B, Typhoid (These were recommended last time. We will do a double check to see if there are changes. I will let you know next letter.)

Paperwork:

1. There will be insurance release forms from the Diocese to be filled out by all participants.
2. If you are 18 or older then there are other forms to be filled out for the Diocese, as well as the “Safe Environment” training and background check.

Prayer and faith formation:

1. The journey we are preparing for is very unique and important. We go to the missions as ambassadors of our Diocese. You will represent the people and the missionaries from Wisconsin past and present. This mission trip also serves to help the people in the mission to know our Diocese better. The focus of the journey is to move beyond ourselves. We are second; the persons we meet are first. They will teach us a whole different perspective on life, culture, priorities, faith. They will teach us about what Jesus meant when He said, “*Blessed are the poor in spirit.*” You will meet people who are heroic in the midst of poverty. You will meet people whose spirits are crushed by it. I pray that this mission experience be a powerful tool in the hand of the Lord to help all of us to understand better who we are and how He is calling us in our vocations. I ask each of you to offer your prayers everyday that each of us be open to the way in which the Holy Spirit will guide our journey.
2. Once we are there, we will have Mass daily and will have time every night to gather as a group for discussion, journalizing, and prayer. The experience of our own small faith community is a very important element of this retreat.
3. I ask you to pray seriously about this journey of faith we will make next year. I consider every time we visit a mission to be a great privilege in which we open ourselves up to new growth and awareness.

God’s blessings upon you always. Please contact Elaine or me with any questions.

Fr. Derek Sakowski

Pastor of St. Raymond's and St. Mary's
Coordinator of Hispanic Ministry for Eau Claire
Director of Mission 2018