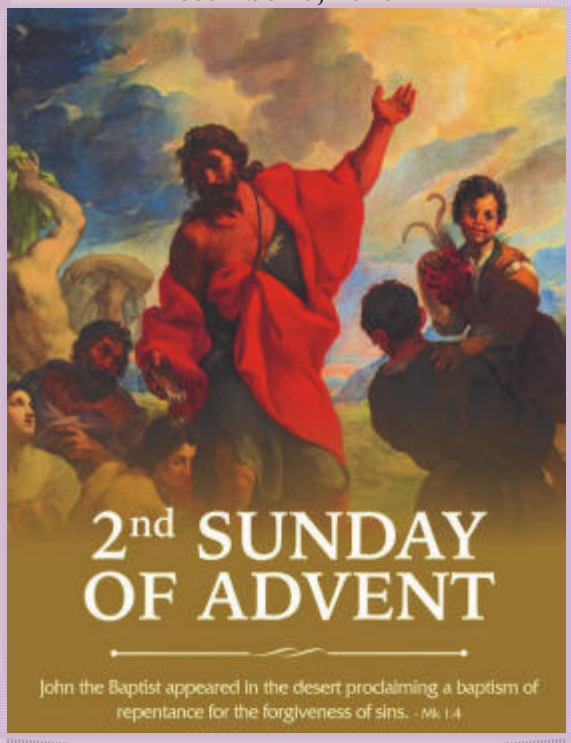
St. Raymond of the Mountains

170 School House Lane, P.O. Box 330, Donegal, PA 15628 724-593-7479

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust and A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

December 6, 2020



Parish Staff:

Rev. Thomas A. Federline, Pastor
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Contact Information:

Parish Office 724-593-7479
Parish Fax 724-593-5934

Website - www.straymondchurch.org

Online Giving Service
(web base electronic contributions, safe & secure)
Visit www.straymondchurch.org, select the Online Giving link and follow the commands

Catholic Charities Help Line 1-866-409-6455

In the event of inclement weather: Please check our parish activities of cancellations at KDKA channel 2

BAPTISMS:
Please contact the Parish Office for Baptism

CONFESSIONS:
Saturday: 3:30 PM.

MARRIAGES:
Arrangements should be made with the Pastor at least one year in advance.

MASSES:
Saturday (Vigil): 4:30 PM.
Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM.
Daily Mass: 8:00 AM at St. Raymond Church.

An Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction:
Every First Friday of the month after the 8:00 AM Mass until 10:00 AM.

Holy Days: See bulletin

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Tuesdays at 10:30 AM.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.
Closed Friday.

St. Raymond of the Mountains Parish Mission Statement

We, the parish of St. Raymond of the Mountains (Donegal, PA) are situated in a resort area and comprised of many rural communities. We come together to share and strengthen our faith in God and each other by celebrating the sacraments and striving to follow God's teaching. We are called to be open to the Holy Spirit and to build a stronger Faith Community by serving the needs of others, by educating, and by welcoming all.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/. Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us
your salvation.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

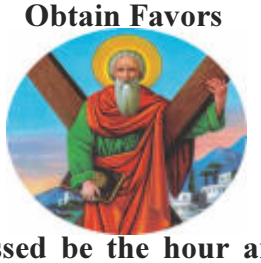
Readings for the week of December 6, 2020

Sunday:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
Monday:	Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1] Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday:	Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1] Mt 11:28-30
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Next Sunday:	Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24 Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Second Sunday of Advent

The Prophecy Symbol, what is to come, Be prepared.
Josephs Multicolored Coat represents his being sold into slavery by his brothers.
The Ten Commandments represent Moses the Hebrew leader in Egypt.
Blessings of Aaron represents the Hands of God
The Lamp represents Samuel, Light and Learning.
David and the Harp.
The Shepherd represents The shepherd of Bethlehem.

St. Andrew Christmas Novena Prayer to Obtain Favors



Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour, vouchsafe, O my God! to hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His Blessed Mother. Amen.

(It is piously believed that whoever recites the above prayer fifteen times a day from the feast of St. Andrew (30th November) until Christmas will obtain what is asked.)

This Tuesday, December 8, 2020
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Masses: 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

This year we will continue to collect for Birthright and our elderly in our community. Birthright is in need of diapers #5, layettes and newborn outfits (0-3 months) and money. Please make your check to: Birthright and mail to Sheila Shogun, 921 Clayton St., Greensburg, PA 15601. If you are unable to mail the check, please place it in the envelope on the back of the table and drop it into the Offertory Baskets. We will make sure that they receive it. Thank you for support of Birthright.

Our elderly are in need of many items. Reachers, straight canes, sock aids, gift cards for pharmaceuticals (Hayden's, Rite Aid, Walmart and CVS), gift cards for Dollar General and Family Dollar, personal items (lotions, shampoos, etc.) and paper products (paper towels and toilet tissue). It has been difficult for some because they do not go out too often due to the coronavirus so when they do get a chance to shop, items are not available. Once again, you may place your gift card in the offertory basket and we will make suer that they receive it.

Due to CDC and Diocesan guidelines, items do not have to be wrapped or bagged. Place them in the bins in the back of the church. We will be collecting all through December for Birthright and the elderly.

Offering OFFERTORY

November 22, 2020

Envelopes	$2,774.00
Loose	$275.00
Monthly	$425.00
Total	$3,747.00
Diocesan poverty relief	$366.00
Share & care	$20.00
Christmas flowers	$35.00

November 29, 2020

Envelopes	$1,967.00
Loose	$315.00
Monthly	$130.00
Total	$2,412.00
Diocesan poverty relief	$165.00
Thanksgiving	$1.00
Share & care	$10.00
All saints	$10.00
Christmas flowers	$205.00

Many thanks and may God Bless you
for your generosity!!!

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

December 6, 2020

2nd Sunday of Advent

People knew over a year in advance that the Pope was coming for a visit to America and the preparations began. Security, space limitations and requirements, protocols, crowd management, itineraries, invitations, regulations, and so much more was necessary to pull this event off effectively. It's not every day that we get a visit from such a prominent dignitary. Thought, effort, meticulous attention to detail and vision all are necessary to make this thing work. After all, he can't just show up in the ordinary and normal daily routines of life and catch people unprepared! Tickets have to be purchased, buses rented, hotel rooms reserved, and travel arrangements made early because it will be impossible to see him if we wait too long!

We do this kind of preparing not only for prominent religious figures but for political dignitaries, notable sports figures, people of fame, and even actors. If an individual intrigues us, we are going to want to do all we have to do to get a "good seat" in the house. Does Jesus Christ captivate this much of our attention? We are asked to prepare the way of the Lord and to do so not with frantic frenzy but patient enthusiasm. We do not have to stand on a street corner making profound announcements about God's coming or become overly zealous in our embrace of the Good News. Our task is quieter, more interior, captivating, and consuming. We are asked to change. We have to conduct our lives with holy devotion.

Is the cost of that ticket too much for you? Don't you want the "best seat" in the house? You don't want to miss Our Lord's arrival when he comes, do you? After all, if he comes while you are going about your daily routines without you even knowing, he may catch you off guard. Or, he may come in disguise looking like a beggar, a prisoner, migrant, refugee, or someone who is lost. Would you be ready to recognize him then? Preparing for the coming of Christ requires a change of mind, heart, and behavior. It is not adequate to simply do the things we always do. We want our lives to speak of the exciting news of Christ's coming and the joy that the Gospel brings. It has to do with our demeanor, values, priorities, choices, and how we structure daily routines. Of course, it involves sacrifice. All anticipations do! Are you excited, captivated, enthusiastic, and sitting on the edge of your seat eager to celebrate his coming among us at Christmas, and waiting for him to come again? If not, why not?

January Calendar Tickets

January Calendar Ticket… For sellers, please get your stubs and money in soon. If you are unable to sell your tickets, please return them. Currently we are only aware of 15 tickets that need to be sold. You may buy tickets or return stubs and money to Cathy Korzen, Pam Merlino, Cel Tidwell or Toni Terretti. Thank you for supporting this fundraiser.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Although our secular calendar lists January 1 as the beginning of a New Year, our liturgical calendar assigns the first Sunday of Advent as the beginning of our Church Year. The secular calendar focuses on the material and temporal aspects of living, whereas the Church insists that we prepare ourselves spiritually for the coming of Christ. The obvious difference is that regardless of our efforts to the contrary, in our times our bodies -"we" will eventually die, whereas our spiritual lives are eternal - "we" will live forever either happily with God in heaven or suffer forever without God in the desolation and agonies of hell. In this sense, our whole lives should be an Advent, preparing ourselves for his second coming and our day of judgment. So we must live in such a way that we will be rewarded for kind, virtuous and exemplary lives.

Bible

Beginning with the first Sunday of Advent on November 29 for the liturgical year 2021, the Sunday readings are taken from Cycle B (Gospel of St. Mark) & weekday readings from Cycle I (odd-numbered years). Advent is a time of preparation not only for the celebration of the birthday of Jesus on December 25, but also for his second coming at the end of the world. It is also a time of hope, of expectation based on faith in the promises stated in the Old Covenant of lasting peace, tranquil lives, sufficiency of food, and an end to pain, suffering and misery. We, the recipients of the promise of the New Testament, also have these hopes but in addition have been given an assurance of the resurrection of our bodies to eternal life in union with God the Father through our Baptism into the Mystical Body of the Son and the Life and Love of His Holy Spirit.

2021 MASS INTENTIONS

We are now scheduling Mass intentions for 2021. Each person may request up to 10 intentions for ONE person or ONE family. The priest, by Canon Law, cannot celebrate multiple intentions for one Mass. If you would like to request your intentions, please do so as soon as possible; in writing, and place it in the collection or mail it to the Parish Office. Please indicate your intentions and suggested dates on your written request. The Mass Intentions Policy is posted on the bulletin boards in the Church, and can be provided to you upon request by calling 724-593-7479 or coming to the Parish Office.

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sat. - December 5 - Vigil: Second Sunday of Advent
4:30 p.m. + Richard Sparks (Bob & Patty Sparks)

Sun. - December 6 - Second Sunday of Advent
8:00 a.m. Our Parish Members
10:30 a.m. + Donald Korzen (D.J. Korzen)

Mon. - December 7 - St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
8:00 a.m. No Mass Intention Offered for this day

Tues. - December 8 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
8:00 a.m. Christian Mothers
6:00 p.m. Christian Mothers

Wed. - December 9 - Advent Weekday
8:00 a.m. + Richard Sparks (Bob & Patty Sparks)

Thurs. - December 10 - Advent Weekday
8:00 a.m. No Mass Intention Offered for this day

Fri. - December 11 - Advent Weekday
8:00 a.m. + Holy Souls in Purgatory (Friend)

Sat. - December 12 - Vigil: Our Lady of Guadalupe
4:30 p.m. + Frank Joseph DeLose
(Frank & Mary DeLose)

Sun. - December 13 - Third Sunday of Advent
8:00 a.m. + Edward J. Gavlak (Anita & Tim Fosbrink)
10:30 a.m. Our Parish Members

OPLATKI (CHRISTMAS WAFER)

The Christmas wafer commemorates the most unique family celebration in Christendom perpetuated with the full blessing of the Church - for those who observe this tradition.

Oplatki are available for sale on the table in the back of the Church. The cost is $3.00.

Please remember in your prayers

John Accettola, Josh B., Mike Bartow, Bonnie Baloga, Matt Bauman, Dennis Buckholtz, George Burr, Terry Cavicchio, Mary Cauley, Shawn Dellgross, Amanda, Dennis, Dave DeWitt, Karen Duppstadt, Shawn E., Veronica Echard, Francis Ernesty, George Estochin, Laura Estochin, Mary Estochin, Patty Gadek, Gerald, Barry Huey, Mitchell Johnson, Darlene Jenniches, Jardon Kalp, Jim Kalp, Megan Kalp, Charles Kantorik, Francis Kantorik, Carol Kelly, Blaine Keslar, Lisa Kosco, Namon Lilly, James & Leslie Lloyd, Donna M., Kenny Mach, Lisa Magruda, Denise Mastro, Julia Miller, Richard Miller, Theresa Miller, Debbie Moore, Bob Nicholas, Regina Nilson, Mindy O., Beth P., Chris Petrarca, David Powers, Larry Powers, Madeline R., Tracy Ritenour, Bernie Rusinko, Evan Sander, Brandy Schurg, Gertrude & Ted Shaulis, Sheila Shogun, Yvonne Smith, Helen Sparks, Tom Sparks, Edie Spell, Ernestine Stanton, Mike & Toni Terretti, Theresa, Colleen and sons, Denise Thomas, Stanley Uram, Bryce Vargo, Jim Walters, Margaret Witt, Denny White, and Sandy White.

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