



✠ *St. Raymond of the Mountains*

170 School House Lane, P.O. Box 330, Donegal, PA 15628

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

Parish Staff:

Rev. Anthony Onoko, Pastor

Email aonoko@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Bill Pospisil, Coordinator of Faith Formation,
Parish Secretary, Bulletin & Parish Website**

Email bpospisil@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Contact Information:

Parish Office 724-593-7479

Parish Fax 724-593-5934

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Mondays at noon.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

Website - www.straymondchurch.org

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 p.m.



MARRIAGES:

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

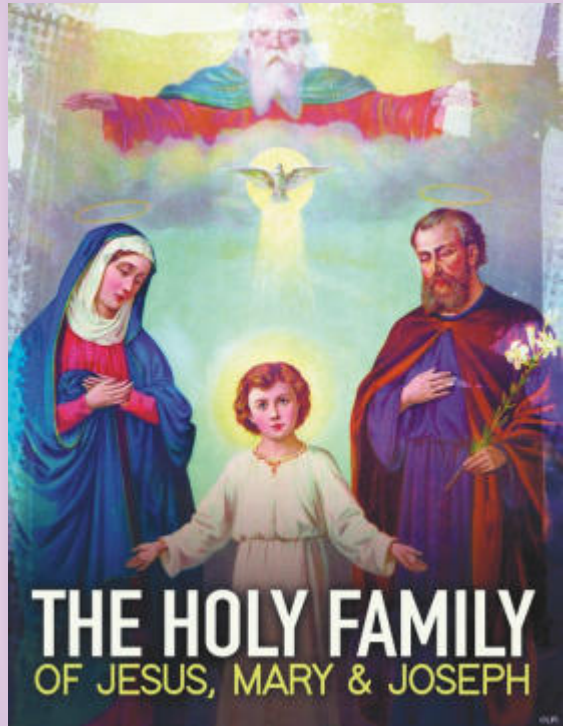


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WITH OTHERS.**

December 26, 2021



MASSES:

Saturday (Vigil): 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Daily Mass: 8:00 a.m. at St. Raymond Church.

An Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction:

Every First Friday of the month
after the 8:00 a.m. Mass until 10:00 a.m.

Holy Days: See bulletin

Parish Online giving:

<https://www.osvhub.com/st-raymond-donegal/funds>

Catholic Charities Help Line: 1-866-409-6455

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.

St. Raymond of the Mountains Church

@ Pennsylvania Charitable Trust & @ Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

December 26, 2021, Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

St. Raymond of the Mountains Church
170 Schoolhouse Lane
PO Box 330
Donegal, PA 15628-0330
(724) 593-7479
www.straymondchurch.org



Dear Parishioners, Friends of St. Raymond,
and Visitors,

As we enter the Christmas season, we all need to pause and reflect on God's message. He speaks to us often and sometime in unusual ways -- extending a helping hand, assessing our patience, encouraging us to seek new answers, answering our prayers and is always near to watch, guide, love and forgive. We need to begin to take the time to sit and listen to him. You begin by simply finding him in your heart. A gentle touch, a smile, a hug, a soft voice, a thank you -- Jesus is everywhere.

It has been a blessing to be here at St. Raymond. It would take many sheets of paper for me to thank all of you individually for your time, talent and treasure for St. Raymond of the Mountains Church as well as your support, gifts, friendship, and love for me. You are my family, my parish community.

I want to extend a personal thank you to everyone for all they have done for St. Raymond, not simply now in 2021 but through all the years. The parishioners that came before were the bedrock for the church today. It thrives because of their effort, energy, and love. As the star shined in the heavens so does this church nestled in the Laurel Highlands. It continues to be a glowing light for others. Let us all rejoice and give thanks! "Sing to the Lord a new song for he has done wondrous deeds." May Peace be your gift at Christmas and your blessings all through the year.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Anthony Onoko

Once again this year, St. Raymond of the Mountains Church will be participating in the ANGEL TREE. This tradition helps infants and the elderly within our area. The tree will remain out of view again this year following safety protocols for COVID-19. Items can be bagged or unwrapped. They can be placed in the back near the table and marked accordingly. Items needed for the infants and elderly are listed below. This list will also be available on the back table if you are interested in donating. We will be donating all infant gifts to "Alternatives. Yes Pregnancy Support Center" in Connellsville and the elderly who reside in our area.

Infant Gifts: laundry detergent; family first aid kits; safety kit with outlet covers for babies/toddlers; baby/toddler board books; baby health and grooming kit; forehead thermometers; baby hooded towel; baby bouncy seat; infant car seat; infant high chair; bassinet; PJ's girl size 2T, 18, 12 and 24 months; Girl's sleepers: Newborn, 3, 6 or 9 months; PJ's boys size 2T, 18, 12, and 24 months; Boy's sleepers: Newborn, 3, 6 or 9 months; Infant/toddlers shoes, any size; plus any monetary donation. Checks may be written to Alternatives. Yes. and mailed to 6 Frank Gallo Lane, Connellsville, PA 15425 OR you may donate any amount (\$10, \$25, \$50, etc.) by texting keyword BABIES to 202-858-1233 by using a credit card, Pay Pal or Venmo. Gifts may be placed near the table in the back of the church.

Elderly: It is a very hard time for some of the elderly in our area. Cost of items are rising for food as well as prescriptions. So please if you can, be generous to these individuals. We are accepting GIFT CARDS for Walmart, Aldi's and CVS. These businesses are used most by the elderly in our area. You may also donate gifts of soap, paper towels, toilet tissue, Kleenex, hand towels, men's and ladies socks, gloves, stamps, decaffeinated tea, sugar free lozenges, puzzle books, writing materials, crackers, all occasion cards, easy reach tool, and body and hand lotion.

Our Blessed Mother Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima is inviting all of St Raymond's parishioners to host a two week stay in your home.



Many many Grace's come to you when she is in your home with your family and friends. Fr Anthony Onoko is eager to meet all of our parishioners and will Bless your Home and Family, and if you like, share a meal or snack with you. Please contact Rachel Burke for the 2022 Schedule now at Kwburke1@msn.com or 724 691-5921; 760 792-0255

The 7th & 8th grade students are collecting toiletries to package and share with senior citizens in our community.



A donation box can be found outside their classroom. Your donation of soap, shampoo, powder, lotion, toothbrushes, toothpaste, towels, washcloths and other items will be greatly appreciated.

January Calendar Ticket Sellers

Please return ticket stubs and money if you have not already done so!

You may place in the collection, drop them off at the parish office or give them to Toni Terretti, Cathy Korzen or Bill Pospisil.

St. Raymond Holiday Mass Schedule

New Year's Eve

December 31st, 2021 6:00 p.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

January 1st, 2022 10:00 a.m.

Epiphany of the Lord (Sunday Mass)

January 1st, 2022 4:30 p.m.

January 2nd, 2022 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

2022 MASS INTENTIONS

We are now scheduling Mass intentions for 2022. Each person may request up to 10 intentions for ONE person or ONE family. 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 coming to the Parish Office.

Forms are on the back table of the church.

GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

December 26, 2021

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.



Please remember in your prayers

Anna, John Accettola, Walter Allen, Josh B., Bonnie Baloga, Sue Brown, Mary C, Terry Cavicchio, Jamie & Justin Chitwood, Eddie Cline, Tara, Eamon, Aedan & Alana Conklin, Shawn Dellgross, Amanda Dennis, George Estochin, Laura Estochin, Heather Faff, Federline Family, Patty Gadek, Gerald, Bob & Piper Heitzer, David, Gary & Jaylin Heitzer, Jadon Michael & Marlene Kalp, Francis Kantorik, Carrie Keslar, Bill Maddas, Theresa Miller, Regina Nilson, Lisa Maruda, Denise Mastro, Mindy O., David Powers, Larry Powers, Pat Powers, Lewis Ritenour, Sabatini Family, Brandy Schurg, Helen Sparks, Tom Sparks, Edie Spell, Ernestine Stanton, Mike & Toni Terretti, Theresa, Colleen and sons, Denise Thomas, Bryce Vargo and Kristin

Please Note: To add someone to the prayer list it is important that you have obtained their permission to do so. Please be sure to keep the office updated on those you have placed on the prayer list. If the office receives no updates after six months, that person will be removed from the prayer list.

Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52
Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-1

Sincere appreciation!

On behalf of the Most Rev. Paul Olaworre, Bishop of the Diocese of Ilorin, I wish to extend a thank you to everyone who supported the 2021 Mission Cooperation Appeal for the Diocese of Ilorin, Nigeria. Your heartfelt prayers and contributions will be used to support the missionary program through our vocational training initiatives and outreach.
Fr. Anthony Onoko

Our Weekly Offering for Dec. 12 & 13, 2021

Envelopes used: 71 of 348 = 20.4%

Mass	Envelopes	Loose	Total
4:30	\$ 755.00	\$370.00	\$1125.00
8:00	\$ 742.00	\$ 41.00	\$ 783.00
10:30	\$1005.00	\$141.00	\$1146.00
Mailed & Weekday Contributions			\$ 720.00
Online Contributions			\$ 70.00
Total Parish Offering			\$3844.00

Many thanks and may God Bless you for your generosity.

MASSES THIS WEEK

Dec. 26 – Jan. 2, 2022

Sunday: The Holy Family

8:00 a.m. Ron & Dee Thomas, 41st Anniversary
10:30 a.m. Parishioners & Friends of St. Raymond

Monday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

8:00 a.m. Sr. Mary Federline by A Friend

Tuesday: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

8:00 a.m. Joyce Herwick by A Friend

Wednesday: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

8:00 a.m. Bob & Marlene Newcomer by A Friend

Thursday:

8:00 a.m. Conrad Brinko by A Friend

Friday: St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve

6:00 p.m. Mary Garrity by The Garrity Family

Saturday: New Year's Day; Mary, The Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace; Vigil of the Epiphany of the Lord

10:00 a.m. Parishioners & Friends of St. Raymond

4:30 p.m. John Sarnelli by the Sarnelli Family

Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord; Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

8:00 a.m. Parishioners & Friends of St. Raymond

10:30 a.m. Brent Heitzer by Bill Pospisil

Are you new to St. Raymond Parish or has your contact information changed?

We welcome you to our community and ask that you complete the form below.

FRIENDS OF ST. RAYMOND

If you are not a member of this parish but enjoy coming here and feel connected to us because you regularly come to visit in this area, please register as a Friend of St. Raymond. Simply fill out this coupon or a registration form and drop it into the collection basket or mail it to the parish office. Being registered as a Friend of St. Raymond allows us to let you know what is happening in the parish throughout the year so that you continue to feel connected. Another advantage of being a Friend of St. Raymond is that we can keep track of any donations you make to the parish and provide a statement for tax purposes. Simply put your donation in an envelope with your name and the amount on it and put it into the collection.

Please check one:

New Parishioner Changing Information

Friend of St. Raymond

Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

E-mail _____

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