

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



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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.

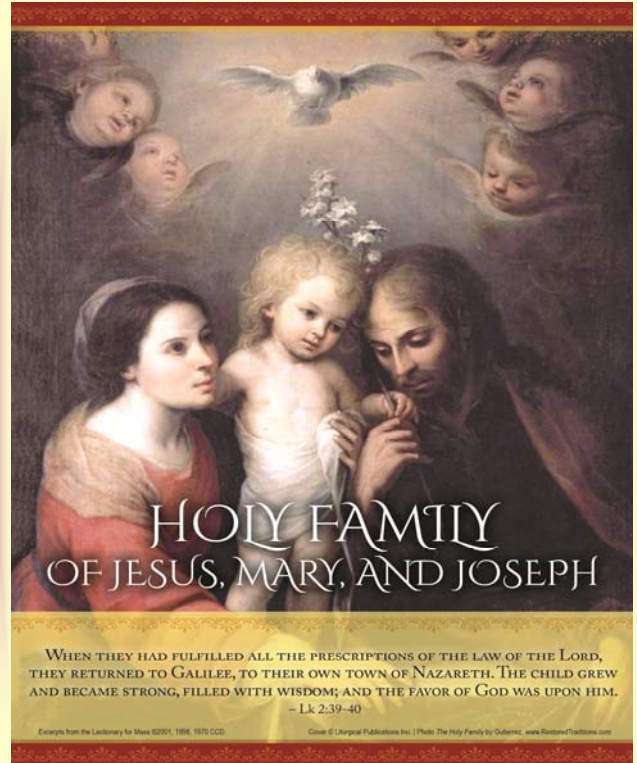


MARRIAGES:

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



December 31, 2017



MASSES:

Saturday (Vigil): 4:30 PM.

Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM.

Daily Mass: 8:00 AM at St. Raymond Chapel (under office) Except Friday.

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:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. 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.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

December 31, 2017 The Holy Family

"When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned ... to their own town of Nazareth." Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews who followed the norms of their religion. Today's Gospel describes the event we call "The Presentation." Jesus' parents, like every Jewish family, presented their infant son to the Lord in a formal ceremony at the temple in Jerusalem. Having done what their religious rites required (and having heard the prophetic words of Simeon and Anna), Mary and Joseph returned home. It was back in their native region of Galilee, amidst the daily routine of domestic life, that Jesus "grew and became strong, filled with wisdom."

As Christians, we too consecrate our children to the Lord when we have them baptized in the Church. Seeing our children receive this sacrament of initiation is always a moment of great joy and hope as we anticipate the life that lies ahead for them, both on earth and in eternity. But the baptism of a baby is only the beginning of this journey towards heaven. In truth, the little daily details, the simple living of family life in our own home paves the way for our children to reach their eternal home. And so it was with the Holy Family. Jesus' childhood, his formation and development took place not primarily amidst the public drama of the temple, but in the quiet privacy of his home. How important this home was, where his parents raised him in their faith and helped him live in such a way that "the favor of God was upon him." May we too, in our homes and our families, remember that although our mission may be lived out in very small moments, taken together they have an eternal significance.



Please remember in your prayers:

Linda Abruzere, Fr. Thomas Acklin O.S.B., Josh B., Pam Balow, Kelly Brady Beth Brown, Edward Budinsky, David Budinsky, Ginger Cairns, Terry Cavicchio, Mary Cauley, Don Critchfield, Shelly Critchfield, Amanda Dennis, Dave DeWitt, Francis Ernesty, George Estochin, Laura Estochin, Mildred Estochin, Albert G, Bill G., Patty Gadek, Gerald, Rose Henrickson, Barry Huey, Mitchell Johnson, Jadon Kalp, Jim Kalp, Carol Kelly, Ryan Kelly, Flo Kinneer, Frank Kuhns, Namon Lilly, Juanita Miller, Richard Miller, Theresa Miller, Margaret Mollick, Courtiney Mastowski, Mindy O., Chris Petrarca, Greg Petrucci, Madeline R., Dan Rocker, Mellisa Rocker, Bernie Rusinko, Bill Schulte, Gertrude "Chub" Shaulis, Ted Shaulis, Helen Sparks, Ernestine Stanton, John Strucaly, Mike Terretti, Theresa, Colleen and sons, Denise Thomas, and Jane Waite.

Readings for the Week of December 31, 2017

- Sunday: Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 or Sir 3:2-6, 12-14
Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9, [7a, 8a]
or Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Heb 11:8,
11-12, 17-19 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40
- Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]
Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
- Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]
Jn 1:19-28
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29--3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6 [3cd]
Jn 1:29-34
- Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [3cd]
Jn 1:35-42
- Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2a]
Jn 1:43-51
- Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20
[12a]/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38
or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38
- 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 2:1-12

Reminder

There will be an Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction every First Friday (of the month) after the 8:00 AM Mass until 10:00 AM. Hope to see you: **Friday, January 5** in the Chapel.



The family is the Domestic Church, the assembly of God's children under the protection and guidance of a married couple. It is the starting place where each one of us is called to proclaim Christ. When a man and a woman conceive, God Himself procreates by impregnating His own Spirit of life into that child. The parents are given the right and responsibility to provide physical, emotional and spiritual care for him or her. Every human being is a child of God and a member of the human family. We are adopted as brothers and sisters of God's only Son, Jesus, at baptism, born again with a new, eternal life, and charged with stewardship not only of other human beings but of all God's creation. God has given each of us gifts of time, talent and treasure (a lifetime, the ingenuity and the means) to fulfill our obligations. We must thank God and share our gifts so that we will be rewarded and not punished at His Second Coming.

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2018 MASS INTENTIONS

We are now scheduling Mass intentions for 2018. 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.



News from The Diocese

March for Life

January 2018 USCCB National Prayer Event:

9 Days for Life: If you wish to pray a novena for life with other Catholics across the nation, please visit <http://www.usccb.org/about/pro-life-activities/january-roe-events/nine-days-of-prayer-penance-and-pilgrimage.cfm> for prayer resources.

Southwest Pennsylvania Interfaith Prayer Event:

PCUC Prayer Breakfast for Life: January 13th, 10 AM, at the Comfort Inn, 699 Rodi Road, Penn Hills, PA, with speaker Father Jason Charron, of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church. <http://www.pcuc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/2018-PCUC-Prayer-Breakfast-Regis-Form.pdf>

Diocese of Greensburg Prayer Events:

DCCW Day of Prayer for Life: January 19th, 11:30 AM to 4 PM, at the Bishop Connare Center.

Magnificat Breakfast: January 27th, 9 AM to Noon, Ramada Hotel and Convention Center, Route 30 East, Greensburg, PA, with speaker Bernadette Conklin of Preborn Jesus Ministry. www.magnificatgreensburg.com

Washington, DC, March, Rally, Conferences, & Prayer Events:

March for Life Conference: If you travel with your family to the March for Life, information about the march on January 19th and the conference on January 18th may be found at the following website: <http://marchforlife.org/mfl-2018/>

Prayer Vigil at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception: Read the following website for information about prayer services at the Washington, DC, Basilica on January 18th and 19th: http://www.nationalshrine.com/site/c.osJRKVPBjH/b.8853605/k.64BA/Prayer_Vigil_for_Life.htm

FRIENDS OF ST. RAYMOND

Name _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Child (ren) Name(s) _____



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. After January 1, call and request a tax statement and we will mail it to you.

This Week in the Parish


- This Sunday, Dec. 31  - 8:00 a.m. Morning Mass
- **NO RELIGIOUS ED. CLASS**
- "HAPPY NEW YEAR!"
- 10:30 a.m. Morning Mass
- 4:30 p.m. New Year's Eve Mass
- Monday, Jan. 1, 2018  - 10:30 a.m. New Year's Morning Mass
- **Parish Office Closed**
- Wednesday, Jan. 3 - 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice (CH)
- Friday, Jan. 5 - 8:00 a.m. Mass Followed by an exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction (RC)
- Saturday, Jan. 6 - 4:00 p.m. Pray the Rosary (CH)
- 4:30 p.m. Evening Mass
- Next Sunday, Jan. 7 - 8:00 a.m. Morning Mass
- 9:00 a.m. St. Raymond Religious Ed. Classes (CL)
- 10:30 a.m. Morning Mass
-  (RC) = Rectory Chapel (RM) = Rectory Meeting Room
(CH) = Church (CL) = Classrooms (PH) = Parish Social Hall

The St. Raymond New Year's Schedules

- Sunday, December 31  - 8:00 a.m. Morning Mass
- 10:30 a.m. Morning Mass
- 4:30 p.m. - New Years Eve
- Monday, January 1  - 10:30 a.m. - New Years Day morning Mass

Attendance and Offertory information for last weekend will appear in next week's Bulletin due to early printing deadline for the bulletins.

St. Raymond's 50th Anniversary Cookbook

St. Raymond's 50th Anniversary Cookbook will be sold after all Masses this weekend ... or you can order by complete an envelope on the table in the back of the church and place it in the box located on the table. 
Do not place any money in the envelope.

Please contact Cel Tidwell at 724-454-9105 or Dot Farkosh at 724-593-7598 for more information.

Catholic Engaged Encounter Weekend, Feb. 2-4, 2018... This is an opportunity for Christian couples to prepare for a lifetime commitment. If you desire a loving, faithful, permanent and life-giving marriage, consider attending a Catholic Engaged Encounter weekend. This marriage preparation program presents a comprehensive, up-close and personal look at marriage. For more information, please call George & Pat Ziringer at 724-335-4966, ziringer@comcast.net or www.greensburgcee.com or Jean & Len Rosky at 724-837-3805. Mark your calendars now for Feb. 2-4 in Greensburg.

MASSES THIS WEEK

Sat. - December 30 - Vigil: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

4:30 p.m. + Joan Kozlowski (Barbara Kozlowski)

Sun. - December 31 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00 a.m. Our Parish Members

10:30 a.m. Special Intention

4:30 p.m. Our Parish Members

NEW
YEAR'S
EVE

Mon. - January 1, 2018 - New Year's Day

10:30 a.m. Our Parish Members

Happy
New Year

Tues. - January 2 - St. Basil the Great & Gregory

Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctor of the Church

8:00 a.m. + Margaret Sefchick

(George & Mary Sidlovsky) (Chapel)

Wed. - January 3 - Christmas Weekday

8:00 a.m. + Blanche & Henry Szymanski

(Szymanski Family) (Chapel)

Thurs. - January 4 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

8:00 a.m. Special Intention (Chapel)

Fri. - January 5 - St. John Neumann, Bishop

8:00 a.m. Mass followed by an Exposition of
the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction until
10:00 AM (Chapel)

Sat. - January 6 - Vigil: The Epiphany of the Lord

4:30 p.m. Joe & Rose - Business Anniversary

(Fontana Family)

Sun. - January 7 - The Epiphany of the Lord

8:00 a.m. + Frank Pegnato (Mr. & Mrs. Pegnato)

10:30 a.m. + Nathan Schafer (Schafer Family)



The Most Holy Name of Jesus

What is in a name? Why is it so important?

Those of us who are parents know how much time we spend thinking and discussing about what name to give our newborn children. It is the same with the church. Recall the Scripture passage about how the animals were named in Genesis. Changing our name is also a way to mark an important moment in our lives. Think of Saul who persecuted the Christians. His name was changed to Paul when he realized that Jesus was the Son of God. And even our popes change their names and take on a new name; Jorge Mario Bergoglio became Francis.

The entrance antiphon for the feast of the Most Holy Name of Jesus gives us a glimpse into how important Jesus' name is: At the name of Jesus, every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The history of the Holy Name of Jesus goes back to the earliest years of Christianity. How many of you remember the symbol IHS? It is a monogram. It comes from the Greek word for Jesus. This reverence continued into the medieval devotions promoted by St. Anselm of Canterbury.

It was only during the Council of Lyons in 1274 that the Church added the date to our liturgical calendar. There are some writings that call the Holy Name of Jesus a healing ointment for the soul.

So the next time you think of the name of someone, recall the long and important history of Jesus' name and why we hold, with such reverence, Jesus' holy name.