#### **Saint Raymond of the Mountains Parish**

170 Schoolhouse Lane P.O. Box 330 Donegal, PA 15628

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### **Dear Parishioners,**

The safety and health of every member of our parish have been in my daily prayers as together we continue to face the ups and downs of the pandemic. Many of you, I know, have endured great pain and personal loss, not to mention the numerous concerns that have developed as the pandemic has imposed an ongoing struggle with fear and isolation in many people's lives. Still today, there is the ongoing uncertainty of what is next.

I hope you have been comforted by our local and diocesan outreach through streaming Masses, phone calls and special mailings. There were also special collections to support mission work at home and around the world as well as volunteers who cleaned and sanitized our church, integrated Diocesan guidelines for the implementation of Mass and encouraged social distancing throughout the church, all done to protect the parishioners so they felt comfortable attending Mass. These are just a few examples of the outpouring of love we saw in the name of Jesus Christ throughout the pandemic.

I wanted you to know that through it all, Saint Raymond of the Mountains Parish has continued to nourish the seeds of faith that have been planted, seeking to care for the spiritual and material needs of our entire parish community. The good news in all of this is that the harvest has been bountiful! In fact, the support provided by you, the faithful, has been just remarkable.

As excited as I am about the impact of our outreach, I also realize that a tidal wave of need is still on the horizon. Economic uncertainty and continued isolation mean the most vulnerable among us will need us now more than ever. Our missions and ministries cannot continue to meet that need without your help.

I want to sincerely thank you for all that you have given to our parish. Remember, your contributions keep this parish vibrant and impactful. Please remember your parish this year, and prayerfully consider increasing your stewardship so we can continue God's work.

Yours in Christ,

**Father Anthony Onoko** 

## Flowers that Feed the Soul: Our Ministry Listing

#### Formation for Children & Youth

- Children's Liturgy of the Word
- Jesse Tree
- Religious Education Program

#### **Liturgical Ministries**

- Altar Servers
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Music Ministry: Adult Choir and Cantors
- Readers
- Ushers

### **Organizations**

- Knights of Columbus
- Christian Mothers
- St. Vincent de Paul Society

#### **Supportive Ministries**

- Angel Tree
- COVID-19 Team
- Decorating Committee
- Families in Need Program
- Friends of Saint Raymond
- Funeral Planner
- Harmon House Outreach
- Mass Prep Team
- Money Counters
- Parish Office Volunteers
- Pastoral Council
- RCIA Team
- Stewardship Committee: Community Outreach, Event Planning and Fundraising
- Wedding Planner

#### **Volunteers for Parish Events** and Activities

- Side of Beef & Side of Pork Ticket
- Beach Get-away
- Blessing of the Bikes
- Card Party
- Celebratory Events
- Coffee and Doughnuts
- Golf Outing
- January Calendar Ticket
- Labor Day Scratch-off Ticket
- Lenten Dinner
- Memorial Day Cemetery Mass
- Night at the Races
- Pierogi Sale
- Pot Luck Dinners
- Thanksgiving Dinner



# **Cultivate the Garden Within: Capital Improvements**





Your contributions to our parish help maintain the facility, making it the center of prayer in our community. Over the past few years, we have provided nourishment for our seeds of faith by improving Saint Raymond of the Mountains Parish. We painted the interior and exterior areas of the church, updated the office door entrance and walkway,

improved our drainage issues, replaced the church lighting, painted the interior of the rectory as well as making minor renovations. Due to the generosity of our parish community, we were also able to purchase a new HVAC for the kitchen and classroom areas. We continue to plant the seeds for today so we will grow the flowers of tomorrow.

Parish Financials	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19
Offertory	\$ 204,235	<b>\$ 163,916</b>	\$ 184,280
Other Ordinary Income (monthly collections, votive candles)	2,347	782	1,124
Extraordinary Income (bequests, donations, fundraising, interest, rental income)	25,457	35,685	47,933
Diocesan Lenten Appeal Refund	27,332	3,552	9,020
Other Non-Assessable Income (The Catholic Accent, sale of property, insurance reimbursements, and PPP Loan)	1,212	28,248	8,851
Special Collections	18,828	8,061	13,541
Total Income	\$ 279,411	\$ 240,244	\$ 264,749
Expenses			
Administration	\$ 48,080	\$ 62,164	\$ 71,139
Church	26,974	30,199	30,128
Rectory	4,262	6,753	9,946
Education and Ministry	31,587	8,147	7,986
General Expenses	101,746	100,874	105,500
Special Collections	18,355	6,784	13,310
Extraordinary Expenses	60,658		21,960
Total Expenditures	291,662	214,921	259,969
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (12,251)	\$ 25,323	\$ 4,780

## **Our Garden**





Registered

2020: 343 2019: 345

**Households** 2021: 348







## **Ways You Can Give**



Saint Raymond of the Mountains Parish 170 Schoolhouse Lane, P.O. Box 330 Donegal, PA 15628



Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8:00AM - 1:00pm



osvhub.com/st-raymond-donegal/funds

# **Weathering COVID-19**

Single Member **Households** 





**Baptisms** 

2021: 2 2020: 2 2019:8

**Weddings** 

2020:3 2019:3





**Funerals** 2021: 5 2020:8

2019: 7

Just as God has provided for you, you have provided for our parish. Your financial support is like the tilling of the soil, helping us to grow stronger. Despite the pandemic, our parish offertory remained strong, primarily due to the generosity of our parishioners and gifts that were mailed to the office. It also was greatly assisted by online giving. In addition, we targeted our debt reduction and had a record-breaking, phenomenal Diocesan Lenten Appeal. The outpouring of support was overwhelming.

As I am sure you can imagine, our parish, and particularly our societies, suffered from the loss of fundraising monies. During the second quarter of 2020, fundraising ceased. The golf outing was delayed and scaled back due to the pandemic. We continued to fundraise in areas where there was limited personal interaction such as pierogi and various ticket sales. We had no face-to-face religious education classes as well as very little participation in various ministries. One of our main social gatherings, Saint Raymond's Thanksgiving Dinner, was cancelled. During this fourth quarter of 2021, we are hoping to get back on track. Help us grow the flowers of tomorrow by planting the seeds today by supporting and participating in these future events:

- January Calendar Ticket, October to December
- Saint Raymond Thanksgiving Dinner, second Sunday in November
- Families in Need Campaign featuring our Angel Tree for our infants and the elderly in our community during the Advent Season
- Breakfast with Santa

There is also a need to recruit volunteers for our ongoing church committees that are essential to the welfare of the church. I also want to call your attention to our daily spiritual reflections. You can access these reflections by visiting our website at www.straymondchurch.org. The reflections may give you inspiration, encouragement, peace-of-mind or simply provide insight into the daily readings. Celebrations are not rare to Saint Raymond Parish. On July 1, we celebrated my Installation Mass, and on Aug. 28 we celebrated Father Ted Kaczmarek's 50th Anniversary of Ordination. Both demonstrated the love, enthusiasm, and volunteerism within our parish community. These efforts will go a long way in planting the seeds of faith and support for Saint Raymond Parish.

