



*St. John the Baptist*

THE PARISHES OF

**ST. MARY**

310 Nobbe St.  
Farmersville, IL 62533

**ST. RAYMOND**

306 S McElroy  
Raymond, IL 62560

**ST. MAURICE**

706 SE 4th St.  
Morrisonville, IL 62546

**Fr. Florent Kanga**, Pastor  
(414) 460-0335  
fkanga@dio.org

**Kateri Marten**, Secretary  
kmarten@stmrm.org

Bulletin Deadline:  
End of Monday

Parish Website:  
stmrm.org

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting  
and Investigation: (217) 321-1155

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

5:00 pm St. Mary: Dorothy Heaton

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:00 am St. Raymond: Daisy Held

10:00 am St. Maurice: The People of Our Parishes

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

8:00 am St. Mary: **No Mass**

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

8:00 am St. Raymond: Robert & Mary Millburg

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:00 am St. Maurice: Charles & Carmen Davis

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

5:00 pm St. Mary: Margaret Keller

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

8:00 am St. Raymond: Catherine Edmiston White

10:00 am St. Maurice: The People of Our Parishes

## - CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE -

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 pm St. Mary: Fr. Florent Kanga

4:00 pm St. Maurice: Linus & Marie Grundy

*(Fr. John Hannigan will celebrate Mass at St. Maurice)*

6:30 pm St. Raymond: The People of Our Parishes

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

9:00 am St. Raymond: Thomas Marten

## RECONCILIATION

### SATURDAYS

3:00-3:30 pm St. Maurice

4:00-4:30 pm St. Mary

### SUNDAYS

7:00-7:30 am St. Raymond

## ADORATION

### ST. RAYMOND

8:30 am Wednesday - 8:00 am Thursday

*There will be no Adoration on December 20/21 & 27/28*

### ST. MAURICE

8:00 am - 10:00 pm Wednesday

*There will be no Adoration on December 20 & 27*

*St. Maurice Adoration Volunteers Needed :*

*Come join our ministry as a regular Adorer or as a substitute Adorer.*

*We currently have one hour available from Noon - 1:00*

*Contact Patti (217) 825-9811*

## FATHER'S COLUMN

John the Baptist said: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord,' as Isaiah the prophet said."

In our own individual Advents of poverty and despair, in daily our struggle to find meaning and purpose in this life we have been given, Emmanuel, God-is-with-us. Advent faith calls us to approach this God not in fear, but in joy: not a happy-face, or some kind of sugarcoated denial of anything bad or unpleasant, but a constant awareness that God is always present to us, alive in our midst. That despite the heartaches, there is always healing; that despite our forgetting and abandoning God, God neither forgets nor abandons us; that despite the cross, there is still the eternal hope of resurrection.

Light is the opening image of today's Gospel: John proclaims that Jesus is the light that will shatter the darkness that envelops our world, the light that illuminates our vision with compassion and justice. When we have received the sacrament of baptism, that light has been ignited within us. It still melts the winter cold of despair and self-absorption and opening our eyes to see God's goodness in our midst. We are called to "testify" to that light we have seen in the compassion and forgiveness of others; called to become the means to straighten the roads we travel that have been made crooked and dangerous by injustice and greed. We have been entrusted by God to transform our deserts into God's vineyard of mercy and peace.

The coming of Christ calls us to the work of making a straight road for him, of transforming the barren deserts around us into harvests of justice and peace, of making the light of his presence in our midst known to all. As God gives himself so completely and unreservedly to us in the Birth of his own Son, may we find our life's joy and fulfillment in giving completely and unreservedly of ourselves to others.



# MINISTRY SCHEDULES

## ST. MARY

### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday, December 16:  
Mary Ann Rimini  
& Glenn Rovey

Saturday, December 23:  
Patty Clarke  
& Mary Ann Rimini

Sunday, December 24 -  
Christmas Eve, 4:00 pm:  
Mary Jane Schmidt  
& Patty Clarke

Saturday, December 30:  
Glenn Rovey  
& Mary Jane Schmidt

### LECTORS

Saturday, December 16:  
Tony Krager

Saturday, December 23:  
Dan Martin

Sunday, December 24 -  
Christmas Eve, 4:00 pm:  
Kathy Rovey

Saturday, December 30:  
Carol Hupp

Saturday, January 6:  
Mary Jane Fuchs

## ST. RAYMOND

### DECEMBER

LECTOR ..... Tricia Pinkston  
CANTOR ..... Chris Mizera  
HOSPITALITY ..... Carl Walch

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS  
Carl & Marlene Marten

SERVERS:  
Sun, Dec 3 - Denny Held  
Fri, Dec 8 - TBD  
Sun, Dec 10 - Dan Held  
Sun, Dec 17 - Avery & Luke Pope  
Sun, Dec 24 - Morgan Hampton  
Sun, Dec 24 Christmas Eve -  
Avery & Luke Pope  
Mon, Dec 25 Christmas Day -  
TBD  
Sun, Dec 31 - Denny Held

HOMEBOUND MINISTER:  
Dec 3 - Mary & Julie Krager  
Dec 10 - Dick Lyons  
Dec 17 - Carl Marten  
Dec 24 - Noller/Morehouse  
Dec 31 - Dick Lyons

## ST. MAURICE

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

LECTOR ..... Dale Brockamp  
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS  
Marietta Dunkirk  
Gerry Goebel  
Charlie Golitko

USHERS ..... Brian Grundy  
Suzanne Grundy  
Mark Langen

SERVERS ..... Macie Ferrill  
Adelaide and Gentry Dunkirk

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

LECTOR ..... Diane McWard-Sullivan

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS  
Dale Brockamp  
Larry Goebel  
Ed Goebel

USHERS ..... Brian Grundy  
Suzanne Grundy  
Mark Langen

SERVER  
Lucas, Noah, and Emma Grundy

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

LECTOR ..... Ed Goebel  
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS  
Catherine O'Connell  
Marietta Dunkirk  
John Bergschneider

USHERS ..... Brian Grundy  
Suzanne Grundy  
Mark Langen

SERVERS ..... Macie Ferrill  
Adelaide and Gentry Dunkirk  
Nathaniel and Nicholas DeBrun

## OUR PRAYER CORNER

Martha Beeler, Ramona Grundy, Wyatt Spurgeon,  
Jim Renner, Drake Lucas, Lenora Brown, Cheryl Noller,  
Shirley Mizera, Wayne & Margaret Angle,  
Greg Weitekamp, Ed Weitekamp, Abby Sinnard,  
Janet Locander, Steve Mundhenke, Margaret Jenkins,  
Bernard Jenkins, Brant Weitekamp, Vickie Norris,  
Chuck Sale, Martha Reed, Callie Jones

Remember to pray for our seminarians and for the  
increase of vocations to priesthood and religious life.

## COLLECTION TOTALS FOR DECEMBER 9/10

St. Mary: \$1,570

St. Raymond: \$3,508

St. Maurice: \$4,742

## Note on Decorating Our Churches for Christmas:

Due to the last Sunday of Advent also being Christmas Eve, each of our parishes will be decorating their church this weekend, December 16/17.

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## Winter Weather Mass Notice

If school is canceled due to bad weather, weekday mass will also be canceled.

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## Farmersville K of C Monthly Breakfast

3rd Sunday of the Month  
December 17, 7:30 am to Noon  
at the Farmersville K of C Hall

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## St. Raymond Pro-Life Prayer Group

Friday mornings at 9:00 am

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## St. Raymond Christmas Choir

Practice is on Mondays  
6:30 in St. Raymond's church  
Practice dates are as follows:  
December 4, 11, & 17

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## St. Mary Christmas Choir

Practice is on Wednesdays  
6:30pm in St. Mary's church  
Practice dates are as follows:  
December 6, 13, & 20

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## Family of Faith Class Dates

January 17 | February 21  
March 20 | April 17 | May 15  
6:00 - 8:00 pm at the Fuller Street  
Building in Morrisonville  
Questions? Contact Father.

## Adult Faith Formation: What We Believe

Class is out on Christmas break.  
We will resume with Session 6 on January 2.

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## It's a Birthday Party!

Please help us celebrate Virginia Murphy's 100 birthday with a card shower and open house on Saturday, January 6 from 2 to 4 pm at the Farmersville K of C hall. You are also invited to join us at the 5 pm Mass that evening at St. Mary.

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## Watch the talks from the Eucharistic Congress speakers

Now you can watch the inspiring, funny, thought provoking, and uplifting talks from the congress. Go to [dio.org/catholictimes](http://dio.org/catholictimes) and click on videos. While you're there, you can check out a recap video of the historic day and watch the Mass. Note, Dr. Scott Hahn's talk is not able to be published due to contract stipulations.

## EUCHARIST REFLECTIONS

### What is the proper way to receive the Host?

When receiving the Holy Eucharist, as the minister says, "The Body of Christ," we respond, "Amen," which means, "I believe." We may receive the Eucharist on the tongue, or in the hand. When receiving in the hand, one hand should be cupped over the other. It's not appropriate to grab the Host with fingers from the celebrant's hands as one would when grabbing a pen.

### Why is the Eucharist sometimes distributed with the Hosts and the consecrated wine, and other times with the Hosts only?

Christ is fully present in both the Host and in the chalice. Both species must be present for a Mass to be valid, and the priest must consume both. However, it is not required for anyone other than the priest to receive Communion under both kinds. Even if both are offered, one may choose to receive either the Host or the Precious Blood only. In that case, we make an act of reverence as described in the previous question above.

### Is there another way to receive the Eucharist?

Though not very common in the United States, Holy Communion may be offered by intinction, whereby the minister dips the Host into the chalice before giving it to you on the tongue (not in your hands), saying: "The Body and Blood of Christ," In either case, you respond with an "Amen" as you receive the dipped Host, after an external act of reverence.