

DECEMBER 8, 2024 | SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of our God."



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 7

5:00 pm St. Mary: Lyle & Marylyn Leonard

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

8:00 am St. Raymond: Mary Lou Butler
10:00 am St. Maurice: The People of Our Parishes

-HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION-

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY

Even though this falls on a Monday,

there is an obligation to attend Mass on this Holy Day

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

6:00 pm St. Mary: The People of Our Parishes

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

8:00 am St. Mary: Sadie Alarid

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

8:00 am St. Raymond: Edward Weitekamp

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

8:00 am St. Maurice: Patrick "Patty" Whalen

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

5:00 pm St. Mary: The People of Our Parishes

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

8:00 am St. Raymond: Daisy Held
10:00 am St. Maurice: Carl Goebel

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Friday, December 20, 6:00 pm at St. Raymond

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 pm St. Mary
4:00 pm St. Maurice (*Fr. John Hannigan*)
6:30 pm St. Raymond

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

9:00 am St. Raymond

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 25 & 26

Adoration will be held in the main church while our chapel is having repair work done

ST. MAURICE

8:00 am - 9:00 pm Wednesday

FATHER'S COLUMN

John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."

The beginning of this Sunday's Gospel is a fine example of how St. Luke uses historical detail to ground us in real events surrounding Jesus' advent. By mentioning in such detail these roman rulers, St. Luke sets up a contrast between this world's ways and the "straight" and "smooth way of the One who is to come. It was to none of the powerful (Caesar, Pilate, etc.) that God's word came. God's word came to John and was announced in the desert. So it is with us: God's word comes to us in the desert places of our lives as we struggle to "prepare the way of the Lord."

One way we prepare for the coming of the Word is by listening to God's word. Indeed, in the listening, God is already present to us! The prophet Baruch in the first reading invites his audience to "look to the East," the direction of the rising sun, of a new day, the direction from which the remnant returns to the Promised Land. The prophet Baruch brings a message of hope, for the exiles are "remembered by God" and "advance secure in the glory of God." Finally, Israel returns home! What Isaiah, in the Gospel through John's mouth, only yearns to be fulfilled, Baruch announces as already happening. St. Paul also brings a word of hope when he speaks of the "glory and praise of God" which is given when the faithful disciples of Jesus are "pure and blameless" on the "day of Christ." In this hope God is present; we only need to listen to the word and be attentive to that presence.

The readings of this second Sunday of Advent push us to a deeper appreciation of what Advent is really about. Rather than a prolonged waiting, Advent brings us to active listening. We prepare for Christ's coming (in glory at the end of time and as an infant in a manger in Bethlehem) by opening ourselves to the richness of God's word of salvation. This word is expressed in divine mercy, justice, hope, and forgiveness that come from God. But most of all, it is expressed in the Word made flesh. Jesus brings what no ruler can bring: Salvation! We only need to listen for his word and continually make straight his path is our hearts.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

December 9: St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

December 10: Our Lady of Loreto

December 11: St. Damasus I, Pope

December 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe

December 13: St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

December 14: St. John of the Cross,
Priest & Doctor of the Church

December 15: St. Valerian, Bishop in Africa & Martyr

MINISTRY SCHEDULES

ST. MARY

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday, Dec 7:
John &
Mary Jo Brown

The Immaculate Conception
Monday, Dec 9:
Mary Ann Rimini
& Emily Martin

Saturday, Dec 14:
Patty Clarke
Mary Ann Rimini

Saturday, Dec 21:
Mary Jane Schmidt
& Patty Clarke

Christmas Eve
Tuesday, Dec 24:
Emily Martin
& Mary Jane Schmidt

LECTORS

Saturday, Dec 7:
Dan Martin

The Immaculate Conception
Monday, Dec 9:
Kathy Rovey

Saturday, Dec 14:
Carol Hupp

Saturday, Dec 21:
Mary Jane Fuchs

Christmas Eve
Tuesday, Dec 24:
Tony Krager

ST. RAYMOND

DECEMBER

LECTOR Tricia Pinkston
CANTOR Chris Mizera
HOSPITALITY Mark Meisner
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
..... Carl Marten
..... John Barto

HOMEBOUND MINISTER:
Dec 1 - Hocking/Krager
Dec 8 - Dick Lyons
Dec 15 - Carl Marten
Dec 22 - Noller/Morehouse
Dec 29 - Dick Lyons

SERVERS:
Sun, Dec 1: Avery Pope
Linda Hocking
Sun, Dec 8: Denny Held
Sun, Dec 15: Avery & Luke Pope
Austin Nicol
Sun, Dec 22: Dan Held
Christmas Eve - Tue, Dec 24:
Avery & Luke Pope
Christmas Day - Wed, Dec 25:
Denny Held
Sun, Dec 29: Denny Held

ST. MAURICE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

LECTOR Rita Sloan
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
Catherine O'Connell
Marietta Dunkirk
Dale Brockamp

USHERS Mark Langen
Brian & Suzanne Grundy

SERVERS Macie Ferrill
Adelaide and Gentry Dunkirk

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

LECTOR Gerry Goebel
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS
Charlie Golitko
Ed Goebel
Larry Goebel

USHERS Mark Langen
Brian & Suzanne Grundy

SERVER
Lucas, Noah, and Emma Grundy

COLLECTION TOTALS FOR NOVEMBER 30/ DECEMBER 1

St. Mary: \$1,720

St. Raymond: \$3,570

St. Maurice: \$5,488

OUR PRAYER LIST

Luanne Stewart, Mary Lou Langen, Kristi Hester, Jim Weitekamp, Donna Boeh, Lenora Brown, Terry Goby, Janet (Cobb) Myers, Cindy Sale, Chuck Sale, Brant Weitekamp, Janet Locander, Alan McFarlin, Vickie Norris, Greg Weitekamp, Katrina Cunningham, Glenn Rovey, Enriqueta Hernandez, Brandi Malutinok, Debbie Lucas, Drake Lucas, Martha Beeler, Mike Sheedy

Remember to pray for our Pope, Bishop, priests and seminarians, and for the increase of vocations to priesthood and religious life.

PARISH & COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

St. Raymond Parish Christmas Party

Today, Sunday, December 8 at 5:30 pm at the KC Hall

St. Raymond Christmas Choir Practice

This week's practice will be held at St. Mary Parish after the Holy Day Mass on Monday, December 9.

St. Mary Christmas Choir Practice

Each Wednesday of December leading up to Christmas at 6:30 pm

Ladies Advent Meditation by Candlelight

All the ladies of our three parishes are invited to an evening of prayerful advent meditation. Wine & cheese social to follow. Bring a candle

Thursday, December 12
6:30 pm at the St. Raymond rectory

Pro-Life Prayer

Friday mornings 9:00 am at St. Raymond

Farmersville KC Monthly Sunday Breakfast

December 15, 7:30 to 11:00 am at the KC Hall

St. Mary Christmas Decorating

We will be decorating our church for Christmas after Mass on December 21. Please bring an ornament for the Family Tree in the lobby.

St. Raymond Food Pantry Service Project

Please bring your filled totes back to the church Today, Sunday, December 8.

St. Raymond Participating in Angel Tree Program

Please bring wrapped gifts (do not use gift bags) with the child's card taped on the outside back to the church no later than Sunday, December 15.

Questions? Contact Judie at 217-836-7136

St. Mary Thank You for Participating in Toy Drive

Thanks to all who donated toys for Feed the Need, it was a huge success thanks to your generosity.

Study on The Gospel of Matthew

Each Tuesday with 2 options for location/time:
- 10:00 am in Farmersville at the Parish Rectory
- 6:30 pm in Raymond at the KC Hall

Please note: our 2 locations are currently not in sync on sessions.

Teen Bible Study

Meeting each Wednesday
at the St. Maurice parish rectory
Pizza at 6 pm, session starts at 6:30 pm

Family of Faith

The December class will be held on Wednesday, December 11 instead of December 18.

6:00 pm at the Fuller Street Building in Morrisonville

QUIZ TIME WITH FATHER

What is the dogma of the Immaculate Conception?

- Mary conceived Jesus immaculately in her womb without the aid of a human father.
- Mary conceived Jesus immaculately in her womb and Jesus remained without sin.
- Mary was conceived immaculately in her mother Anna's womb without the aid of a human father.
- Mary was conceived immaculately in her mother Anna's womb and was preserved from sin.
- None of the above.