

DECEMBER 14, 2025 | 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## 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 13

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

8:00 am St. Raymond: Daisy Held

10:00 am St. Maurice: Carl Goebel

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

8:00 am St. Mary: Roy Carter Sr. and Family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

8:00 am St. Raymond: Ed Weitekamp

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

8:00 am St. Maurice: Joseph Brockamp

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:00 am St. Raymond: The People of Our Parishes

10:00 am St. Maurice: Linda (Todt) Abendoth  
(St. Maurice class of 1970)

## CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, December 17, 6:00 pm at St. Mary

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 pm St. Mary

4:00 pm St. Maurice

6:30 pm St. Raymond

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY

9:00 am St. Maurice

## 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 24/25 or December 31/January 1*

ST. MAURICE

8:00 am - 9:00 pm Wednesday

## FATHER'S COLUMN

Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John,  
"What did you go out to the desert to see?  
A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.  
This is the one about whom it is written:  
Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;  
he will prepare your way before you.

When a child goes missing, the parents never stop looking for him or her. Even after years, they still see the face of their lost child in strangers who would be about the same age, hoping against hope that it may be their child. Once in a while, parents are rewarded with their diligent searching and hoping, and after many years a child is found.

In this Gospel, the imprisoned John seems to be hoping against hope for the One for whom he has been looking: "Are you the one who is to come?"

But something interesting happens in this Gospel. John's question put to Jesus through John's disciples turns the tables. Rather than saying something about his own identity (Jesus merely asks people to open their eyes and see), Jesus says something about John's identity.

The Gospel begins with John questioning who Jesus is and concludes with Jesus clearly extolling who John is. What makes John great is that he recognizes in "the works of the Christ" the person and presence of the Messiah, "the one who is to come." This is exactly our Advent challenge: to see in the goodness around us the works of Jesus and the presence of "the Christ."

Advent calls us to look deeper and then to trust what we see. Whom we discover depends upon what we see. When people went to the desert, they saw and heard exactly what they expected to see and hear: a prophet dressed in animal skins calling them to repentance. When they looked at Jesus, however, they did not see and hear what they were expecting from the Messiah. The Gospel challenge is to open ourselves to seeing something, Someone different from our expectations.

John's question must become our own: Is Jesus the One for us, or are we really looking for another?

In trying to answer the question of Jesus' identity, we cannot rely only on the authority of others found in creeds or catechisms. Our answer must also come from our own personal experience of Jesus and the good fruit of his life and ministry.

## — SAINTS OF THE WEEK —

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

December 16: St. David, King & Prophet

December 17: St. Daniel, Prophet

December 18: St. Malachy, Prophet  
(the final prophet of the Old Testament)

December 19: St. Gatianus, Bishop of Tours

December 20: St. Philogonius, Bishop of Antioch

December 21: St. Peter Canisius,  
Jesuit & Doctor of the Church

## MINISTRY SCHEDULES

### ST. MARY

#### LECTORS

Saturday, December 13:  
Tony Krager

Saturday, December 20:  
Dan Martin

Wednesday, December 24  
*Christmas Eve:*  
Kathy Rovey

Saturday, December 27:  
Kevin Clark

Thursday, January 1  
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God:  
Carol Hupp

Saturday, January 10:  
Mary Jane Fuchs

#### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday, December 13:  
Emily Martin  
& Mary Jane Schmidt

Saturday, December 20:  
Carolynn Clark  
& Emily Martin

Wednesday, December 24  
*Christmas Eve:*  
John &  
Mary Jo Brown

Saturday, December 27:  
Mary Ann Rimini  
& Carolynn Clark

### ST. RAYMOND

#### DECEMBER

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

SERVERS:  
Sun, Dec 7: Luke Pope  
Freddie & Lucy Wagahoff  
Mon, Dec 8: Volunteer  
Sun, Dec 14: Denny Held  
Sun, Dec 21: Dan Held  
Wed, Dec 24: Avery & Luke Pope  
Austin & Addy Nicol  
Sun, Dec 28: Denny Held

HOMEBOUND MINISTER:  
Dec 7: Hocking/Krager  
Dec 14: Dick Lyons  
Dec 21: Carl Marten  
Dec 28: Noller/Morehouse

### ST. MAURICE

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

LECTOR ..... Gerry Goebel  
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS .....  
..... Ed Goebel  
..... Larry Goebel  
..... Carl Goebel

USHERS ..... Brian & Suzanne Grundy  
and Family

SERVERS ..... Nathaniel DeBrun  
Rian Deardorff

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

LECTOR ..... Pat Wolf  
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS .....  
..... Marietta Dunkirk  
..... Linda Sheedy  
..... John Bergschneider

USHERS ..... Brian & Suzanne Grundy  
and Family

SERVER .....  
Lucas, Noah, and Emma Grundy

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

#### CHRISTMAS EVE

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

USHERS ..... Brian & Suzanne Grundy  
and Family

SERVERS ..... Macie Ferrill  
Adelaide and Gentry Dunkirk  
Nathaniel DeBrun and Rian Deardorff

## PARISH ENGAGEMENT FOR DECEMBER 6/7

### ST. MARY

Collection: \$2,431

### ST. RAYMOND

Collection: \$1,367

### ST. MAURICE

Collection: \$2645  
Attendance: 96

## OUR PRAYER LIST

Carl Armes, Larry Lucas, Drake Lucas,  
Georgetta Dean, Jacob Mizera, Sara Cawthon,  
Martha Beeler, Andy Foote, Marcia Rosenthal,  
Jim Weitekamp, Janet Locander, Alan McFarlin,  
Brant Weitekamp, Trent Boston

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

To add a name to the prayer list, please email Kateri at  
kmarten@stmm.org and specify how many weeks you'd  
like that name to appear for (1 week up to a maximum of  
12 weeks). You're always welcome to re-add the name at  
the end of this period if the need for prayer is still present,  
but this will help keep the list focused and fresh.

If you know of a parishioner that you'd like added to  
Father's visitation list, please let him or Kateri know.

### **St. Maurice Caroling and Pizza**

Come caroling with us on Sunday, December 14 at 5:00 pm. We will meet at the church to car pool. Pizza will be served at the KC Hall after our caroling.

Please bring a flashlight and your beautiful voices. If you know of any one that would like to hear us carol, please let Marietta Dunkirk know.

### **St. Raymond Participates in Angel Tree Program**

Gifts should be wrapped (please do not use gift bags) with the card taped on the outside and returned no later than Sunday, December 14.

### **St. Raymond Christmas Choir Rehearsal**

Each Monday at 6:30pm

### **St. Mary Christmas Choir Rehearsal**

December 17 at 6:30 pm

### **Parish Unit Advent Penance Service**

Wednesday, December 17  
6:00 pm in St Mary Church

### **St. Maurice Christmas at Josephine's**

Join us December 18 to visit Josephine's Tea Room. We will meet at the church at 9:00 am to car pool. Please RSVP to Marietta at 217-825-6018 by December 13 so we may finalize our reservations.

### **Pro-Life Prayer**

Friday mornings 9:00 am at St. Raymond

### **Christmas Movie Night Hosted by the Morrisonville K of C**

Friday, December 19, 6:00 - 8:30 pm at the Fuller Street Building in Morrisonville  
Pizza, treats, and soda provider

Open to students in 8th grade and under from Morrisonville and Raymond school districts. Parents must be present!

RSVP to Craig Moore 217-827-0115 by December 17

### **Save the Date for Trivia Night Hosted by the Morrisonville K of C**

February 21 at the Fuller Street Building in Morrisonville  
More to follow

### **St. Raymond Christmas Eve Choir Start Time**

Our Cantata will begin at 6:00 pm  
before the 6:30 Christmas Eve Mass

### **Save the Date: Visiting Priest & Afternoon Program**

Fr. Augustine from the Corpus Christi Priory will be visiting on January 18th to concelebrate mass at Raymond and Morrisonville with Fr. Florent and provide an educational program in the afternoon.  
More details coming soon.

### **St. Mary Participating in Christmas Toy Drive**

Please bring new, unwrapped toys and place them in the box in the vestibule.  
This project is sponsored by Illuminatus.

### **Winter Weather Mass Notice**

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

### **St. Raymond CCW Thank You**

Thank all our parishioners for supporting our Bakeless Bake Sale so generously! We were able to donate \$1785 to the Panhandle Food Pantry, which was greatly appreciated. Thank you all so much!

### **Fr. Florant's Birthday is Tuesday, December 16**

Don't forget to wish him a  
Happy Birthday and say  
a Hail Mary for him

