

## Masses

Saturday Eve 5:00PM  
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30AM,  
12Noon and 4:30PM

Daily 7:15, 8:45 AM  
Saturday 8:45 AM

## Pastoral Team

**Pastor**  
Father Chuck Romano

**Associate Pastors**  
Father Vincent H. Bulus  
Father Theodore Iloh

**Deacons**  
Deacon Robert C. Campbell, OFS  
Deacon Thomas Wm. Connolly, T.O Carm  
Deacon Guy Donza, S.F.D.  
Deacon Thomas J. Malone Jr., T.S.A.

**Pastoral Associate, Youth &  
Parish Social Ministry**  
Deacon Richard W. LaRossa

**School Principal**  
Sr. Ruthanne Gypalo, I.H.M.

**Director of Religious Education**  
Mrs. Evelyn Contaldi

**Business Manager**  
Thomas J. Donovan (RIP)

**South Nassau Hospital Chaplain**  
Father Cornelius Dery

## Parish Staff

**Music Ministry**  
Laura Garbitelli

**Folk Group**  
AnnMarie Lynch

**Plant Manager**  
Steve Bennett

**Parish Secretary**  
Doreen Dolan

**Bulletin Editor**  
Linda Ohlsen

# The Parish of St. Raymond

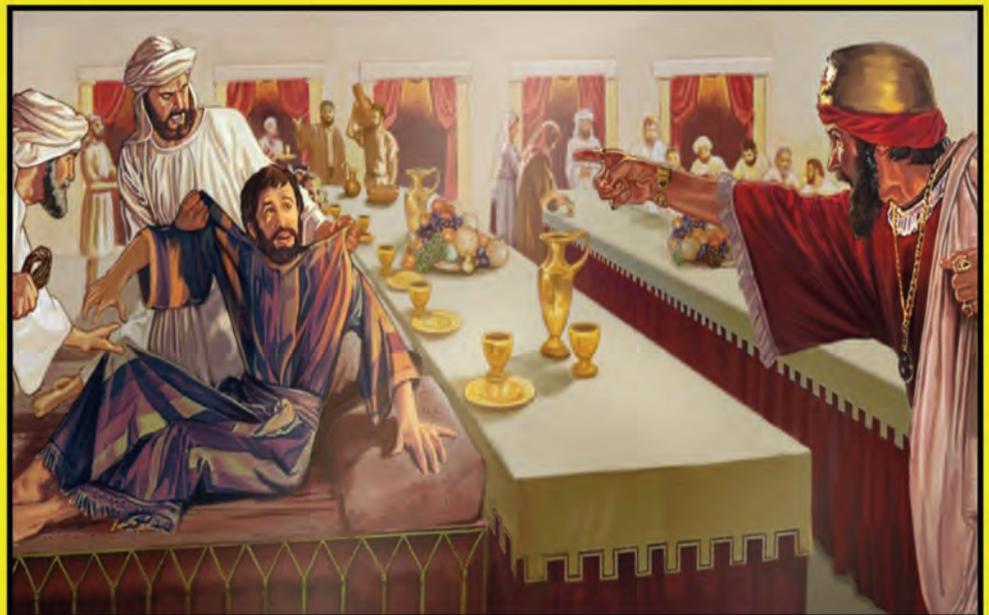
## A Eucharistic Community of Faith, Love and Friendship

Sunday, October 11, 2020

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

“Many are invited, but few are chosen”  
-Matthew 22:10



October 11th  
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Welcome To Our Parish Family!

Not registered? Please stop by our rectory during office hours to be included in our parish family.

### Rectory

Office Hours are Monday-Friday from 9am-5pm;  
Saturdays from 9:30am-1pm.

**Web Site:** [www.SaintRaymonds.org](http://www.SaintRaymonds.org)

**Facebook:** St. Raymond Parish, East Rockaway

**E-Mail:** [StRayRcc@optonline.net](mailto:StRayRcc@optonline.net)

Rectory.....593-5000

Rectory Fax.....887-0554

**Parish Social Ministry**.....887-9197

Office Hours are Monday-Thursday from 10am-2pm.

Parish Social Ministry Fax.....593-6278

**St. Raymond School**.....593-9010

St. Raymond School Fax.....593-0986

**Religious Education Office**.....593-9075

Religious Education Office Fax .....593-1156

### Pastoral Care Of The Sick

**Holy Communion**—Available to the homebound;  
call the rectory to schedule an appointment.

### Devotions

#### **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Thursdays from 1-4pm in Our Lady's Chapel.

#### **Nocturnal Adoration**

First Fridays from 8-9pm.

#### **Miraculous Medal Novena**

Saturdays following 8:45am Mass.

### Confessions

Saturdays from 3:30-4:30pm, or call for appointment.

### Baptisms

Baptisms are celebrated the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Please call the rectory to schedule.

### Bereavement Support Group

Call the rectory office for meeting times.

### Marriages

Engaged couples are encouraged to call the rectory a year in advance of their wedding date to assure adequate time to participate in preparation programs for the Sacrament of Marriage.

### Prayer Groups

**Charismatic Prayer Group:** Every Tuesday at 7:30pm in the rectory lower level.

**Men's Prayer Group:** Every 4th Friday at 8pm in Our Lady's Chapel.

### Music Ministries

**Children's Choir:** Sings at the 9am Mass on the 3rd Sunday of the month from September—June; practice on Tuesdays at 5pm in the school auditorium.

**Choir (Adult):** Sings at 10:30am Mass on Sundays from September—June; practice on Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the church.

**Folk Group:** Sings at 12 Noon Mass on Sundays from September—June; practice on Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the rectory lower level.

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Interested in becoming a Catholic or an adult Catholic seeking Eucharist or Confirmation? Call the rectory and ask for Deacon Rich LaRossa.



The Rectory office will be closed tomorrow,

Monday, October 12th in observance of Columbus Day.

The office will reopen on

Tuesday October 13th.

Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday!



CATHOLIC FAITH  
— NETWORK —

## The Catholic Faith Network (CFN)

Broadcast of the Celebration of the Eucharist:

### Daily Mass Celebrated by Pope Francis from the Santa Marta Chapel in Rome

Monday - Friday at 11:00 am, 9:30 pm ET

Saturday at 11:00 am, 9:30 pm ET

Sunday at 1:30 pm, 8:30 pm ET

### St. Agnes Cathedral, Rockville Centre, NY

Monday – Friday at 8:30 am, 12:30 pm ET

Sunday at 11:00 am, 7:00 pm ET

### St. Patrick's Cathedral, NY

Monday – Friday at 6:30 pm ET

Sunday at 3:30 pm ET



*Always keep our Service Men & Women in your prayers ...*

SPC Frank Candreva US ARMY  
SPC Giuseppina (Josie) Coppola US ARMY  
Lt. Col. Mary P. King, M.D., US ARMY  
Lt. Com. Joseph Garbitelli US NAVY  
Sgt. Gerard Moran  
Lt. Com. Joseph Leahy US NAVY

*Please remember to pray for our wounded soldiers.*

## Father Chuck's Corner

**Greetings and God's blessing be yours on the Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time!** Today's readings focus on the care, compassion, and love of God to us even in dire circumstances. In the first reading from Isaiah, God's plan is to nourish people to life. There is no limit to God's resources to sustain life. **"Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us! This is the Lord for whom we looked, let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"** Then in the second reading from Philippians, Paul is able to find the strength to cope with every situation whether it brings hardships or abundance. He knows that his strength is in the Lord, Jesus Christ. **"I can do all things in him who strengthens me."** And finally, in Matthew's gospel, we have a judgement parable to teach a lesson about salvation history. The wedding banquet is a description of the eternal kingdom. It is not just a matter of showing up; one has to be prepared to enter this new reality. Salvation is not automatic. It requires a life of good deeds which is essentially, one's wedding garment. **"Many are invited, but few are chosen."**

Jesus and his community were trying to live out a new way of understanding God. The king in this parable is not acting like God, but like a human king, careful with his limited resources, jealous of his image, and all too willing to prove to everyone that he is a boss who must be obeyed. Jesus is addressing this parable to important officials and elders because he knew they thought as this human king did. If someone broke a rule, they should be punished like the guest without a wedding garment. But then the community that heard this parable would also remember that Jesus spoke of inviting the **"bad and good alike."** And suddenly they would realize that the reign of God as described by Jesus was for everyone who tried to live as Jesus taught. Jesus showed that God had a different way of thinking and acting like human rulers did, who acted mostly out of pride and greed. **God is about living and loving in abundance.** God is the giver of all good gifts, from the gift of life itself, to wisdom, curiosity, and the ability to change what is needed. When we change well, we are thanking God for those gifts that allow us to change and grow. It is pretty simple if we just show our understanding of God's compassion, care and love for us by being compassionate, caring and loving to those around us, especially the most vulnerable people and those most in need. That is the wedding garment we should have on when we approach the feast of the Eucharist

**As everyone knows, the Diocese of Rockville Centre filed for Chapter 11 Bankruptcy last week.** Included in this bulletin is information about the ramifications that this course of action will include. There is a statement letter from Bishop Barres to all the people of our diocese as well as 25 common questions that people may have. I have retained legal representation to protect the assets of St. Raymond. This is a common practice of many parishes throughout the diocese due to our common connections with the diocese. We pay assessments each year and we are included in the insurance and benefit packages through the diocese. So, there is a certain flow of money back and forth. However, we are a separate entity and as such our parish business and mission will continue as usual. Hopefully, this decision by the diocese will, after judication, provide a fair and just outcome for all victims and the diocese as well. So, we pray and hope for the best.

**As of this weekend we still have about 350 of the 2020 Backwards Money Drawing tickets to sell.**

Thanks to those who have come to the rectory to become **"ticket agents."** We could still use more help in this way. Stop by the rectory, take a ticket(s) and get it sold over the next few weeks. That way we can get all 500 tickets sold as soon as possible. Remember that the grand prize for the last ticket drawn is **\$10,000.00**, plus there are other prizes totaling another \$10,000.00 which will also be won. With the help of everyone we can make this fundraiser for our parish and school a big success once again.

Please remember to take home a copy of the bulletin when you leave Mass today or read it on the parish website ([www.SaintRaymonds.org](http://www.SaintRaymonds.org)). Of special note is news and needs from **Parish Social Ministry**, info from **Religious Education** and the **Principal's Corner** of St. Raymond School, an invitation to a prayer vigil for **Our Lady of Fatima** on Monday, October 12, an order form for **Backwards Money** tickets, an invitation to join **FORMED** (your Catholic faith on demand and much more. To keep informed, keep a copy of the bulletin at home each week for quick and easy reference.

Have a great week. **Smile, share and enjoy the Columbus Day holiday. Plus remember: The smallest deed is greater than the biggest intention.**

God bless always.

**-Father Chuck**



## The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

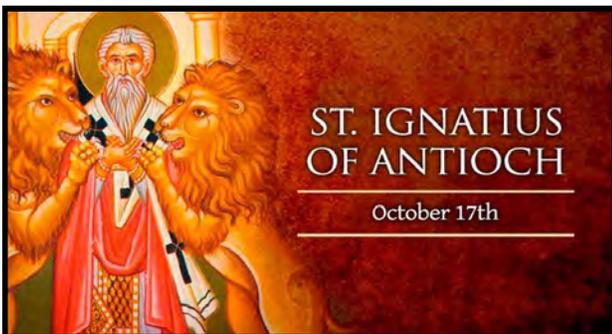
**We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, Heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.**

Lord Jesus Christ, **Only Begotten Son,**  
Lord God, Lamb of God, **Son of the Father,**  
You take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
**You take away the sin of the world,  
receive our prayer;**  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
**have mercy on us.**

For you alone are the Holy One;  
you alone are the Lord.  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God, the Father.  
Amen

## Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the  
Virgin Mary,  
and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



**God is** 



## Prayer Vigil: Our Lady of Fatima

The 103rd Anniversary of the Fatima Apparitions  
Please join us in praying for the United States of America  
and World Peace.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & The Rosary  
Monday, October 12th 1-3pm ; St. Raymond Church,  
The Message of Fatima**

The message of Fatima consists of a number of precise predictions, requests, warnings and promises concerning the faith and the world, which were conveyed by the Blessed Virgin Mary to three shepherd children: Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco in a series of apparitions at Fatima, Portugal from May through October 1917.

# READINGS FOR TODAY'S MASS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020—28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## FIRST READING IS 25:6-10A

On this mountain the LORD of hosts  
will provide for all peoples  
a feast of rich food and choice wines,  
juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines.  
On this mountain he will destroy  
the veil that veils all peoples,  
the web that is woven over all nations;  
he will destroy death forever.  
The Lord GOD will wipe away  
the tears from every face;  
the reproach of his people he will remove  
from the whole earth; for the LORD has spoken.  
On that day it will be said:  
"Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!  
This is the LORD for whom we looked;  
let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"  
For the hand of the LORD will rest on this mountain.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 23:1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6

R. (6cd) **I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;  
beside restful waters he leads me;  
he refreshes my soul.

R. **I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

He guides me in right paths  
for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk in the dark valley  
I fear no evil; for you are at my side  
with your rod and your staff  
that give me courage.

R. **I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

You spread the table before me  
in the sight of my foes;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

R. **I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

Only goodness and kindness follow me  
all the days of my life;  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
for years to come.

R. **I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.**

## SECOND READING PHIL 4:12-14, 19-20

Brothers and sisters:  
I know how to live in humble circumstances;  
I know also how to live with abundance.  
In every circumstance and in all things  
I have learned the secret of being well fed and of  
going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in  
need. I can do all things in him who strengthens me.  
Still, it was kind of you to share in my distress.  
My God will fully supply whatever you need,  
in accord with his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.  
To our God and Father, glory forever and ever.  
Amen.

## ALLELUIA EPH 1:17-18

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our hearts,  
so that we may know what is the hope  
that belongs to our call.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

## GOSPEL MT 22:1-14

Jesus again in reply spoke to the chief priests and elders  
of the people in parables, saying, "The kingdom of  
heaven may be likened to a king who gave a wedding  
feast for his son. He dispatched his servants to summon  
the invited guests to the feast, but they refused to come.  
A second time he sent other servants, saying, "Tell those  
invited: "Behold, I have prepared my banquet, my calves  
and fattened cattle are killed, and everything is ready;  
come to the feast.'" Some ignored the invitation and went  
away, one to his farm, another to his business. The rest  
laid hold of his servants, mistreated them, and killed  
them. The king was enraged and sent his troops,  
destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then  
he said to his servants, 'The feast is ready, but those who  
were invited were not worthy to come. Go out, therefore,  
into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you  
find.' The servants went out into the streets  
and gathered all they found, bad and good alike, and the  
hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to  
meet the guests, he saw a man there not dressed in a  
wedding garment. The king said to him, 'My friend, how  
is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?'  
But he was reduced to silence. Then the king said to his  
attendants, 'Bind his hands and feet, and cast him into  
the darkness outside, where there will be wailing and  
grinding of teeth.' Many are invited, but few are chosen."

# BACKWARDS MONEY DRAWING

Back by popular & necessary demand, our special fundraiser for St. Raymond Parish and School, the "**Backwards Money Drawing!**" This special fundraiser will be held on **Sunday Afternoon, November 15, 2020. Tickets for the Backwards Drawing are \$100.00 each, with only 500 tickets available.**



The grand prize of **\$10,000.00** will be awarded to the last ticket drawn. There will also be an additional **\$10,000.00** in prize money spread amongst other tickets as they are drawn. **For us to be successful, we need to sell all 500 tickets!** While \$100.00 may be high, the price can easily be shared with family, friends or co-workers. The key is to be in it for a chance at the grand prize of \$10,000.00. Winners need not be present at the drawing. Tickets are available at the rectory during regular office hours and you may also use the tear-off below to order a ticket.

## Backward Drawing Prizes



- Ticket #1- \$500
- Ticket #50- \$200
- Ticket #100- \$200
- Ticket #150- \$200
- Ticket #200- \$200
- Ticket #250- \$200
- Ticket #300- \$200
- Ticket #350- \$200
- Ticket #400- \$200
- Ticket #450- \$200
- Ticket #491- \$300
- Ticket #492- \$400
- Ticket #493- \$500
- Ticket #494- \$600
- Ticket #495- \$700
- Ticket #496- \$800
- Ticket #497- \$900
- Ticket #498- \$1000
- Ticket #499- \$2500



**Ticket #500 - \$10,000 (Grand Prize)**

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### Backwards Money Drawing Ticket Order Form – November 15, 2020

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_



### *The Journey of Grief*

Share the memories of your beloved.  
Let us encourage you with compassion.  
Life has changed for you, we are here  
with caring hands.

*St. Raymond's Bereavement Ministry*  
Call: 516-593-5000



## Stewardship

*a way of life*

***If you have not been to confession in a while, make this week your return to the Sacrament. Let go of the burden of your sins and let your God embrace you.***



Not all of us  
can do great things.  
But we can do small things  
with great love.

### Parish Social Ministry

*The Heart of the Parish*

***The Lord is good to those who hope in him,  
to the soul that seeks him.***  
-Lamentations 3:25

Pantry needs for this week include: Deodorant, Dish Detergent, Laundry Detergent, Jell-o, Pudding and Mashed Potatoes.

***Thank you all for your continued generosity in these trying times. God bless us all.***



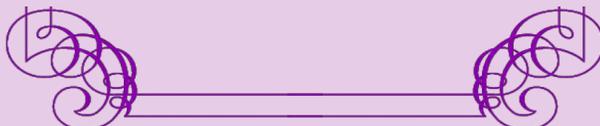
### OPENING OF THE 2021 MASS BOOK



**The 2021 Mass Book is now open! Come into the Rectory and have a Mass said for a loved one!**

*"Put all the good works in the world against one Holy Mass; they will be as a grain of sand beside a mountain."*

- St. John Vianney



### *The Rose for Life Program*

The Rose for Life program began here at St. Raymond on Mother's Day, May 12, 1985. A rose is placed on the Offertory Table at the 5:00pm Mass and is presented to the priest at the Offertory. The rose symbolizes the life of a preborn baby who dies from abortion. It remains at the tabernacle for the coming week.

The main purpose of the rose is to remind each one of us to pray for the babies who are in danger of abortion. Prayer is one of the most important ways to stop abortion. The rose also serves a special remembrance of the life of our loved ones, in whose name the rose is dedicated each week.

For dedications, please call  
Mary Healy at 887-4062.

## Religious Education- Faith Formation

*Evelyn Contaldi, Director*

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION 2020/2021

For the 2020/2021 school year, Religious Education classes will be taught via ZOOM classes and will begin the week of October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and go through April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.

**GRADE 1 HOME PROGRAM** - PARENTS WILL MEET 5 TIMES VIA ZOOM DURING THE RELIGIOUS ED SCHOOL YEAR WITH A CATECHIST TO REVIEW EACH UNIT IN THE CHILD'S BOOK.

**GRADE 2 TUESDAYS 4PM-4:45PM** -ALSO AVAILABLE IS ON TUESDAY CLASS 4:30PM-5:15PM & ONE MONDAY 4PM-4:45PM

**GRADES 3, 4, 5, 6** MONDAY/WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY 4PM-4:45PM

**GRADES 7 & 8** MONDAYS OR TUESDAYS - 7PM-7:45PM

The following are the dates that your child will be receiving Confirmation in St. Raymond Church. Fr. Chuck Romano will be the presider at all Confirmation ceremonies. The groups are broken out by the name of the teacher your child had for 8<sup>th</sup> grade Religion:

**Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020** 10AM

St. Raymond School students

**Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020** 10AM

Mrs. Chrissy Costello – class 8-6

Mr. Charlie Kelly – class 8-7

**Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020** 10AM

Mrs. Mary Beth Perri – class 8-1

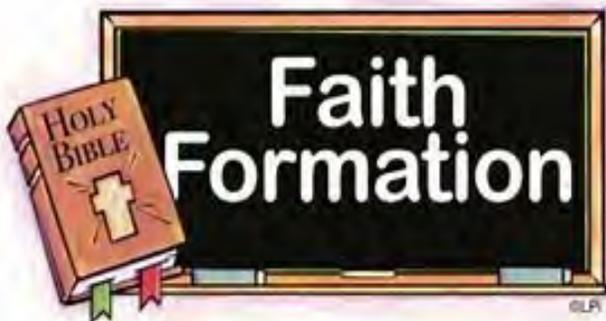
Kellenberg students

**Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020** 2PM

Mrs. Kloeckener – class 8-2

Mr. Neil Schloth – class 8-3

1. In each pew – Child + Sponsor + parents + 4 additional guests = 8 PEOPLE IN THE PEW. NO MORE THAN 8 PEOPLE ARE PERMITTED IN YOUR CHILD'S ROW – THE 8 INCLUDES THE CHILD AND THEIR SPONSOR.
2. NO ADDITIONAL GUESTS – THE CONFIRMANDI WILL BE FILLING PEWS NEAR OR TO THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.
3. EVERYONE MUST WEAR A MASK.
4. GOWN PICK-UP - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 – 5PM-8PM – ST. RAYMOND SCHOOL CAFETERIA (MASKS MUST BE WORN). IF YOU CANNOT MAKE THIS DATE, HAVE SOMEONE PICK UP ON YOUR BEHALF.



## Principal's Corner

*Sister Ruthanne*

Today's Gospel reading from Matthew reminds me of a song I taught my sixth graders MANY years ago. It had a catchy melody and the children really liked it. Though I cannot sing it through the written word, I can tell you the words to the chorus. It went like this: "I cannot come to the banquet; don't bother me now. I have married a wife; I have bought me a cow. I have fields and commitments that cost a pretty sum. Pray, hold me excused, I cannot come." It seems so easy to make excuses not to go to God's banquet, not to share in the heavenly food. We need to pray not to get caught up in such matters. We never know when there will not be another chance. So, come now to the feast and enjoy the party.

This turns out to be a shortened week for the school with the celebration of Columbus Day on Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. However, once the students return to school many will be involved in our new testing program. We are not using the Iowa Test of Basic Skills or the Cognitive Abilities Test this year. Instead, all our children from kindergarten through eighth grade will be taking an online version of the iReady Test, which is a diagnostic test in math and reading. The test will be given three times during the year - now, sometime around January and again in the spring. It will be a good tool to measure how well the individual student is progressing over the year. Relax. There is no extra prep for the test. It is to identify how much they know or have already learned. Since each child learns at his or her own pace, in his or her own way, the test will address them individually.

Our graduating class of 2020 (9<sup>th</sup> graders now) are making their Confirmation this coming Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. Of course, because of COVID-19 the ceremony is rather abbreviated and does not allow for the normal crowd that we would see at such a celebration. However, our prayers (and hopefully yours) will be with each of our young men and women as they receive the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament. God bless them and their families.

You may remember from the last couple of years that we have had a WALK FOR EDUCATION to raise funds for the operating of St. Raymond School. We decided that we would continue that "tradition" this year and Mr. Dolan (our gym teacher) will be "walking" the children in their age-appropriate areas during his Phys Ed classes during the last week of October. Children will be soliciting sponsors to help raise the money. If you would like to assist them, you can sponsor any child for whatever amount you would like to donate that week. Thanks, as always, for your support.

The first drawing for the IHM SILVER CIRCLE is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. At this writing we have 102 tickets in the bin. Let us hope for several winners without sounding too selfish! Again, thanks for your generosity. It's never too late to join! Have a beautiful autumn week. God bless you all.





**LIVE THE GOSPEL OF LIFE**  
**Respect Life Month Statement,**  
**October 2020**  
*Most Reverend Joseph F. Naumann*  
*Chairman, USCCB Committee on*  
*Pro-Life Activities*

As Catholics in the United States, we will soon mark our annual observance of October as Respect Life Month. It is a time to focus on God's precious gift of human life and our responsibility to care for, protect, and defend the lives of our brothers and sisters.

This year's theme, "Live the Gospel of Life," was inspired by the commemoration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pope John Paul II's encyclical *The Gospel of Life*. Pope John Paul's masterfully articulated defense of the right to life for children in their mothers' wombs, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and the marginalized is more relevant today than ever before.

This past November, the U.S. bishops reaffirmed that "the threat of abortion remains our preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed." While we noted not to "dismiss or ignore other serious threats to human life and dignity such as racism, the environmental crisis, poverty, and the death penalty," we renewed our commitment to protect the most fundamental of all human rights—the right to live.

This past January, I shared with Pope Francis that the Bishops of the United States had been criticized by some for identifying the protection of the unborn as a pre-eminent priority. The Holy Father expressed his support for our efforts observing that if we fail to protect life, no other rights matter. Pope Francis also said that abortion is not primarily a Catholic or even a religious issue, it is first and foremost a human rights issue.

The Gospel of Life provides a blueprint for building a culture of life and civilization of love. The important work of transforming our culture begins by allowing the Gospel of Christ to touch and transform our own hearts and the decisions we make. May we strive to imitate Christ and follow in his footsteps, caring for the most vulnerable among us. Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, may Our Lord grant us the grace to live courageously and faithfully his Gospel of life.



**St. Raymond**  
**Human Life**  
**Committee**

**OCTOBER-RESPECT LIFE MONTH**  
**LIVING THE GOSPEL OF LIFE**

"I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion....The wound in your heart may have not yet healed. Certainly what happened was and remains terribly wrong. But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope... The Father of mercies is ready to give you His forgiveness and His peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To the same Father and His mercy you can with sure hope trust your child." (Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae*, no.99)

**Day of Prayer and Healing for Women**  
**Saturday, November 7, 2020**

For more information, please visit  
**Project Rachel, Hope After Abortion confidential**  
**phoneline: #1-888-456-HOPE (4673),**  
**se habla espanol #1-516-766-2538.**

**All reservations and information will**  
**remain confidential.**

**PEACE STARTS**  
**HERE**



**THE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS OF LONG ISLAND**  
**OPEN HOUSES**

*You are invited to explore the benefits of a Catholic High School Education*  
*Please feel free to visit our schools during the times and dates listed below*

<b>DATE:</b>	<b>TIME:</b>	<b>SCHOOL:</b>
Saturday, Oct. 17th	11am-1:30pm	Holy Trinity Dioc. H.S
Sunday, Oct. 18th	10am-1pm	St. John the Baptist Dioc. H.S

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November 7, 2020  
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October 1, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Today, I have some important but difficult news to share with you. Earlier this morning, the Diocese of Rockville Centre has filed a voluntary petition for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. This decision was not made lightly. However, in the year since the passage of the Child Victims Act, more than 200 lawsuits alleging sexual abuse have been filed against the Diocese of Rockville Centre. What became clear is that the Diocese could not continue to carry out its spiritual, charitable and educational missions while also having to shoulder the increasingly heavy burden of litigation expenses associated with these cases.

Filing for Chapter 11, we believe, is the only way for the Diocese to ensure a fair and equitable outcome for everyone involved. That is because the bankruptcy court will centralize all litigation and oversee a settlement that ensures that no survivor is left out or gets unfair compensation at the expense of another survivor.

During this period of restructuring, most Diocesan operations and ministries will continue without interruption. We anticipate that current and future financial liquidity will be sufficient to fund normal operations and services during this restructuring process. Our employees will be paid their normal wages. Benefit programs will continue, uninterrupted. Our vendors will be paid for all goods and services after filing, and ordinary operations will continue as before.

We know that most people experience the life of the Church through their parish, so it is important to note that the good work of our parishes and Catholic schools is expected to continue as normal. Since the parishes and schools of the Diocese of Rockville Centre are separate legal entities, they are not included in this Chapter 11 filing. But it is also the case that after Chapter 11, the Diocese will have fewer financial resources to help struggling schools and parishes.

I also would like to stress that the practice of our Catholic Faith and administration of the sacraments continues just as it has and will not be affected by this legal filing. It is my hope and prayer that operations will be unaffected during the restructuring process as we work to maintain the stability of our many ministries. We will certainly need to prioritize the charitable missions that are essential to Long Island, but the work of the Church must continue. Catholic evangelization must and will continue.

We know that this is hard for people across the Diocese to digest and especially difficult for the many people of Long Island, both Catholic and non-Catholic, who depend on the Church in so many ways. Parishioners will certainly have many questions, so it is important for everyone to understand what this decision means, to avoid any misconceptions.

A settlement will be determined based on the assets of the Diocese and will not include any parish offertory donations collected during Mass or any contributions to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Our financial and legal advisors are maximizing the availability of insurance coverage and investment proceeds. It is important to note that in bankruptcy, all assets of the Diocese are part of the court record and therefore publicly available and that the process is completely transparent. All public information relating to the filing can be found on a dedicated Chapter 11 website, which can be found by clicking on the Chapter 11 icon found on the diocesan website at [www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org).

For the Diocese, fair and equitable treatment for survivors of sexual abuse has always been a top priority. That is why we created the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program in 2017. Since then, the program has assisted approximately 350 survivors of sexual abuse. But that program also has greatly depleted our financial resources, leaving us with fewer resources to be able to litigate the CVA cases.

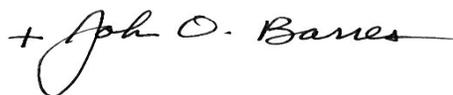
Over the last year, our advisors have studied our financial and legal situation extensively and concluded that a Chapter 11 filing was the only way to ensure an equitable settlement for abuse survivors, help us manage litigation expenses and carry out our essential mission and ministries.

We will work diligently with all survivors, creditors and ministries to maintain open communication while we work toward our goal of completing a settlement and a restructuring plan that includes a comprehensive resolution for those suffering survivors. Our Diocese underwent extensive reforms in 2003 with the creation of our Office for the Protection of Children and Young People. We will continue to be vigilant in our commitment to child protection.

I ask each and every Catholic on Long Island during these painful times to embrace the power of the Cross of Jesus Christ and His Divine Mercy, and to help others carry their crosses, especially survivors of clergy sexual abuse. Together, we ask for the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary, Mother of the Church, that she continue to intercede for a spirit of holiness and mission in this Diocese and the raising up of a new generation of saints on Long Island to serve the Church and the world. All of us, as members of the faithful, are called to find strength in the Word of God and the Sacraments and to live Christ's spirit of humility, charity, compassion, sensitivity and courage. We ask for the intercession of our patroness, the courageous martyr Saint Agnes, for the fortitude to joyfully and charitably proclaim the Gospel and the Splendor of Truth in every public square.

Please know that I am praying for each and every one of you and your families and in a special way for the survivors of clergy sexual abuse. I also pray that through this restructuring process, the Diocese can emerge stronger, having resolved these issues with dignity and fairness and put everyone in a better position to move forward and heal.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John O. Barres". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend John O. Barres  
Bishop of Rockville Centre

## Parish Questions and Answers Regarding the Diocese Filing

### General Q&A

#### **1-What is Chapter 11?**

Chapter 11 is a legal mechanism for court-supervised reorganization or restructuring of a corporation's obligations. Chapter 11 provides a way for a corporation to address its financial condition in order to remain a viable entity, while continuing day-to-day operations.

#### **2-Why did the Diocese of Rockville Centre (The Diocese) file for Chapter 11?**

The Diocese took this action to ensure the viability of its ongoing mission and charitable services, while it works toward a fair and equitable way to compensate survivors of sexual abuse who brought lawsuits under the Child Victims Act. Ensuring fair and equitable settlements with all survivors requires the Diocese to manage the increasing costs of this litigation. Filing will allow the Diocese to work toward a settlement with survivors AND, at the same time, maintain its mission; serving the common good of all.

#### **3-What entities are included in the Chapter 11 filing?**

Only the Diocese itself is included in the filing. Parishes, Catholic schools and religious orders within the Diocese are not included in the filing. The Diocese of Rockville Centre is a distinct religious corporation from the Parishes, some of which include Catholic Schools as part of their missions.

Some of the Parishes are named in Child Victims Act lawsuits along with the Diocese. The Diocese will ask the Bankruptcy Court to "stay," or halt, any civil actions against the Parishes and bring these cases under the umbrella of the process to resolve abuse lawsuits that they expect to set up in the Chapter 11 case.

#### **4-How does the Chapter 11 filing impact DRVC Schools?**

Parishes, elementary schools and high schools are separate legal entities from the Diocese and are not filing Chapter 11. The Chapter 11 filing is not expected to have a direct impact on the day-to-day operations of our schools or parishes. The continued employment, salaries, and benefits of DRVC school employees also will not be impacted by this filing.

#### **5-Why choose bankruptcy?**

We hope this choice will establish a single process to compensate all survivors. We believe this offers the best opportunity for equitable settlements for all survivors.

#### **6-Why now?**

The Diocese has been named in more than 200 lawsuits since the Child Victims Act went into effect August 14, 2019. It has become clear to the Diocese that, to ensure that available financial resources are distributed fairly, it must mitigate the increasing litigation expenses and implement a comprehensive and equitable settlement with all survivors.

#### **7-Is the bankruptcy a way to minimize your financial responsibilities to the victims?**

No. The bankruptcy process will provide a transparent look at the Diocese's financial status. All documents filed in a Chapter 11 are available publicly, including information about financial resources, borrowing, insurance coverage, investments, pension obligations and expenses. It will be plain to see what the Diocese can afford to pay survivors. Our goal is to compensate the survivors of abuse as equitably as possible while continuing with our charitable missions.

#### **8-What happens to the lawsuits that have been filed against the Diocese?**

The Chapter 11 filing triggers a "stay" that essentially freezes all litigation against the Diocese. The Diocese will work with all survivors, within the Chapter 11 process, to finalize a settlement of the litigation claims. The claims and settlement will be part of the Diocese's Plan of Reorganization and must be approved by the Court before the Diocese can emerge from bankruptcy.

#### **9-Does the Diocese have enough money to continue operating?**

The Diocese believes its current and future liquidity will be sufficient to fund normal operations and services during the restructuring process and beyond. Vendors will be paid for all goods and services after the filing, and transactions that occur in the ordinary course of business will continue as before. Employees will be paid their normal wages, and health and benefits programs will continue uninterrupted.

**10- long will the Diocese be in Chapter 11?**

The Diocese of Rockville Centre will work to emerge from Chapter 11 as soon as possible. Given the seriousness of this situation, and the importance of dealing fairly with the survivors of abuse, we cannot give a definitive end date at this time.

**11-Have other Dioceses filed and come out of Chapter 11?**

Yes. Since the Child Victims Act was enacted and the window opened on August 14, 2019, four of the eight dioceses in New York have filed Chapter 11. While the New York Dioceses are still in the reorganization process, many other dioceses across the country have, through the Chapter 11 process, reached settlements with survivors of abuse.

**12-Will my gift/donation to the CMA or other specific funds to be used to pay legal settlements?**

No. Gifts and donations that are made to the CMA or to support specific ministries and programs will only be used for those purposes. Designated gifts can only be used for the purposes for which they were and are given.

**13-Where did the Diocese file? Who is the judge? What is the case number?**

The petitions were filed in U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York. The judge is the Hon. [name]. The main case number is [to be provided].

**14-Where can I find Chapter 11 case information?**

To ensure access to all restructuring information, the Diocese of Rockville Centre has created a link to its Reorganization Information page on the diocesan website, [www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org), which contains a variety of information on our Chapter 11 restructuring. The Diocese has also set up a toll-free information line for inquiries at (888) 490-0633. For access to certain court documents and other information about our Chapter 11 case, please visit <https://dm.epiq11.com/drvc>.

**Parish Q&A**

**15-Is our Parish included in the DRVC Chapter 11 filing?**

No. Our Parish is a separate legal entity and therefore not included in the Chapter 11 filing of the Diocese.

**16-Will our Parish file bankruptcy too now that the Diocese has filed?**

No. There are no plans for parishes to file for Chapter 11.

**17-What if our Parish has been named in a sexual abuse lawsuit? Will we need to file for bankruptcy to resolve it?**

The Diocese will ask the Bankruptcy Court to “stay” or halt any sexual abuse actions against parishes and bring these cases under the umbrella of the process in order to resolve them.

**18-Will my donation to the Parish during Mass now be used to settle sexual abuse lawsuits?**

No. Monies collected from donors and parishioners will not be redirected toward litigation settlements.

**19-What effect will the filing have on the operations and stability of Elementary and High Schools?**

Each school is a separate legal entity from the Diocese and is also not included in the bankruptcy filing. Schools continue to pursue a variety of initiatives aimed at stabilizing and revitalizing. Today’s Chapter 11 filing, and the related legal proceedings, will not have direct impact on their day-to-day operations. The continued employment, salaries, and benefits of school employees will not be impacted by this filing.

**20-Is there a chance that money for the DRVC schools could be used to pay abuse settlements?**

Tuition, philanthropic support, and parish support of schools will, as always be fully dedicated to funding the operations of the schools are not impacted by the Diocese’s Chapter 11 filing.

**21-If a parishioner has made a designated gift or donation to this parish, will that money remain here, or can it be moved to the Diocese for settlement purposes?**

Designated gifts and donations are protected under New York state law and cannot be used to settle claims.

**22-Will the Diocese lay off any employees as a result of the restructuring?**

The Diocese has already made extensive budget cuts that resulted in the reduction of approximately ten percent of its workforce. At this time, no additional layoffs are expected.

**23-The Diocese administers the lay and clergy pension and 403B funds, along with health and welfare benefits for parishes. Will there be changes in these programs? Will these funds be available to use for settlements?**

The Diocese serves only as the administrator of these funds. The actual funds are held in trusts that are not available to any party for reasons other than the payments to beneficiaries as laid out in the various programs. We expect no changes in these programs as a result of the Diocese's filing.

**24-Is there a chance that the Diocese will sell this Parish or other real estate to help settle claims?**

No. This parish and any real estate surrounding it are property of this parish, which is a separate legal entity from the Diocese. The Diocese does not have a legal right to sell property that belongs to a parish corporation.

**25-If our parish has been the subject of a sexual abuse allegation or lawsuit, what impact does the Diocese's filing have?**

The bankruptcy process should bring closure to the lawsuits facing the Diocese and a release for all parishes from any and all abuse claims. As we move through the settlement process, additional information will be available.

Additional Information is also available by clicking on the restructuring icon on the DRVC website: [www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org).



**SPECIAL PRESENTATION  
BY: AL BARBARINO**

*"Living Our Catholic Faith,  
In This Divided America"*

**We are Living in an UNPEACEFUL,  
CHAOTIC and DIVISIVE TIME!**

**What do we as Catholic Christians do?  
Everything we do here on earth MUST  
and SHOULD be pleasing to God, for LIFE  
ETERNAL IN HEAVEN!**

**Al will be presenting at the following parishes:**

**Wed. 10/14 at 7pm - Our Lady of Lourdes (Malverne)**

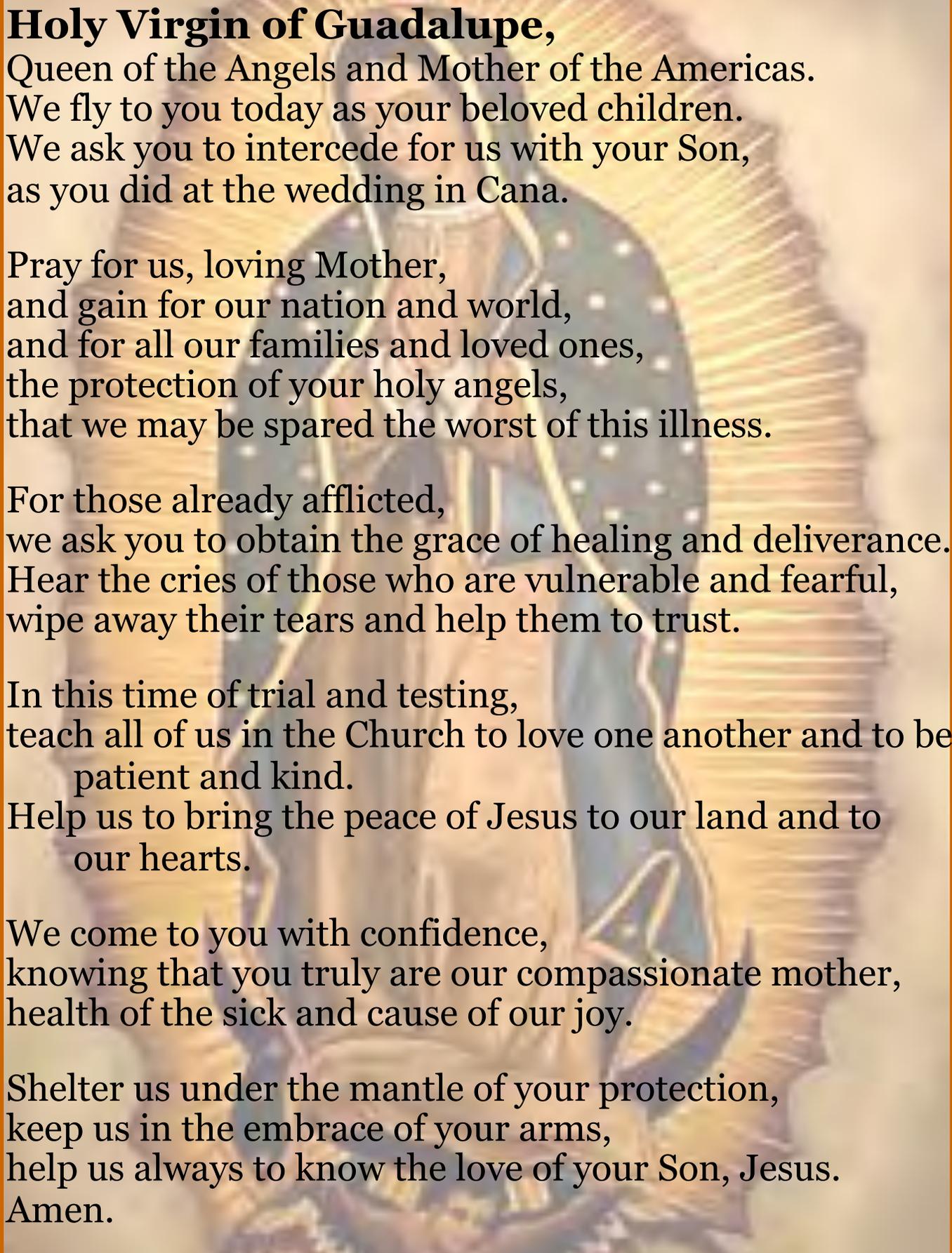
**Monday 10/19 at 7pm - Our Lady of Lourdes  
(Massapequa Park)**

**Wed. 10/21 at 7pm - St. Paul the Apostle (Brookville)**

**Monday 10/26 at 7pm - Our Lady of Mount Carmel  
(Patchogue)**

**Thursday 10/29 at 7:30pm - St. Francis of Assisi  
(Greenlawn)**





## **Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,**

Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.

We fly to you today as your beloved children.

We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,  
as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother,  
and gain for our nation and world,  
and for all our families and loved ones,  
the protection of your holy angels,  
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted,  
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.  
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,  
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing,  
teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be  
patient and kind.

Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to  
our hearts.

We come to you with confidence,  
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,  
health of the sick and cause of our joy.

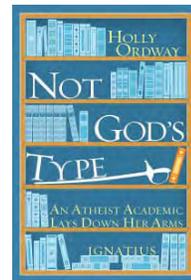
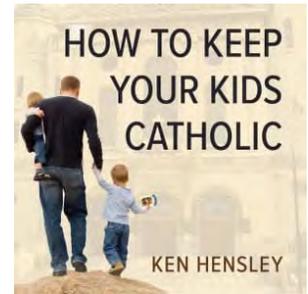
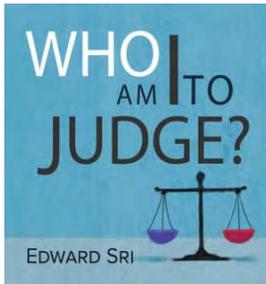
Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,  
keep us in the embrace of your arms,  
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.  
Amen.



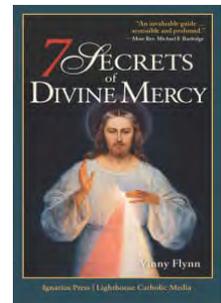
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**A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY**

**O Most Blessed Virgin Mary**, Mother of Mercy, at this most critical time, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care.

Most Holy Mother, we beg you to reclaim this Land for the glory of your Son. Overwhelmed With the burden of the sins of our nation, we cry to you from the depths of our hearts and seek refuge in you motherly protection.

Look down with mercy upon us and touch the hearts of our people. Open our minds to the great worth of human life and to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

Free us from the falsehoods that lead to the evil of abortion and threaten the sanctity of family life. Grant our country the wisdom to proclaim that God's law is the foundation on which this nation was founded, and that He alone is the True Source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

O Merciful Mother, give us the courage to reject the culture of death and the strength to build a new Culture of Life. **Amen.**



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ANNIVERSARY  
ITA & BARRY  
LEDERMAN**

**I.H.M. Silver Circle**

***Become a Member!***



On behalf of all the IHM Sisters, I would like to invite you to become part of our Silver Circle Program, which is one of our most successful methods for raising funds to support our retired sisters. Last year, nearly \$150,000 was raised through the Silver Circle Program, and we hope this year will be just as successful.

As you may know, for many years the Sisters worked in parishes and schools without receiving any retirement benefits. Now it is an ongoing challenge to raise funds for their care. Your support of the Silver Circle Program helps us meet the needs of our retired sisters. It is a wonderful way to aid Sisters who have given their lives in service and are now in need of help from you.

Each Silver Circle membership is only \$25. Each membership you purchase offers you 324 chances to win monthly cash prizes, ranging from \$50 to \$1,000. Silver Circle raffle drawings take place on the third Wednesday of each month between October and June.

On a personal note, I can tell you that the people of St. Raymond School and Parish have been extremely supportive to the IHM Sisters. I am most appreciative of your generosity and hopefully that you will again join us in our efforts. We have had some winners—though in a way, we're all winners since being a Silver Circle member means being included in the daily prayers and sacrifices of all of our Sisters.

To purchase a membership, complete the form below, attach your check for \$25 (payable to Sisters of I.H.M.) and return to Sister Ruthanne's attention at the school, rectory or convent.

In Mary's Immaculate Heart, I remain,

*Fondly, Sister Ruthanne*

**2020-2021 Silver Circle Membership Form**

Name (  Please check if new member )

Street Address (  Please check if new address )

City State Zip

email address

Telephone



# Masses for this Week

## Monday, October 12th

7:15am Marco Benedetto

8:45am Raymond Nutini, Catherine Romano  
Anthony Romano

## Tuesday, October 13th

7:15am James & Joseph Farrell (living)

8:45am John R. Hartt

## Wednesday, October 14th

7:15am John Whare

8:45am Margaret Pettit

## Thursday, October 15th *St. Teresa of Jesus*

7:15am Brendan McGuire (living)

8:45am James Donlon

## Friday, October 16th

7:15am Father Paul Dahm

8:45am Robert J. Ligarzewski

## Saturday, October 17th *St. Ignatius of Antioch*

8:45am Rev. Joseph D. Finnerty, Michael Gordon  
Eddie Collins

5:00pm Joan & Bob Crockett

## Sunday, October 18th

7:30am Frances Carrano

9:00am Frank Behrman

10:30am Maureen Varian

12:00pm Barry & Ita Lederman (living)  
Margaret Hoyt, Kathleen Farrell  
Gloria Dillon

4:30pm St. Raymond Parish

### Scripture Readings for the Week

#### Monday

GAL 4:22-24,26-27,31-5:1/LK 11:29-32

#### Tuesday

GAL 5:1-6/LK 11:37-41

#### Wednesday

GAL 5:18-25/LK 11:42-46

#### Thursday

EPH 1:1-10/LK 11:47-54

#### Friday

EPH 1:11-14/LK 12:1-7

#### Saturday

EPH 1:15-23/LK 12:8-12

#### Sunday

IS 45:1,4-6/1 THES 1:1-5B/MT 22:15-21

### Please Pray for Our Sick

Fr, Tom Moriarity, Deacon Rich LaRossa, Valerie Fellows, Jeanette Kostyrka, Rudy Romano, Tamika Brown, Azai Betty McCormack, Cathy Maziejka, Stephen Iervalino, Ralph Cerrato, Sky Mary Cirrito, Pat Bolino, Anthony Sisco, Gloria Criscuolo, Gina Mazzola, Dr. Sam Iyer, Samara Q., Patricia Criscuolo, Joan Ellyn Bolino, Connie & Fred Polik, Margaret Mary Barbato, Taylor Clark, Liz Biondi, Jodi Neckles, Olivia Bonino, Anthony B., Alyssa B.

*(Names are printed for 3 weeks unless the rectory is notified otherwise.)*



### Rest in Peace

John Roger Donohue

Joan M. Kidney

Miriana Paradis



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For info, call Lenny & Pat Walker at 631-563-1032. or visit [www.engagedencounterli.org](http://www.engagedencounterli.org)

### End of Life Decision Making

Catholic teaching on end of life decisions; nutrition and hydration; palliative and hospice care; assisted suicide, euthanasia; healthcare proxies and living wills.

For info, visit [www.catholicendoflife.org](http://www.catholicendoflife.org).

### Collection Envelopes

To insure the accuracy of the recording of your weekly offering, please indicate the amount of your offering on the front of your envelope and write your envelope number on your check. And please do not tape or staple the contents or envelope flap.

*Thank you! And God Bless you for your stewardship!*

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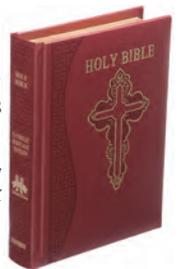
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