

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 Benedict Kim
Father Joseph Rwamwenge

Deacons

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

Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Lucy Ostermann

Business Manager

Christopher Grennen

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, March 16, 2025

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000



“This is my
chosen Son;
listen to him.”
-Luke 9:35

March 16 , 2025

Second Sunday of Lent

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-4pm;
Saturdays from 9:30am-4pm. Sundays 9am-5pm

Web Site: www.SaintRaymonds.org

Facebook: St. Raymond Parish, East Rockaway

E-Mail: StRayRcc@optonline.net

Rectory.....593-5000

Rectory Fax.....887-0554

Parish Social Ministry.....887-9197

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

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

Religious Education Office.....593-9075

Religious Education Office Fax593-1156

E-Mail: strayfaithformation@aol.com

Pastoral Care Of The Sick

Holy Communion—Available to the homebound;
call the rectory to schedule a visit

Devotions

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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

Nocturnal Adoration

First Fridays from 7:30pm-8:30pm

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

Men's Prayer Group: Every Monday at 10:00am in the Rectory Basement.

Music Ministries

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 Sunday at 10:30 in the Rectory Basement

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 Fr. Chuck Romano



Please Pray for Our Sick

Baby Faith Madison

Mary Lynch

Linda Dagostino

Karen Pagnotta

Jodi Neckles

Diane Minucci

Patrick Dunning

Philip Barone

Caroline Saporito

Billy (Tri-Cycle)

Ginny Honerkamp

Jim Marasco

Gary

Anthony Campanile

Baby Cooper Graham

Maureen Condiss

Timothy Murphy

Elizabeth Lacchini

Michael Malone

Noreen Concannon

Maureen McCarthy

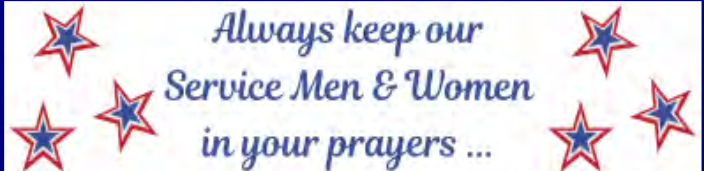
Rosario R Giglio

Augie Michela

Marino Artusa

Cara

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



LC Alex James Cooper US MARINE CORPS
LC Dean Thomas Cooper US MARINE CORPS
Lt. Col. Mary P. King , M.D., US ARMY
Commander Joseph Garbitelli US NAVY
Sgt. Thomas Stanley Golebiewski USMC
Staff Sgt. Emily Golebiewski US AIRFORCE
Staff /Sgt. Matthew R. Hines - US ARMY
LC Connor Thomas McHale US MARINE CORPS
Sgt. Gerard Moran
Lt. Com. Joseph Leahy US NAVY
Sgt. Bryan Petriccione US ARMY –Cavalry Unit
Lt. Joseph Woloszyn US NAVY
TSGT Curt Abdool US AIRFORCE

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR OUR
WOUNDED SOLDIERS.



Father Chuck's Corner

Greetings and God's blessings be yours on the Second Sunday of Lent! During Lent we focus on the passion and death of Jesus, which cannot be separated from his resurrection. In the first reading from the Book of Genesis, we see God making a covenant with Abram. His descendants will be many, and they will receive a vast portion of land. **"To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River, the Euphrates."** Then in the second reading from Paul's Letter to the Philippians, Paul reminds the people to live a life centered in Jesus. That means embracing both his cross and resurrection. **"Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, beloved."** And finally, Luke's gospel is his depiction of the **Transfiguration** which foreshadows both the resurrection and Jesus' second coming. We are to wait in hope for Jesus to come again, knowing that God is faithful to his promises. **"This is my chosen Son; listen to him."**

On the mountain of the Transfiguration the cloud hides Jesus from sight and reveals his identity as God's Son. Jesus' Transfiguration follows what he had just told his disciples about his passion and death -namely that they will lead to his glory. Jesus, Moses and Elijah discuss the Old Testament when God brought his people out of Egypt to the Promised Land. And they discuss Jesus' coming exodus through his passion, death, resurrection and ascension. It will be through Jesus' exodus from death to new life that we gain access to heaven. Without the cross there can be no resurrection. In this Mass, in a few moments, Jesus will become present to us in a unique way, and yet his glory will be veiled under the appearances of bread and wine. It is not until he comes again that we will see him in his glory. We may experience hints of it, sort of **"mountaintop experiences"** but nevertheless we should persevere in faith with eyes fixed on the resurrection while enduring the crosses that come our way.

This Tuesday, March 18th, our own Al Barbarino will lead us in a Lenten evening of prayer, reflection and music. Al's topic is: **"It's Lent, so what?"** Set aside this time from your busy schedule and come to be strengthened for your Lenten journey. And bring a friend.

Today we started our Lenten program of **"Giving, Not Giving Up, It's a Lenten Thing"** by asking for **"toiletory items"** to be brought to church when you came to Mass

. If you have any donations with you, please come up and place them in front of the altar. Besides your monetary contributions, these items are part of our offerings at each Mass. Thank you for your generosity. Check the bulletin for next weeks request of **"supermarket gift cards."**

Our **"Pot of Gol 50/50"** is growing each day. The winning chance will be pulled at the St. Patrick's Celebration next Saturday, March 22nd. As a courtesy "Pot of Gold" chances will be available for purchase after all the Masses this weekend. Simply stop by either the table in the altar server sacristy or in the church vestibule when you leave Mass. Remember: You don't have to be Irish to win it but you do have to be in it to win it.

Today after all the Masses, the Human Life Committee is conducting their mini **"Baby Show-er"** after all the Masses. This brings to a close this year's Spiritual Adoption program. If you have brought any of the designated items, stop by their table in the altar server sacristy when you leave Mass. All these items and any monetary donations will be given to two pregnancy centers that help mothers in need when bringing their babies to birth.

Please remember to take home a copy of the bulletin when you leave Mass today. It contains many items of interest and invitation with something for everyone. Of additional note is news and needs from **Parish Social Ministry**, info from **Religious Education** (especially the **Boys Mass and Dance Party** on Saturday, March 29th, the **St. Patrick's Celebration** on Saturday evening, March 22nd, the **Eucharistic Revival Centerfold**, the **Communal Prayer Before Mass** (found on the inside back cover), 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 Second Week of Lent. Keep that Lenten smile going as you pray, fast and help those in need. **Enjoy St. Patrick's Day on Monday and St. Joseph's Day on Wednesday. Plus remember: Jameson on St. Patrick's Day? It's worth a shot.** God bless always.

-Father Chuck



WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

MARCH 16, 2025-SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

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

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and
in what I have failed to do,

[Pray while striking the breast 3 times.]
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

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.

READINGS FOR TODAY'S MASS

MARCH 16, 2025-SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST READING

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

The Lord God took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." Abram put his faith in the LORD, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness. He then said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land as a possession." "O LORD GOD," he asked, "how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He answered him, "Bring me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old she-goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." Abram brought him all these, split them in two, and placed each half opposite the other; but the birds he did not cut up. Birds of prey swooped down on the carcasses, but Abram stayed with them. As the sun was about to set, a trance fell upon Abram, and a deep, terrifying darkness enveloped him. When the sun had set and it was dark, there appeared a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch, which passed between those pieces. It was on that occasion that the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the Great River, Euphrates."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? The LORD is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Hear, O LORD, the sound of my call; have pity on me, and answer me. Of you my heart speaks; you my glance seeks.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Your presence, O LORD, I seek. Hide not your face from me; do not in anger repel your servant. You are my helper: cast me not off.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD with courage; be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD.

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

SECOND READING

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Join with others in being imitators of me, brothers and sisters, and observe those who thus conduct themselves according to the model you have in us. For many, as I have often told you and now tell you even in tears, conduct themselves as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction. Their God is their stomach; their glory is in their "shame." Their minds are occupied with earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord.

GOSPEL

Luke 9:28b-36

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.

"Giving... Not Giving Up, It's a Lenten Thing"

Once again, our parish will be conducting the special Lenten program entitled: "Giving... Not Giving Up, It's a Lenten Thing" for the five Sundays of Lent. All the items collected will be used by our *Parish Social Ministry Office, St. Vincent de Paul and the Human Life Committee.*

Everyone is encouraged to bring the suggested items to Mass on the designated Sundays. We will bring our "gifts" forward at the time of the Presentation of the Gifts. This giving of our goods at the altar as a visible action will be a tangible sign of our Lenten efforts to help those in our community who have these basic needs. The collection weekends will be as follows:

March 16th TOILETRIES

Deodorant, Shaving Cream, Razors, etc.

March 23rd SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS

King Kullen, Stop & Shop, Lidl

March 30th BABY ITEMS

Diapers - Sizes 1 - 6, Baby Wipes,

Baby Shampoo, etc.



Abstinence and Fasting

All Catholics who have reached their fourteenth year are bound to abstain entirely from meat/poultry on **Ash Wednesday** and all the **Fridays of Lent**. All Catholics between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine inclusive are also bound to observe the law of fast on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day. Those whose work or health would be impaired and excused from fast and abstinence. Individual conscience should decide proper cause for excuse. A more serious reason is required to excuse oneself from **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** fast and abstinence.

LENT 2025

The Holy Season of Lent is an opportunity for all Christians to grow in faith through prayer, fasting and works of charity. St. Raymond Parish offers the following opportunities to assist you on your spiritual journey. Perhaps you can join us for some of these prayer gatherings during the coming weeks. Hopefully, we may all grow in our personal and communal experiences of Jesus during the holy time.

So, join us often and anytime.



We'd love to see you!



Additional Daily Mass

There will be an additional daily Mass at 12:15pm every week day throughout Lent.

Stations of the Cross

Will be prayed every Friday during Lent at 7:00pm in the church beginning March 7th.

Eucharistic Adoration

In the Church every Thursday from 1-4pm and the First Friday of every month from 7:30-8:30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions are heard every Saturday in the church from 3:30-4:30pm, or by appointment at the rectory

Holy Hour

Holy Hour will be held in the Church March 10th from 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Lenten Presentation

Sing, Share & Reflect

Tuesday, March 18th @ 7:30pm



20
25



Return to Me.

40 DAYS OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Starting on March 7th, visit 40 different parishes across Long Island for the 40 days of Lent.

MARCH

March 7: Our Lady of Ostrabrama

Cutchogue | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 8: St. Gertrude

Bayville | 3:00-4:45 p.m.

March 9: Mary Immaculate

Bellport | 1:30-2:30 p.m.

March 10: St. Raymond

East Rockaway | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 11: St. Luke

Brentwood | 5:00-6:00 p.m.

March 12: Our Lady of Lourdes

Malverne | 3:00-4:00 p.m.

March 13: Our Lady of the Assumption

Copliague | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 14: St. Catherine of Sienna

Franklin Square | 3:00-4:00 p.m.

March 15: St. Francis Cabrini

Coram | 3:30-4:30 p.m.

March 16: Holy Cross

Nesconset | 1:00-2:00 p.m.

March 17: St. Patrick

Huntington | 12:00-8:00 p.m.

March 18: St. Joseph

Hewlett | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 19: Most Holy Trinity

East Hampton | 8:30-9:30 a.m.

March 20: Our Lady of Mercy

Hicksville | 9:30-10:30 a.m.

March 21: St. Aloysius

Great Neck | 5:30-6:30 p.m.

March 22: Sacred Heart

Island Park | 3:30-4:30 p.m.

March 23: St. Anthony of Padua

East Northport | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 24: St. Mary

East Islip | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 25: Resurrection

Farmingville | 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

March 26: St. Boniface

Elmont | 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

March 27: St. Agnes

Greenport | 5:00-9:00 p.m.

March 28: Our Lady of Lourdes

Massapequa Park | 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

March 29: Good Shepherd

Holbrook | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 30: Sacred Heart

North Merrick | 1:00-2:00 p.m.

March 31: St. Joseph

Kings Park | 6:00-7:00 p.m.

APRIL

April 1: St. Bernard

Levittown | 12:30-1:30 p.m.

April 2: St. Jude

Mastic Beach | 1:00-3:00 p.m.

April 3: St. Gerard Majella

Port Jefferson Station | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

April 4: St. Aidan

Williston Park | 1:00-3:00 p.m.

April 5: Queen of the Most Holy Rosary

Roosevelt | 6:30-7:30 p.m.

April 6: St. John the Evangelist

Riverhead | 1:00-2:00 p.m.

April 7: St. Martin of Tours

Bethpage | 7:30-9:00 p.m.

April 8: Our Lady of the Mirac. Medal

Wyandanch | 8:00-9:00 p.m.

April 9: Holy Name of Mary

Valley Stream | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

April 10: St. Louis de Montfort

Sound Beach | 7:00-8:30 p.m.

April 11: St. Thomas the Apostle

West Hempstead | 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

April 12: Our Lady of Grace

West Babylon | 8:30-9:30 a.m.

April 14: St. Rose of Lima

Massapequa | 8:00-9:00 p.m.

April 15: Our Lady of Lourdes

West Islip | 12:30-7:30 p.m.

April 16: St. Kilian

Farmingdale | 12:45-7:30 p.m.



To learn more, visit:
drvc.org/return25

JOIN US FOR A VERY SPECIAL

LENTEN PRESENTATION

Singer, Speaker and Lay Franciscan
and Fellow Parishioner

AL BARBARINO



Al will be singing / sharing
the Lenten Reflection:
"IT'S LENT, SO WHAT?"

COME TO HEAR WHAT WE REALLY SHOULD KNOW ABOUT
LENT IN OUR CHRISTIAN, CATHOLIC FAITH!

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025 AT 7:30PM

ST. RAYMOND CATHOLIC CHURCH
263 ATLANTIC AVENUE, EAST ROCKAWAY, NY 11518

Al Barbarino's recordings will be available.

YOU'RE INVITED!

ST. RAYMOND RELIGIOUS ED PRESENTS



80'S THEME



DANCE PARTY
FOR PARISH BOYS
& AN ESCORT
GRADES K-8
Saturday 3/29
following
5pm mass
\$15 per person
St. Ray's Cafeteria
Wear 80s attire
or neon!

HIP HOP DANCE LESSONS WITH J.COLE, DJ, FOOD AND MORE!

Tickets to be distributed at the 5pm mass on 3/29/25. Must have a ticket for admittance. Tickets will be given on a first come, first serve basis as seating is limited. Moms, Grandmothers, Aunts or any other adult figure is welcome to escort.

RSVP by 3/20/25. Cash or check made out to
St. Raymond's Religious Education or scan the QR code
and Venmo Erin McCadden @ErinMc125



→ Please plan accordingly to be on time for mass!

Boy(s) Name(s): _____ Grade: _____

Escort Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____



ATTENTION – 7TH & 8TH GRADE PARENTS/STUDENTS

Confirmation Service Hours (required 10) for 2025 are due no later than Thursday 4/10/2025.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS BY TEENS

Tuesday 3/25/2025 7:30pm in the Church. Students and parent(s) are to attend. Reflection paper is due the week of 3/31/2025.

This presentation of the Stations of the Cross goes through the Stations as seen through the eyes of a teen. In addition, Mary's thoughts are read as she watches her son to his journey to Calvary. It is a very moving and beautiful presentation. All parishioners are welcome to attend. Rehearsal (Required) for Stations of the Cross by Teens – Monday 3/24/2025 7pm-8:30pm in the Church. This is for students reading or carrying up a symbol for the Stations of the Cross presentation.

CONFIRMATION INTERVIEWS/GOWN MEASUREMENTS – 8th GRADE

Monday 3/31/2025 & Tuesday 4/1/2025 during class time. Kellenberg & St. Mary students please call the office with your child's height.

Happy St. Patrick's Day! Happy St. Joseph's Day!



Mrs. Kennedy & Mrs. Charles' Third Graders had a wonderful lesson from Fr. Joseph!





7th and 8th Graders brought in toiletries for Catholic Charities as a Confirmation Service Project



STEP BY STEP WALK THROUGH THE MASS
DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME
FATHER LUKE SPANNAGEL
NATIONAL EUCHARIST REVIVAL BLOG



Disposed to Receive Communion
Part 2

We continue our discussion of the importance of being properly disposed to receive [Holy Communion](#).

**Prepared
to
Receive**



Why must we be in a state of grace to receive Communion? Simply put, because Jesus Christ in the Eucharist is God—all-perfect, all-holy, all-love. To receive him in a state of sin is an offense against his goodness. Charles Belmonte, the author of “Understanding the Mass”, teaches “This mistreatment of the sacrament is a grave offense against God. St. Paul’s warning on this issue is quite clear: ‘Anyone who eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will be behaving unworthily toward the body and blood of the Lord. Everyone is to recollect himself before eating this bread and drinking this cup; because a person who eats and drinks without recognizing the body is eating and drinking his own condemnation’ (1 Cor 11:27–29). [...] Therefore, we cannot—and should not—receive our Lord with a soul dirtied by sin. If we realize we have a serious sin, even though we may seem to be contrite, we cannot go and receive the Holy Eucharist without previous sacramental confession” (pp. 182–3).

Along these lines, Belmonte notes that St. Pope John Paul II taught, “The two sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist remain closely linked. Without a continually renewed conversion and the reception of the sacramental grace of forgiveness, participation in the Eucharist would not reach its full redemptive efficacy... It is not only that Penance leads to the Eucharist, but that the Eucharist also leads to Penance. For when we realize who it is that we receive in Eucharistic Communion, there springs up almost spontaneously a sense of unworthiness, together with sorrow for our own sins and an interior

need for purification” (Understanding the Mass, p. 184; John Paul II, Letter of Holy Thursday [1986], 8; need for purification” (Understanding the Mass, p. 184; John Paul II, Letter of Holy Thursday [1986], 8; DC, 7). Of course, we know we are unworthy to receive such an amazing gift, but we are obligated to do our best to be as prepared as we can be. That’s why regularly making use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and striving to be in a state of grace is so important.

**Hungry
for
God**



Why fast for an hour before Communion? When we don’t eat, we become hungry. When we eat a lot, even if it is our favorite food, we don’t want more. Fasting is an age-old way of growing in hunger, in this case for the living God. Our hunger reminds us that we yearn to be filled up, that we yearn to have our hunger satisfied. This works for the body, but it also works for the soul. As we “clear out” room in our hearts through fasting, we realize that the empty space should be filled by God. As St. Augustine once famously said, the only one who really fills that hunger is God (“Our hearts are restless until they rest in Thee”). Fasting for an hour helps ensure that we are better focused on God for our nourishment and prepared to receive him in Holy Communion. Fasting before the Mass generally covers food and non-necessary drinks such as alcohol, soda, etc. Water is allowed, as well as medicines. For those who are seriously ill (hospital, nursing home, homebound) and for those who care for them, the rule of fasting does not apply.

For Reflection: Pray with St. Paul’s words to the Corinthians in 1 Corinthians 11:17–34. Consider what steps you can take to be more properly disposed to receive the gift of Holy Communion.

**Next Week: USCCB Guidelines
for Receiving Holy Communion**



St. Raymond Church Opportunities for a Holy Hour

Each Day, the Church is open for personal prayer until 5:00
Each Thursday - Eucharistic Exposition from 1-4:00 PM
Each First Friday - Nocturnal Adoration 7:30-8:30 PM

**Eucharistic Revival -The Year of Mission
July 21, 2024 - Pentecost (June 8th) 2025
PILLAR 3 – EUCHARISTIC LIFE**

**Come to Me: How to Make an Hour of Adoration Part 3
- Jesus, Heal Me!**

Sister Kathryn J. Hermes, Eucharistic Revival Blog

"The important thing is that the strings of my heart are tuned to the melody we want to play, that is, the song [of the angels]: 'Glory to God and peace to humanity.' The strings of my heart are my internal dispositions. These must be made to vibrate so that we can know if they are in tune: do they sing the glory of God? Or do they sing my self-love?"

Blessed James Alberione, Carissime in San Paolo

This week, we offer the second of four "moments" to prepare for Adoration:

**Jesus,
Heal
Me!**



In this second moment, look at your life in the light of Jesus' life. This image of Alberione is that of tuning a guitar or a harp. As we listen to the strings of a guitar to see if they are in tune, you are invited to be attentive to the "strings of your heart," to see if they are in tune or not. Is your life in harmony, or is there an aspect of it that is out of sync with the Heart of Jesus? Talk with Jesus about what you notice, and ask him to show you what he wants to transform in you: any patterns of thought, your ways of relating to others, your desires, the extent to which you make a gift of yourself to others. Ask Jesus to make you more completely his disciple.

Jesus desires to heal you: as you sit with him, gently listen to your life's story in the light of his mercy. Conclude this reflection with an act of sorrow, asking Jesus where he is prompting you to move in new directions and follow him with a more open heart.



**"Wait for the LORD with
courage; be stouthearted,
and wait for the LORD.."**

Psalm 27:14

Second Sunday of Lent

**The Jubilee Year - Pilgrims of Hope
December 24, 2024 - January 6, 2026
Hope in a Time of Division -Part 3**

Living a spirit of hope during the Jubilee Year of Hope, especially in times when the Church seems to be experiencing division, can be challenging but also deeply enriching. Here are suggestions and reflect on the accompanying Bible verses, can help embody the hope of the Jubilee Year of Hope, fostering unity and peace in a world that desperately needs both.



**Embrace Prayer
and the
Sacraments**



In the midst of division, prayer and the sacraments provide a profound connection with God. Regular prayer, including the Rosary and daily Mass, helps Catholics remain grounded in Christ's love and peace. The Eucharist, as the source and summit of Christian life, gives strength and hope. As St. Paul reminds us, "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." (Romans 12:12). Prayer opens the heart to God's guidance, bringing healing and clarity.

Live Out the Beatitudes

The Beatitudes are a blueprint for living a life of hope amidst difficulty. Living out these teachings—being merciful, peacemakers, and humble—helps transform conflict into opportunities for grace. Jesus says, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." (Matthew 5:9). This call to peace in the Beatitudes offers a pathway to healing division and spreading hope.

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**ST. PATRICK'S
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FROM THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Come enjoy the rich Irish traditions,
complete dinner, Irish music
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Irish Dancing, bagpipes, Guinness,
Irish Coffee and sweets—
all included, so get a table
of friends to enjoy.



All are Welcomed!
Raffles, Food,
Music, Beer, Wine
and more...

March 22, 2025 at 7:00pm
St. Raymond's School Auditorium
"Green Room"

Tickets are only \$60pp

SENIOR DISCOUNT \$50 pp (65+ yrs)

Tables of 10 Welcome!

Charles Peknic at 516-732-0691


Tickets on Sale Now...Limited Seating




Pot of Gold 50/50

There will be a special "Pot of Gold 50/50" that will be held on Saturday, March 22nd. This "pot" has no lid so the "sky's the limit."

The winning ticket will be pulled at the St. Patrick's Celebration, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus on the 22nd. The "Pot of Gold" tickets are always available and on sale! They are \$10 each and three for \$25.



Special "Pot of Gold" tickets were included in the March/April regular envelope mailing. Simply return the ticket stubs with payment in the envelope to the rectory, either by mail, in person or in the Sunday collection before March 22nd.



Tickets are also available for purchase at the rectory during regular office hours and as special courtesy they will be available for sale after all the Masses this weekend in the church vestibule and altar server sacristy.

The more tickets sold, the greater your winning share and the greater the profit for St. Raymond's. And you don't have to be Irish to win; but a wee bit of leprechaun luck wouldn't hurt now would it!



Remember!

**Three for only \$25
or \$10 each and the
"Sky's the limit!"**



Jubilee 2025
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

*Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us in
your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.*

*May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds
of the Gospel. May those seeds
transform from within both
humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation of a new
heaven and a new earth, when, with
the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.*

*May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of
heaven. May that same grace
spread the joy and peace of our
Redeemer throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.*

Amen

St. Joseph
Spouse of Mary

Feast Day
March 19th



Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God. I place in you all my interests and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask him to return the Kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls - Pray for me.

Amen

St. Patrick
Patron of Ireland

Feast Day
March 17th



May the Strength of God pilot us.
May the Power of God preserve us.
May the Wisdom of God instruct us.
May the Hand of God protect us.
May the Way of God direct us.
May the Shield of God defend us.
May the Host of God guard us.
Against the snares of the evil ones.
Against temptations of the world.

May Christ be with us!

May Christ be before us!

May Christ be in us, Christ be over all!

May Thy Salvation, Lord, Always be ours!

This day, O Lord, and evermore.

Amen



The Sodality of Our Lady

invites women of faith to our
7th Annual Women's Day Retreat
Saturday, April 5, 2025

We will begin at the 8:45 mass then proceed to the school cafeteria for coffee. The presentation begins at 10:00 and concludes at 3:00 with a break for lunch at noon.

A Lenten Renewal

Presented by Sr. Marie Mackey, CSJ

Suggested Program Fee: \$35 (includes lunch)

Registration Closes: Monday, March 31st

Maximum attendees - 60

Checks made payable to: **Sodality of Our Lady**

****Please remit payment along with registration form to:

Sodality of Our Lady, St. Raymond Church
263 Atlantic Ave, East Rockaway, NY 11518

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____

Email: _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

If you have questions, please contact Frances Corio or Mary Thorpe through the rectory: 516-593-5000



*"St. Joseph,
help us to trust
in God's plan."*

*St. Teresa
of Avila*

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Julianne Grennen, Kimberly Moran,
Mary Murphy, Dave Ohlsen,
Linda Ohlsen, Secretary,
Stephen Rochford, Chairperson,
Fr. Chuck Romano,
Monica Tobin, Vice Chairperson**



**Ocean Financial
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St. Raymond!**

We have received our quarterly revenue sharing check from the Ocean Financial Federal Credit Union Parish revenue Sharing Program. Since its inception, our parish has received a total of \$20,986! The amount we receive each quarter is determined by the number of our parishioner who are members of the credit union and their usage of the Ocean Financial Federal Credit Union VISA credit and/or debit card. Therefore, I want to especially thank each of you—your credit card usage benefits our parish and that's great! For those of you who are not yet members, I encourage you to consider joining. Visit their branch at 45 Atlantic Ave.in Oceanside, or for information call 516-620-8100

visit their website at: www.oceanfinancial.org.

**St. Raymond's
Bereavement Ministry**

We are offering
a Program for
those grieving
the death of a
loved one.



**Six Sessions beginning
Thursday April 24, 2025
at 7:30 PM
in St. Raymond's
School Cafeteria**



**Register: Call the Rectory
at 516-593-5000
or fill out the form below and
send to the Rectory**

Your Name:

Address:

Best Tel. #:

Relationship to the Deceased:



**ST. RAYMOND'S
HUMAN LIFE
COMMITTEE**

**SPIRITUAL ADOPTION
"MINI" BABY SHOWER**

In celebration of the birth of your spiritually adopted baby, we are conducting a "mini" baby shower. This weekend, after each Mass, a member from our Committee will be stationed at the altar servers' sacristy to accept baby items and monetary donations for the mothers who have bought their babies to birth and are in need of assistance. Any gift is greatly appreciated. We would like to thank those parishioners who have recently donated baby clothing, strollers, pack and play and beautiful hand made blankets. May God bless you for your faithfulness, caring and generosity to God's little ones and their mothers.

**Next Human Life Committee
Meeting:**

Thursday, March 20th

7 pm - 8 pm

Parish Social Ministry Office.

*Please join
with us in being a voice for the
vulnerable, innocent babies
in the womb!*

St. Raymond's Parish Social Ministry

The Ryan House

"The Heart of the Parish"

12 Roosevelt Avenue, Lynbrook, NY 11563

516-887-9197



FOOD PANTRY HOURS OF OPERATION

MONDAY THRU WEDNESDAY FROM

10AM TO 3PM

(Suggested to call for an appointment)

"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one." Saint Teresa of Calcutta

"GIVING - NOT GIVING UP"

The number of clients served by St. Raymond's Food Pantry is currently increasing and it is becoming difficult to keep the shelves stocked. Since it is the Lenten Season, Father Chuck has set aside three weekends when he will ask his parishioners to donate items at each of the Masses to assist the Parish Social Ministry in meeting the needs of the people they serve.

Here are the scheduled dates and items in need.

March 16th TOILETRIES - Men's & Women's Deodorant, Shaving Cream, Men's Razors

March 23rd SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS - King Kullen, Stop & Shop, Lidl

March 30th BABY ITEMS Diapers - Sizes 1 through 6, Baby Wipes, Baby Shampoo

Pantry items still needed: Pasta Sauce, Canned Tomatoes, Baked Beans, Cold Cereal,

Canned Fruit, Canned Meat, Jell-O or Pudding and Snacks.

Food donations can be brought to the Ryan House during its open hours or non-perishable food can be left in the bin on the Ryan House porch or in the Altar Server's Sacristy.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity. You are always in our prayers!



*"The Lord is my
light and
my salvation."*

**Have faith in our God, and
trust in Him. Let Him work
miracles in your life.**



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Mass with the Choir is
@10:30am on Sunday**



Do you like to sing?
Do you play piano, flute or guitar?
Check out...

St. Raymond Folk Group! We are back...



We rehearse Sundays at 11:00am

in the Rectory Lower Level

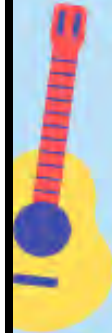
and sing at the 12 Noon

Sunday Mass

If interested please
call Ann Marie Lynch at

516-599-6836

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Sunday, April 6, 2025
1:00pm-Campus Tours
Begin at 12pm**

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<https://www.molloy.edu/openhouse25>

FORMED

This week on **FORMED...**



Using the highly-acclaimed Augustine Institute programs **Symbolon** and **Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession**, **A Lent to Remember** explores the ways God reaches out to each of us with his mercy. Through **Christ's suffering on the cross in the Paschal Mystery** and his perpetual reception of his people in the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**, God makes his love, his very self, present to us in the world. By reflecting on the **Paschal Mystery** and making a **step-by-step examination of the Rite of Confession**, **A Lent to Remember** communicates God's invitation to each one of us to come experience his indescribable love this Lent.



**GO TO THE ST. RAYMOND
WEBSITE FOLLOW THE
FORMED**

LINK TO REGISTER... IT'S FREE!

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, March 17th

7:15am Julia McCabe

8:45am Catherine Salmon

12:15pm Robert Cea

Tuesday, March 18th

7:15am Holy Souls in Purgatory

8:45am Bernadette Tominey

12:15pm Erica Shorette

Wednesday, March 19th St. Joseph

7:15am Neil Schloth (L)

8:45am Joseph Ninivaggi

12:15pm Patricia Rochford

Thursday, March 20th

7:15am James Groark, Sr.

8:45am Pasquale & Angelo Cibellis

12:15pm Tommy Tracey

Friday, March 21st

7:15am Muriel Henry

8:45am Holy Souls in Purgatory

12:15pm Claudia Reiyifo

Saturday, March 22nd

8:45am Maryellen Sullivan-Chiarello

Judith Z. Kelly (L), Erin McDonald

Mary Pirone Sellitti (25th Anniv)

5:00pm Rosemarie Polley

Sunday, March 23rd

7:30am Daniel Carrano

9:00am Patrick Parish

10:30am John Matthew, Jr.

12:00pm Richard Nelson, John Healey,

Jacqueline Feis Gribasio,

Vincent Madonna

4:30pm St. Raymond Parish



REST IN PEACE

Michael Papa

Thomas John Shearer

Patricia Imbriale

Thomas John Shearer

*May the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace. Amen*



Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

Daniel 9:4b-10/Luke 6:36-38

Tuesday

Isaiah 1:10, 16-20/Matthew 23:1-12

Wednesday

2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a/Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a

Thursday

Jeremiah 17:5-10/Luke 16:19-31

Friday

Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a/Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday

Micah 7:14-15, 18-20/Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday

Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15/1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12/
Luke 13:1-9

Parish Bulletin Board



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Communal Prayer Before Mass

Father in heaven, we wish to prepare well for participation in this Mass, in which we enter the Last Supper, Passion, Death and Resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ. He is as present to us today in his Word and in the Eucharist, as he was with his apostles. Holy Spirit please quiet our minds from the busyness and distractions of our day, so that we will have hearts and minds attentive to the words of Jesus and ready to receive his Body and Blood in Holy Communion. Blessed Mother, take our hearts and give us yours, that like you, we may ponder Jesus' words and do whatever he tells us to do. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

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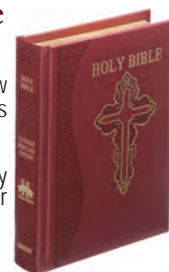
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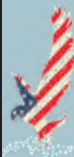
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