

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 Robert H. Drummond
Deacon Richard W. LaRossa, S.F.D.
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

Nadine Robinson

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, February 15, 2026

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

"Blessed are they who follow the law of
the Lord!" - Psalm 119



February 15, 2026

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 18, 2026 Ash Wednesday

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 10 am-5pm. 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-3pm.

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

Religious Education Office593-9075

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

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 11:00 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

Tristan Hollenstein

Baby Faith Madison

Mary Lynch

Linda Dagostino

Karen Pagnotta

Jodi Neckles

Jim Marasco

Christine I.

Jeanne Swanson

Rosemarie Lombardo

Elaine & Eddie Corrado

Nick S.

Rosemarie Salabini

Julianne Grennen

Herb McIntyre

Anthony Campanile

Baby Cooper Graham

Maureen Condiass

Timothy Murphy

Lauren Greco

Eileen Roberts

Betty McHale

Eileen Appel

Dianna Viglieta

Sally Perry

Caroline Saporito

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



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

Cpl. Alex James Cooper US MARINE CORPS

Cpl. 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

Cpl. Connor Thomas McHale US MARINE CORPS

Commander Joseph Leahy US NAVY

Sgt. Bryan Petriccione US ARMY -Cavalry Unit

Lt. Joseph Woloszyn US NAVY

TSGT Curt Abdool US AIRFORCE

2nd Lt. Nicholas J. Carinci US AIRFORCE

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR OUR
WOUNDED SOLDIERS.



Greetings and God's blessings be yours on the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time! The readings today make the point that it's God's wisdom that is the true way. In the first reading from the Book of Sirach, the prophet speaks of keeping God's commandments in order to be saved. Why do so? Because: **"Immense is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power and all seeing."** Then in the second readings from 1 Corinthians, Paul states that it is a mature wisdom coming from God that if known and accepted by the people would have prevented the crucifixion of Jesus. But as it was written: **"What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him, that God has revealed to us through the Spirit."** And finally, in Matthew's gospel we see Jesus teaching a new wisdom. He is upending what the crowd might have thought. He is making them uncomfortable with new revelations. **"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill."**

This saying of Jesus sounds so authoritative, so important, so wise. Seems Jesus was waiting for the right moment to spring it on the people. As we know, the Law was immensely important to the Jewish people, divinely given and foundational. Jesus wanted to be very clear, so he made this statement, affirming them as the Chosen People, affirming what they had been taught and obeyed for centuries. All their beliefs were valid. But now he wanted them to realize that the Law wasn't an end in itself. It was the groundwork, the preparation for someone who would bring all of it to fulfillment as the fullest expression of God's presence among his people. Jesus is someone who doesn't abolish but fulfills. He will make things better, more than they were before. God always strives to transform things and people into what they were meant to be all along. God always adds to what is, not taking away.

When we think of God's laws we tend to see them in a negative way. **"Do I have to?"** We don't get excited to always do the right, moral thing. We'd rather do the thing that gives us some fleeting pleasure. We think that our way is better or more reasonable. Following God's commandments, his teachings and priorities makes our lives worse.

But Jesus is really saying: **"I have not come to abolish your happiness, but to fulfill it."** Remember the essential truth that everything that comes from God is good for us. That includes the challenging, difficult stuff that requires hard work and perseverance, giving of ourselves in small or large ways. Choosing the right thing does not always make life rosy or pain-free. Quite the opposite, because giving of ourselves always costs something. But if we trust and hope that our lives will be brought to a kind of fulfillment, we will have the dignity and harmony to which we were created.

This Wednesday, February 18th is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten Season. The bulletin contains the times Blessed Ashes will be distributed. Beginning on Wednesday we will also celebrate a 12:15pm Mass from Monday through Friday during Lent. The Stations of the Cross will also start being prayed this coming Friday, February 20th at 7pm and on each of the Fridays of Lent. On Monday, February 16th there will be a special **Holy Hour** in preparation for entry into Lent on Wednesday. All are invited to come and spend this time with each other and Jesus in prayerful preparation for Ash Wednesday.

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 special note is news and needs from **Parish Social Ministry**, info from **Religious Education** (Faith Formation), especially about the **Valentine's Day Party** on Saturday, February 28th, the Lenten Series on **"Understanding the Mass"** beginning on Wednesday evening, February 25th, the **Come and See Centerfold**, the **Communal Prayer Before Mass** (found on the inside back page), 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. **Get ready for the transition into Lent. Smile, share and remember: If God is not enough, nothing will ever be enough.** God bless always. **-Father Chuck**



WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

FEBRUARY 15, 2026—SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

FEBRUARY 15, 2026—SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING

Sirach 15:15-20

If you choose you can keep the commandments, they will save you; if you trust in God, you too shall live; he has set before you fire and water to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand. Before man are life and death, good and evil, whichever he chooses shall be given him. Immense is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power, and all-seeing. The eyes of God are on those who fear him; he understands man's every deed. No one does he command to act unjustly, to none does he give license to sin.

Alleluia

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34

R. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Blessed are they whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD. Blessed are they who observe his decrees, who seek him with all their heart.

R. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

You have commanded that your precepts be diligently kept. Oh, that I might be firm in the ways of keeping your statutes!

R. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Be good to your servant, that I may live and keep your words. Open my eyes, that I may consider the wonders of your law.

R. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Instruct me, O LORD, in the way of your statutes, that I may exactly observe them. Give me discernment, that I may observe your law and keep it with all my heart.

R. Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Brothers and sisters: We speak a wisdom to those who are mature, not a wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age who are passing away. Rather, we speak God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden, which God predetermined before the ages for our glory, and which none of the rulers of this age knew; for, if they had known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written: *What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him*, this God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit scrutinizes everything, even the depths of God.

ALLELUIA

cf. Matthew 11:25

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

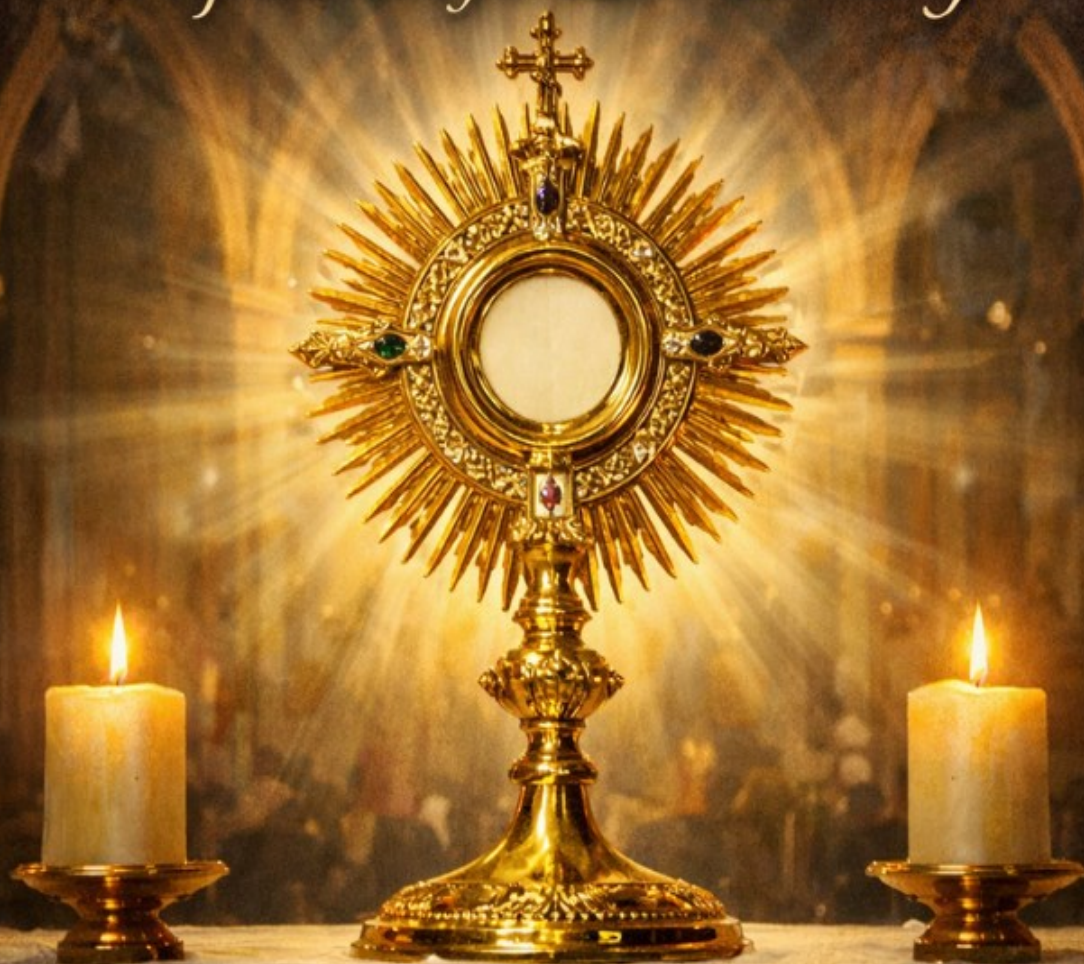
R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

Jesus said to his disciples: "I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. "You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, *You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.* But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment. "You have heard that it was said, *You shall not commit adultery.* But I say to you, everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. "Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, *Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow.* But I say to you, do not swear at all. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the evil one."

ST. RAYMOND CHURCH
HOLY HOUR
Preparation for Lent Evening



FEBRUARY 16TH
7:00PM - 8:00PM

✦ *Exposition • Reflection • Music • Benediction* ✦

St Raymond's Lenten Series



UNDERSTANDING THE MASS

Understanding what Jesus does for us and our response

Based on the book entitled *A Biblical Walk Through The Mass* by Dr Edward Sri

Wednesday evenings Feb 25, March 4, 11, 18 & 25

At 7 pm in St Raymond's School Cafeteria

Video and Presentation by Father Matthew Roche SJ

Session 1 (February 25): Foundations: What is the Mass? An OVERVIEW

Session 2: The Introductory Rite

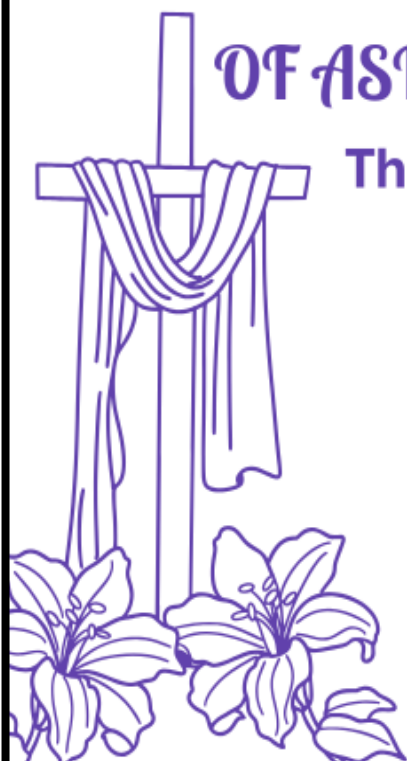
Session 3: The Liturgy of the Word

Session 4: The Liturgy of the Eucharist

Session 5: The Concluding Rites



ASH WEDNESDAY DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES



The Following Masses

7:15am

8:45am

12:15pm

7:30pm

Prayer Service

4:00pm

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 2026

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 7pm in the church beginning February 20th.

Eucharistic Adoration

In the Church Thursdays from 1-4pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Holy Hour

February 16th 7:00pm-8:00pm



PARISH BOYS IN GRADES 1-8 JOIN US FOR OUR
ANNUAL ST. RAYMOND'S

VALENTINE'S DAY *Party*

FEBRUARY **28** 6PM - 8PM

ST. RAYMOND'S SCHOOL CAFETERIA

\$20 PER PERSON - DINNER AND DANCING WITH DJ J COLE!

Tickets will be distributed at the 5pm Mass on 2/28/26.

Must have ticket for admittance. Tickets are sold 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 February 20th, 2026. Cash or check made out to St.
Raymond's Religious Education or scan the QR code above and
Venmo @ErinMc125

BOY(S) NAME(S): _____ GRADE: _____

ESCORT'S NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

AMOUNT PAID: _____

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 THROUGH
WEDNESDAY FROM 10AM TO 3PM
(Suggested to call for an appointment)

"Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you." Matthew 5:42

Food assistance is available for those in need who live within our Parish boundaries. Also, if you are a senior citizen, living within the Parish boundaries and depend on your Social Security benefit as your only source of income, please call our office and we can assist you with food.

Pantry items still needed: Pasta Sauce, Canned Tomatoes, White Rice, Pasta and Rice Side Dishes, Snacks, Baked Beans, Canned Mixed Vegetables, Carrots, Beets and Peas, Canned Fruit, Grape Jelly, Pancake Mix, Coffee, Tea, Ketchup, Mustard and Mayonnaise.

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 all for your continued support and you are always in our prayers!

SODALITY OF OUR LADY SCHOLARSHIP EXAM 2026



WHAT: THREE \$1000 SCHOLARSHIPS SPONSORED BY THE SODALITY OF OUR LADY AT ST. RAYMOND'S CHURCH. THREE \$150 MARIANNE MALONE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS.

WHO: ANY EIGHTH GRADE STUDENT IN ST. RAYMOND'S PARISH, WHO HAS BEEN ACCEPTED FOR ADMISSION TO A CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER, 2026

WHEN: THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026. TIME 3:30PM

WHERE: ST. RAYMOND SCHOOL CAFETERIA
263 ATLANTIC AVENUE EAST ROCKAWAY, NY 11518

EXAM: 15 MULTIPLE CHOICE, FILL IN THE BLANKS AND TWO ESSAYS

HOW: TO REGISTER-CALL JULIANNE GRENNEN (516) 593-5000 OR SEND AN EMAIL TO STRAYRCC@OPTONLINE.NET - ATTN. JULIANNE GRENNEN BEFORE FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026. YOUR REGISTRATION WILL BE CONFIRMED. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED A CONFIRMATION, PLEASE CALL AGAIN.

REGISTRATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER
FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026





ST. RAYMOND'S HUMAN LIFE COMMITTEE

"Robert J. Lifton, an American psychiatrist, conducting a fascinating psychological study of the Nazi doctors who planned and managed the notorious German death camps. How could German physicians participate in mass murder and preside over killings while they themselves were idealists? They justified themselves in the following ways: They allowed themselves to be seduced by the 'If it's legal, it must be moral' fallacy. They denied that those who were being killed were fully human. They avoided the reality of the horrors around them. They convinced themselves that while what was being done was unpleasant, it was necessary & for the long run, for the good of mankind. Incredibly, they saw genocide as a health measure. Lifton calls this elaborate lattice of self-deception 'psychic-numbness.' Lifton drew an analogy to the thinking of Hitler's time to those who favor abortion, although he clearly stated that he did not mean to compare the average American pro-abortionist/pro-choicer to Nazi doctors. He stated 'that most have never seen an aborted baby, & do not appreciate the humanity of the unborn. Yet there does seem to be a definite reluctance to learn, a deliberate ignorance. The truth is suspected, but the truth is painful: it cannot be confronted. This in itself is a form of 'psychic-numbness.' It will be very difficult for good people to admit that every day we fail to face the wretched reality of this modern day holocaust, more than 3,000 American children will be put to death - without trial, without appeal for the crime of being unwanted." (How Pro-Choicers "Fool" Themselves, Rosemary Bottcher - Feminist for Life)

"America defend life!" (Pope St. John Paul II)

Please join with us every Thursday, 3:00pm-3:30 pm, during Adoration as we pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Rosary of Our Lady for an end to abortion and the return to the respect, dignity, and protection of all God's children from conception until natural death.



THE ROSE FOR LIFE

In Loving Memory of Louise Coscia

For Dedications call
Mary Caffrey 516-887-2458



**What is one thing you
could do this week to be
at service to God and
neighbor? Whatever you
do, offer it up to give
glory to God.**

**THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF
ORDINARY TIME
WEEKLY GUIDE FOR
PERSONAL PRAYER**



Come & See

**Until you do, you will
never know**



SUMMARY OF THE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

The Gospel for Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time is the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:17–37) in which Jesus teaches that all God's law and the prophets are fulfilled in Him, calling His followers to a righteousness that surpasses mere external observance; "I have come not to abolish but to fulfill."

Monday of this week is the Optional Memorial of Saint Onesimus (Layperson and Disciple), a converted slave remembered for his transformation from a runaway servant to a faithful brother in Christ, exemplifying the power of forgiveness and reconciliation in Christian life. Tuesday of this week is the Optional Memorial of Saint Alexis Falconieri (Religious Lay Founder), who was one of the Seven Founders of the Servite Order. Saturday of this week is the Optional Memorial of Saint Peter Damian (Bishop & Doctor), who honored for his zeal in promoting holiness and integrity within the Church.

Wednesday is the Ash Wednesday which is a obligatory day of fasting and abstinence. It marks the beginning of Lent, calling the entire Church to repentance, fasting, prayer, and almsgiving as we walk with Christ toward Easter.

This week, the First Readings focus on growth in Christian virtue, repentance, the choice of life in fidelity to God, and authentic conversion. Monday and Tuesday draw from the Letter of James, encouraging us to find joy in trials, seek wisdom with steadfast faith, and persevere in doing good as fruits of maturity in Christ; Wednesday's Liturgy on Ash Wednesday calls us to heartfelt repentance with "return to me with all your heart" (Joel 2:12–18), emphasizing genuine conversion as we begin Lent. From Thursday through Saturday, the First Readings

from Deuteronomy and Isaiah present the covenant choice between life and death, and portray true religion as active mercy and justice, urging us to live out mercy with integrity and compassion as we prepare for deeper union with God during this Lenten journey.

The Gospels this week weave together authentic discipleship, that is to rely on God alone, to discern God's presence beyond mere signs, and the cost and gift of following Jesus, that is to embrace the cross with hope and to extend mercy to others.

On Monday (Mark 8:11–13): Jesus, when confronted by the Pharisees seeking a sign, responds with "no sign will be given to this generation," inviting disciples to trust beyond signs and wonders. On Tuesday (Mark 8:14–21), Jesus admonishes the disciples not to be hardened in heart over bread.

On Ash Wednesday (Matthew 6:1–6, 16–18), Jesus teaches genuine piety in almsgiving, prayer, and fasting, "your Father who sees in secret will repay you," emphasizing interior disposition over outward show.

On Thursday (Luke 9:22–25): Jesus announces His suffering and resurrection and calls all who follow Him to "deny himself and take up the cross daily," highlighting self-giving fidelity. On Friday (Matthew 9:14–15): Jesus explains fasting in the context of His presence, pointing to persistent longing and readiness for union with Christ. On Saturday (Luke 5:27–32), Jesus calls Levi the tax collector, inviting him to discipleship and eating with sinners, exemplifying mercy over exclusion.

For the First Sunday of Lent, February 22nd, Jesus is led by the Spirit into the desert where, after forty days of fasting, He resists the devil's temptations by grounding His identity and mission in fidelity to the Father. This Gospel sets the tone for Lent by inviting us to deeper reliance on God's word and trust in His saving will.



*"Before man are life and death, good and evil, whichever he chooses shall be given him."
-Sirach 15:17*



St. Raymond Church

🔥 **Kindle The Fire Within**

**Each Day, the Church is open
for personal prayer until 5:00pm**

Each Thursday - Eucharistic

Exposition from 1-4:00pm

Each First Friday

Nocturnal Adoration 7:30pm-8:30pm

Monday – Discernment

"Watch out, guard against the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod" (Mark 8:15). Jesus warns me to be attentive to subtle influences that can distort my faith, reminding me to examine my attitudes and priorities amid the pressures of work and daily responsibility.

My Prayer: Jesus, sharpen my discernment so I may remain faithful to You in thought and action.

Tuesday – Trusting Memory



"Do you not yet understand or comprehend?" (Mark 8:17). Jesus challenges His disciples' forgetfulness, inviting me to remember God's past faithfulness when I feel anxious or overwhelmed in family or professional life.

My Prayer: Jesus, help me to trust You by recalling how You have already provided for me.

Ash Wednesday – Interior Conversion

"Your Father who sees in secret will repay you" (Matthew 6:4). Jesus calls me to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving rooted in sincerity rather than appearance, shaping a conversion that begins quietly in the heart and transforms daily living.



My Prayer: Father, turn my heart back to You with humility and honesty this Lent.

Thursday – Self-Giving Fidelity

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself and take up his cross daily" (Luke 9:23). Jesus invites me to embrace daily sacrifices with love, recognizing that faithfulness in small, unseen acts strengthens both my family relationships and my witness at work.



My Prayer: Lord, give me courage to follow You even when the path is demanding.

Friday – Longing for Christ



"The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast" (Matthew 9:15). This Gospel reminds me that

spiritual discipline flows from love and longing for Christ, helping me reorder my desires toward what truly satisfies.

My Prayer: Jesus, deepen my desire for You and teach me to wait with hope.



Saturday Mercy and Healing

"Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do" (Luke 5:31). Jesus' call of Levi assures me that mercy stands at the center of discipleship, encouraging me to respond with compassion and forgiveness in my family, workplace, and community.

My Prayer: Lord, make me an instrument of Your mercy to those in need.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
FAITH FORMATION**

Lucy Ostermann, Director



**THERE ARE NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES AND THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
PRESIDENT'S WEEK – 2/16/2026-2/18/2026. CLASSES WILL RESUME AND THE OFFICE
WILL RE-OPEN ON MONDAY 2/23/2026.**

SWEETHEART VALENTINE DANCE

What a wonderful evening was had by all who attended our Sweetheart Valentine Dance last Saturday 2/7/2026!! This event was made possible by the hard work of our coordinator, Mrs. Jennie Saia. She along with the help of Mrs. Christina DeCiantis, Mrs. Kelly Khan, Mrs. Amanda Lettieri, Mrs. Kristen Nugent and Mrs. Cristina Vuotto were able to make the party a fun night for the girls and their escorts. None of our special events could happen without the dedication of these women. Not only do most of them teach for us, which is more than we could ask for, but they also find the time to make our parties memorable for our students. We truly appreciate their efforts and may God continually bless them and keep them safe.

ST. RAYMOND VALENTINE'S DANCE

for Boys in grades 1-8 Saturday 2/28/2026 6pm-8pm.

Please look for the flyer in this bulletin for registration information.

ATTENTION 1ST GRADE PARENTS

The next 1st grade parent/student meeting will be held on Sunday, March 1st 2026 at 10:30am in the auditorium. After the meeting, all will go to the 12Noon Mass where Fr. Chuck continues the lesson for the children.

*"Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things,
endures all things" 1 Corinthians 13:7*

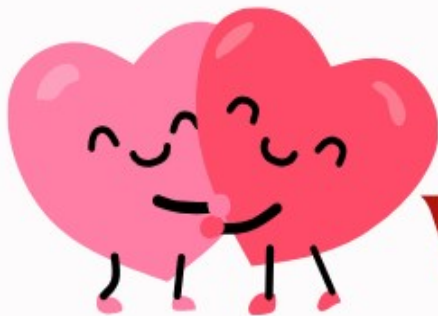


Happy Happy Valentine's Day!!!

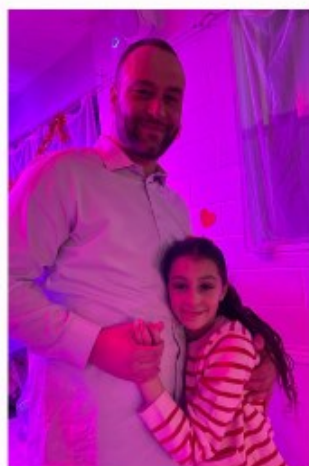








SWEETHEART VALENTINE DANCE



Sodality of Our Lady of the Annunciation



The Sodality of Our Lady gathers for

Corporate Communion

Sunday, February 15th at the 10:30 am Mass.

All are invited to join us in the marked pews.

Then, join us on Monday night, February 16th, in the cafeteria, for our meeting at 7:30 pm, and a fun night of B-I-N-G-O!!

No charge to play. Sodality will supply cards and markers, and there will be CASH prizes!

Doors open at 7pm. We look forward to seeing you!

"Sodality is a women's organization devoted to prayer and service to the Blessed Mother. The membership is active in many ways doing what we call 'Mary Work,' helping those in need in any way we can."

WORLD Marriage DAY



**HONORING LOVE, FAITH, AND
COMMITMENT ROOTED IN CHRIST**



*"As the family goes,
so goes the nation
and so goes the
whole world in
which we live."*

*Saint John Paul II,
Homily - Perth
(Australia)*

Pastoral Council Members

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



The Sodality of Our Lady

invites women of faith to our

8th Annual Women's Day Retreat

Saturday, March 21, 2026

We will begin at the 8:45 Mass

followed by coffee in the
school cafeteria. The presentation

begins at 10:00 and concludes at
3:00pm with a break for lunch at noon.

A Lenten Renewal

Presented by Sr. Cecelia TJI

**Topic: Listening to the ways that
God speaks to us**

Suggested Program Fee: \$35 (includes lunch)

Registration Closes: Monday, March 16th

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 Karen Doran
through the rectory: 516-593-5000



Almsgiving in Lent

During the Lenten Season we are asked to pray, fast and give alms.

Lent is a perfect time for us to pray for those in need - whether it is for their material, emotional or spiritual needs. And when you practice fasting and abstinence during these forty days, please remember those of our neighbors who reach out to us for help.

One way to do this is by making a gift to the Catholic Ministries Appeal, which supports programs that help people in our community each year through Catholic Charities and our Parish Outreach programs.



For more information about the Catholic Ministries Appeal, please visit CatholicMinistriesAppeal.org or call 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

FORMED

This week on **FORMED...**



Daily Bread: Discover the Eucharist in Scripture explores the biblical roots of the Eucharist and how the earliest Christians understood it as the fulfillment of many Old Testament promises. Based on Dr. Brant Pitre's book **Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist**, these daily Lenten reflection videos will radically transform your love for the Blessed Sacrament. Sign up to receive these daily during Lent at <https://daily.formed.org/lent>



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

FORMED

LINK TO REGISTER... IT'S FREE!

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, February 16th

7:15am Jeanne Healey

8:45am Giovanna Finken

Tuesday, February 17th

7:15am Mary Guiliano

8:45am Maria Mannino

Wednesday, February 18th

Ash Wednesday

7:15am John P. Dolan, Sr.

8:45am Anne Gallagher

12:15pm Terese L. Campbell

4:00pm Prayer Service

7:30pm Yolanda Stabile

Thursday, February 19th

7:15am Maria Bosques

8:45am Josephine Brandon

12:15pm Maria Bosques

Friday, February 20th

7:15am Jim & Mary Caffrey (L)

8:45am Deb Leahy Petrisch

12:15pm St. Raymond Parish

Saturday, February 21st

8:45am Terese L. Campbell

5:00pm Maria Mannino

Sunday, February 22nd

7:30am Christopher Stewart

9:00am Debra Anastasio

10:30am Annmarie McInerney Scully

12:00pm William & Dorothy Riehl

Alfonso Aleman

Pola Cifuetes

Dulcelina Rojas

Rita Russo

Thomas "Tom" Stephen Reilly

Teddy Ramos, Sr.

4:30pm St. Raymond Parish



REST IN PEACE

Mario P. Garcia

Arlene Francis

Milano

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



Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

James 1:1-11/Mark 8:11-13

Tuesday

James 1:12-18/Mark 8:14-21

Wednesday

Joel 2:12-18/Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday

Deuteronomy 30:15-20/Luke 9:22-25

Friday

Isaiah 58:1-9a/Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday

Isaiah 58:9b-14/Luke 5:27-32

Sunday

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11

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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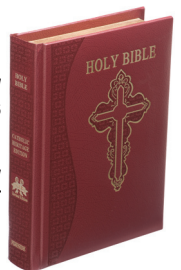
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