

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, August 16, 2026

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

"Then Jesus said to her in reply, 'O woman,
great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you
wish.' And the woman's daughter was healed
from that hour." -Matthew 15:28



August 16, 2026

20th 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-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

Baby Faith Madison

Jodi Neckles

Jim Marasco

Christine I.

Rosemarie Lombardo

Nick S.

Rosemarie Salabini

Connie Montesino

Brian McGreevy

Mary Caffrey

Kinley S.

Logan Kaplan

Julianne Grennen

Anthony Campanile

Baby Cooper Graham

Maureen Condiss

Lauren Greco

Eileen Roberts

Caroline Saporito

Michael Conconan

Piper Clements-

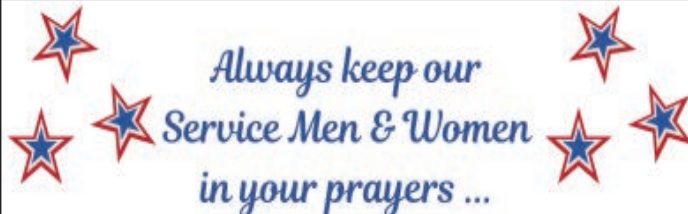
Coogan

Sabina Chiacchio

Focarino

Rita Boden

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



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 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time! Today's readings challenge us to realize that God's plan is bigger than people could imagine. In the first reading from the prophet Isaiah, we are reminded that foreigners who love the Lord and join themselves to him are welcome by God. To all who accept God, Isaiah says: *"Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed."* Then in the second reading from the Letter to the Romans, Paul speaks about how Israel will always be God's chosen people, even as he reaches out to the Gentiles. Mercy is always shown to Israel when they have turned away from God. ***"For God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy upon all."*** And finally, in Matthew's gospel, the words that Jesus speaks can be difficult to understand. We must read these words in light of all that is revealed in Scripture and Tradition. Jesus shows God's clear love for the people of all nations. Jesus' banter with the Canaanite woman challenges us to expand our vision of who is worthy of God's as well as our care and concern. Jesus rewards the woman's faith: ***"O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done to you as you wish. And the woman's daughter was healed at that hour."***

Today's gospel passage is one of those stories not that distant from our modern experiences. Somebody needs help, and some people find reasons for not helping the person. The group of people is selective in who they will help. Sounds familiar. It was pretty common back then to think this way. Perhaps the woman even accepted this line of thinking at one time herself. These were Jews and Canaanites who didn't like each other, keeping separate and distrusting each other. This was the accepted attitude in Jesus' time. Yet, on this day the woman made a different decision, a different choice, maybe for the first time. She refused to ***"go along"*** with what people told her. She refused to go along with arbitrary rules that made little sense. Refused to go along with artificial barriers, senseless prejudices and attitudes. She decided to move beyond some arbitrary line and take a different path, embrace a different attitude, challenge a ridiculous social barrier. So, she reaches out to Jesus, in front of a lot of people she knew would not be okay with it.

The dialogue between Jesus and the woman may seem a bit harsh, but also somewhat playful. Jesus first replies to her the way his followers would expect. He is a bit rude seemingly uncaring, but the woman fights back, push to Jesus' approval. They are on the same wavelength and are teaching the others a valuable lesson about prejudice, self-righteousness and even hate. Both the woman and Jesus are not going to go along with the status quo. A status quo that is consumed with cynicism and negativity. How often do we also just ***"go along"*** with others or certain groups and political parties that refuse to recognize the God-given dignity of every person. We all have certain blind spots, areas in our lives which accept things we shouldn't and pursue things we shouldn't. And the world stays the same. Maybe today is the day to look deep at the things we do and the attitudes we carry. Let's no longer accept what is un-Jesus like. Maybe do what the woman in the story did. Choose to no longer accept such barriers, divisions, prejudices and unloving attitudes. Maybe today we try to be more faithful to Jesus' teachings and then experience the salvation he died to make possible.

This Tuesday evening, August 18th, there will be a Holy Hour from 7-8pm in the church. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, prayer, reflection, music and Benediction. Come and bring a friend

Please 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), an order form for the ***Backwards Money Drawing***, the ***Come and See 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 bulletin copy at home.

Have a great week. ***Smile, share and if it doesn't feel right, turn left. Plus remember: Nobody stands taller than those willing to be corrected.*** God bless always.

-Father Chuck



WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

AUGUST 16, 2026— 20TH 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.

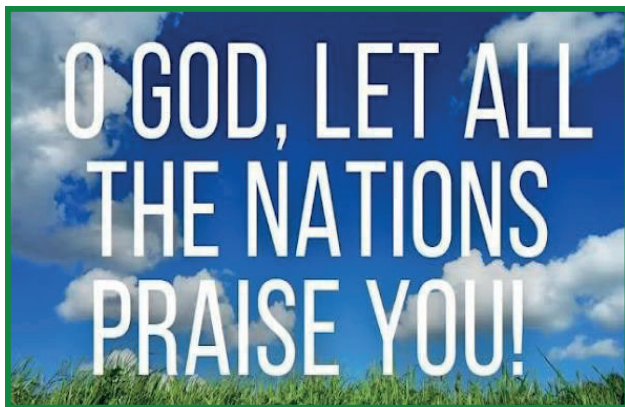
WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

AUGUST 16, 2026—20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

Thus says the LORD: Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed. The foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, ministering to him, loving the name of the LORD, and becoming his servants—all who keep the sabbath free from profanation and hold to my covenant, them I will bring to my holy mountain and make joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be acceptable on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!
May God have pity on us and bless us; may he let his face shine upon us. So may your way be known upon earth; among all nations, your salvation.

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!
May the nations be glad and exult because you rule the peoples in equity; the nations on the earth you guide.

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!
May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you! May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear him!

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

ALLELUIA

Cf. Matthew 4:23

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom and cured every disease among the people.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

SECOND READING

Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Brothers and sisters: I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I glory in my ministry in order to make my race jealous and thus save some of them. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable. Just as you once disobeyed God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now disobeyed in order that, by virtue of the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy upon all.

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her. Jesus' disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour.

Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States, second typical edition, Copyright © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine;

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*Jesus I trust
in You*

*Come celebrate...
St. Faustina Kowalska's
Birthday*

**Please join us in praying for
our great nation.
Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament
Divine Mercy Chaplet
Praises of the Divine Mercy
The Rosary
St. Raymond Church
Monday, August 24th
7:00pm - 8:30pm
Please join us in prayer!**



**St. Faustina Kowalska
1905-1930**

**I asked Him,
"Do You have among our
students any who are a
comfort to Your Heart?"
The Lord answered that
He has, but their love is
weak, and so I put them
in your special care...
pray for them (288)**

*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)**

*"For I was hungry and you gave me to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me to drink,
I was a foreigner and you invited me in." -Matthew 25:35*

During the month of July, the Parish Social Ministry assisted 103 households with food, personal and household items and advised them regarding other services offered through the Department of Social Services, Catholic Charities and St. Vincent DePaul. We also welcomed one new client and provided them with food and we advised them of other services available to them.

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 our Social Security benefit as your sole source of income, please contact the Parish Social Ministry and we can help you with food.

**Pantry items needed this week: Canned White Potatoes, Yams, Mixed Vegetables, Beets and Peas,
Chef Boyardee Pasta, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Pinto and White Beans, Canned Fruit,
Peanut Butter, Grape Jelly, Ketchup, Mayonnaise and Canned Soup.**

Donations of food 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.

**Needed: If you have any brown paper shopping bags, such as those from Trader Joe's, CVS, etc.,
the Parish Social Ministry would greatly appreciate you dropping them off at the
Ryan House as we are running low on them for packing groceries.**

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

ST. RAYMOND CHURCH



HOLY HOUR

TUESDAY,
August 18

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

THE FOCUS THIS MONTH
WILL BE ON THE

*Feast of the
Assumption*



Let us adore the King and Creator of all things.
Come and be renewed in His love and truth.
His Kingdom has no end.

EXPOSITION

REFLECTION

MUSIC

BENEDICTION



ST. RAYMOND PARISH

250 HOURS OF LOVE IN ACTION

As each one
has received a gift,
use it to serve one
another as good
stewards of God's
varied grace.

— 1 PETER 4:10

As a parish family, let us come together
in prayer and in service to our neighbors in need.



250 HOURS OF ADORATION

Be with Him.

Spend time in the real
presence of Jesus in
the Eucharist. Attend a
monthly special Holy Hour
or our regular weekly
adoration.



OUR GOAL:
250 COLLECTIVE HOURS



250 HOURS OF CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

Be His hands.

Serve those in need through
acts of charity such as donating
food, tutoring children,
sponsoring a family, visiting
the homebound, and more.



OUR GOAL:
250 COLLECTIVE HOURS



TOGETHER BETWEEN JULY 4TH AND LABOR DAY!

As we celebrate the **250th Anniversary** of the United States of America,
let us thank God for our freedom by giving Him our time in prayer and service.

★ ★ ★
250
1776-2026

— Pray. Serve. Transform. —



MY PROMISE TO ST. RAYMOND PARISH

I will help our parish reach our goal of 250 hours of Adoration
and 250 hours of Corporal Works of Mercy.

Name (Please Print): _____

I commit to: ☐ ADORATION ☐ CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

I will contribute approximately: _____ hour(s) (per month / per week / one-time)

Signature: _____ Date: _____



TOGETHER IN
FAITH AND LOVE

"Backwards Money Drawing!"

Back by popular & necessary demand, our special fundraiser for St. Raymond Parish

This special fundraiser will be held on Sunday, August 30, 2026

Tickets for the Backwards Drawing are \$100 each, with only 500 tickets available.

The grand prize of \$10,000 will be awarded to the last ticket drawn. There will also be an additional \$10,000 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 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. 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.

Enter to Win



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-\$1,000
Ticket #499-\$2,500

Ticket #500-\$10,000 Grand Prize

Backwards Money Drawing Ticket Order Form - August 30, 2026

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ **Number of Tickets:** _____



TWENTIETH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME GUIDE FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

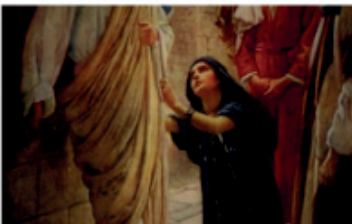


Come & See

Until you do, you will
never know

SUMMARY OF THE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the Gospel for the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Matthew 15:21-28), the Canaanite woman approaches Jesus with unwavering



confidence, trusting completely in His mercy for her daughter. Her humble perseverance moves the Lord to proclaim, *"O woman, great is your faith!"*, reminding us that sincere faith and steadfast prayer always find a welcome in the heart of Christ.

On Thursday, the Church celebrates the Memorial of Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church, whose profound love for Christ and devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary inspired countless souls to seek holiness through humility, prayer, and charity.

Friday honors Saint Pius X, Pope, remembered for renewing the Church's liturgy, encouraging frequent reception of Holy Communion, especially for children, and faithfully defending the truths of the Catholic faith. *"Holy Communion is the shortest and safest way to Heaven."*



Saturday is the *Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary*, established by Pope Pius XII to honor Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth because of her unique participation in the saving work of her Son. Her royal dignity flows not from earthly power but from her perfect humility and faithful obedience, making her the model of every Christian disciple who desires to reign with Christ through loving service.

The First Readings this week are taken from Ezekiel 24:15-23; Ezekiel 28:1-10; Ezekiel 34:1-11; Ezekiel

36:23-28; Ezekiel 37:1-14; and Ezekiel 43:1-7ab. Through Ezekiel's prophetic ministry, God calls His people to reject pride, shepherd His flock with compassion, receive hearts made new by His Spirit, trust in His power to restore what seems lifeless, and rejoice as His glory once again dwells among His people. Together these readings proclaim that the Lord never abandons those who sincerely return to Him but continually renews and restores His faithful people.

Throughout this week's Gospel readings, Jesus reveals that entrance into His Kingdom is found through generous detachment, humble service, perseverance in faith, and wholehearted love of God and neighbor.

Monday's Gospel (Matthew 19:16-22) invites us to place Christ above every earthly possession as Jesus lovingly tells the rich young man, "Come, follow me." Tuesday's Gospel (Matthew 19:23-30) reminds us that salvation depends upon God's grace as Jesus assures His disciples, "For God all things are possible."



Wednesday's Gospel (Matthew 20:1-16) teaches that God's generosity exceeds human calculations as the landowner declares, *"Are you envious because I am generous?"* Thursday's Gospel (Matthew 22:1-14) calls us to accept God's invitation wholeheartedly, for *"Many are invited, but few are chosen."*

Friday's Gospel (Matthew 22:34-40) summarizes the Christian life in Christ's Great Commandment: *"You shall love the Lord, your God... and your neighbor as yourself."* On Saturday (using the regular weekday Gospel of Matthew 23:1-12), Jesus teaches that greatness is found not in seeking honor but in humble service, proclaiming, *"The greatest among you must be your servant."*

In the Gospel for the Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Matthew 16:13-20), Peter boldly professes his faith in Jesus, and the Lord entrusts him with the keys of the Kingdom, declaring, *"You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church."*



"O woman, great is your faith!"

Matthew 15:28



St. Raymond Church

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

DAILY PRAYER THIS WEEK

As we journey with Christ throughout this week, the Gospel invites us to grow in generous discipleship, unwavering faith, humble service, and wholehearted love of God and neighbor. May these daily reflections help us recognize the Lord's presence in ordinary moments and encourage us to respond each day with hearts renewed by His grace.

MONDAY – FOLLOWING CHRIST

"If you wish to be perfect, go, sell what you have... Then come, follow me." (Matthew 19:21). The rich young man reminds me that discipleship requires more than good intentions, it calls for a heart willing to place Christ above every earthly attachment. When I entrust my life completely to the Lord, I discover the lasting treasure that neither wealth nor success can provide.

My Prayer: Lord Jesus, free my heart from whatever keeps me from following You with complete trust and joyful generosity.

TUESDAY – TRUSTING GOD'S POWER



"For human beings this is impossible, but for God all things are possible." (Matthew 19:26). When life's burdens seem overwhelming or my own weaknesses discourage me, Jesus reminds me that God's grace is always greater than my limitations. Faith grows each time I place my confidence in His power rather than my own.

My Prayer: Heavenly Father, strengthen my faith to trust that You can accomplish far more than I could ever imagine.

WEDNESDAY – REJOICING IN GOD'S GENEROSITY

"Are you envious because I am generous?" (Matthew 20:15). God's love is never measured by human standards but is poured out with limitless mercy upon all who respond to His call. Rather than comparing my blessings with those of others, I am invited to rejoice in the goodness the Lord shows to every one of His children.

My Prayer: Jesus, give me a grateful heart that rejoices in Your goodness and delights in the blessings You generously bestow upon others.

THURSDAY – ACCEPTING THE INVITATION

"Many are invited, but few are chosen." (Matthew 22:14). The Lord continually invites me to the banquet of His Kingdom and desires that I respond with a heart prepared by faith, gratitude, and faithful living. Each day is another opportunity to accept His invitation and draw closer to Him.

My Prayer: Jesus, help me respond generously to Your invitation and prepare my heart each day to live as Your faithful disciple.

FRIDAY – THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT

"You shall love the Lord, your God... and your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37-39). Jesus reveals that every commandment finds its fulfillment in love. As I grow in love for God through prayer and worship, He strengthens me to love my family, friends, neighbors, and even those who are difficult to love.

My Prayer: Loving Father, fill my heart with Your love so that everything I say and do may reflect compassion of Christ.

SATURDAY – HUMBLE GREATNESS

"The greatest among you must be your servant." (Matthew 23:11). As we celebrate the Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we remember that Mary's queenship is the fruit of her complete humility and faithful obedience to God's will. Following her example, may I seek not recognition but the quiet joy of serving Christ and others with a generous heart.

My Prayer: Blessed Mother, Queen of Heaven, pray for me that I may imitate your humility and faithfully serve your Son each day.



St. Raymond's Human Life Committee

SPOTLIGHT ON RESPECTING LIFE UNTIL NATURAL DEATH

New York's Medical Aid in Dying Act (S.138/A.136) was signed into law by Governor Kathy Hochul on February 6, 2026, and took effect on August 5, 2026. The law permits certain terminally ill adults to request medication to end their own lives. While participation is voluntary, the law requires physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, pharmacists, hospitals, and other health care providers who decline to participate to arrange for the patient's transfer, a requirement many faith-based ministries believe still compels involvement despite religious or moral objections.

The Catholic Church teaches that every human life is a sacred gift from God and must be protected from conception until natural death. The Diocese of Rockville Centre has joined other Catholic dioceses, religious communities, and health care ministries in a federal lawsuit, arguing that portions of the law violate religious freedom by forcing Catholic providers to facilitate actions contrary to their faith. Rather than assisted suicide, the Church encourages compassionate care through hospice, palliative care, prayer, and loving accompaniment.

Here on Long Island, the Diocese of Rockville Centre's Office of Human Life, Family and Bioethics and Catholic Health's Palliative Care Program provide guidance, support, and resources for patients and families facing serious illness.

**FOR CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANCE, CONTACT
THE DIOCESE'S OFFICE OF HUMAN LIFE, FAMILY
AND BIOETHICS AT 516-678-5800, EXT. 381.**

No one should face serious illness alone. The Church stands ready to accompany every person and family with compassionate care, hope, and the healing love of Christ.



Drawn to Carmelite spirituality?
Inspired by Theresa of Avila, John of the
Cross, and Therese of Lisieux?
Do you desire to say yes to Our Lady to
follow her son Jesus in Community with
others?



*We invite you to consider the Lay Carmelite
Community at St. Christopher's in Baldwin.*

More information can be found at

www.laycarmelite.com

If interested, call Andrea Waldron TOC, Director
at 516-965-0970.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Lace Up to Support Our
Long Island Neighbors.
One Step at a Time.



Register Here

[SVDPLI.ORG](https://svdpli.org)

Saturday
September 26, 2026
Heckscher State Park
East Islip

CHECK IN: 9 AM

WALK START: 10 AM

**Please go to <https://svdpli.org/walk/>
or use the QR to register or donate
today. When you select "St.
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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FAITH FORMATION

Lucy Ostermann, Director



**OUR 2026/2027 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM IS IN NEED OF TWO MORE CATECHISTS FOR
THE FOLLOWING GRADES AND DAYS:**

5TH GRADE - 1 CATECHIST NEEDED – WEDNESDAYS 3:30PM-4:30PM

7TH GRADE - 1 CATECHIST NEEDED – MONDAYS 7PM-8PM

The Religious Education school year goes from September 28th, 2026 - April 21st, 2027. Please consider teaching one of these classes. An option to think about is team teaching - two teachers can split the year, alternate weeks or alternate months.

Whatever you decide to do so that the commitment is not overbearing. There is no Registration fee for Catechists. The teacher manuals are very user friendly and geared to adults who are not professional teachers. Please let us know if you are able to help us - our Ministry is one of extreme importance because it keeps our faith strong and alive for years to come.

Please contact the Religious Education office if you have any questions to help you with your decision.

Registration forms can be found on the Parish website. Please fill them out in their entirety and mail to the Religious Education office with full payment. Our address is: 263 Atlantic Ave., East Rockaway, NY 11518. Registration forms can be found on the Parish website. The forms can also be dropped off at the Rectory – simply put your paperwork in an envelope marked "Religious Education" along with payment and drop it in the mail slot. The mail slot goes into a locked box so payment will be secure. The registration process is ongoing throughout the summer. Registration fee for paperwork received after July 31st, 2026 goes to \$275.00.

LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR 2026/2027 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES IS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2026.



THE ROSE FOR LIFE

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Fr. Anthony Boateng
Menshah

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Mary Caffrey 516-887-2458



In the midst of summer fun and vacation, there are still people in need. This week, find ways to be at service to others. Perhaps you could donate some goods to your parish food pantry.

Ministry SPOTLIGHT

PRE-CANA

The Pre-Cana Ministry takes its name and inspiration from the Gospel of John, where Jesus performs His first public miracle at the wedding feast at Cana, turning water into wine. In this joyful moment, Our Lord reveals the beauty and sacredness of marriage, showing that the love shared between husband and wife reflects Christ's faithful love for His Church.

At St. Raymond's, the Pre-Cana Ministry is blessed to be supported by several faithful married couples, many of whom have served for more than 30 years. Their witness, wisdom and generosity have helped guide engaged couples as they prepare to enter into the Sacrament of Matrimony. We would warmly welcome additional married couples who feel called to share their faith and experience in this meaningful ministry.

Like many parish ministries, Pre-Cana has adapted in recent years, but it continues to be a vital and fruitful part of parish life. Typically, sessions are offered twice each year. The program begins with an opening presentation by Father Chuck in the rectory basement on the Sacraments and the vocation of marriage. Afterward, engaged couples meet in small groups with one or two married couples once a week for two hours over five weeks. The experience concludes with a closing Mass celebrating their completion of Pre-Cana and the beginning of their journey toward a Catholic marriage.

Throughout the sessions, couples reflect on important topics including the Sacraments, communication, family of origin, preparation for marriage, God and decision-making, finances, and obstacles they may encounter in married life. There is also time to discuss questions related to planning the wedding liturgy and preparing for the vocation of marriage.

Serving in Pre-Cana is not only a wonderful way to accompany engaged couples as they prepare for this sacred vocation, but also a blessing for the married couples in the ministry themselves. Many find that sharing their experiences and reflecting on the grace of the Sacrament of Matrimony strengthens and enriches their own marriages. It is also a ministry that does not require an extensive time commitment, making it a meaningful and manageable way to serve the parish.

If you believe in the sanctity of marriage and would like to help support couples as they prepare for a Christ-centered married life, please prayerfully consider joining this important ministry.



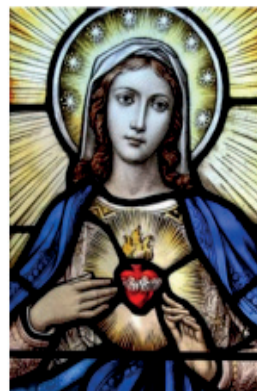
“Therefore what God has joined together,
let no one separate.”

MARK 10:9



Altar
Bread
& Wine

In Memory of
Mary Simeti
Love & Prayers
The Dolan Family



"In the end, my
Immaculate Heart
will triumph."

Blessed Mother at Fatima
July 13, 1917.

Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major-August 5
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary-August 15
Queenship of Mary-August 22

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



**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.

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**IN CELEBRATION OF THE SPECIAL JUBILEE YEAR OF
SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI DECLARED BY POPE LEO XIV:
An Instrument of Peace**

St. Francis in Italian Pre/Renaissance Art

**Saint Francis Receiving
the Stigmata**

Saint Francis Receiving the Stigmata is a panel painting in tempura and gold on wood by the Italian artist Giotto, painted around 1295–1300 for the Church of Saint Francis in Pisa. It is now in the Louvre Museum in Paris.



Giotto's St. Francis Receiving the Stigmata (c. 1317–1321), is a fresco in the Bardi Chapel of Santa Croce, Florence, highlighting the Saint's miraculous vision of Christ as a six-winged seraphim. It is part of a seven-scene cycle on St. Francis's life, Stories of St. Francis, 1317–1325, characterized by a clean-shaven Saint and dramatic rock-laden landscapes.



The Miracle of the Stigmata, fresco painted by Domenico Ghirlandaio between 1483 and 1485. It is located in the Sassetti Chapel of Santa Trinita in Florence. The background depicts an idealized view of the city of Pisa. This work is part of a larger cycle illustrating the life of the Saint.

About the artist: Domenico Ghirlandaio (1448-1494), was an Italian Renaissance painter born in Florence who led a large workshop through which many young apprentices passed, including a young Michelangelo. He was able to depict contemporary life and portraits within the context of religious tales, bringing him great popularity and many large commissions. Ghirlandaio also excelled in the painting of frescoes, and it is for his fresco cycles that he is best known.

FORMED

This week on **FORMED...**



Elements of the Catholic Mass is designed to help the faithful better appreciate the beauty of the Mass. Featuring Fr. Douglas Martis, former director of the Liturgical Institute, the program consists of thirty-one beautifully produced short videos. Because each episode comes with a discussion guide with references, Elements of the Catholic Mass is ideal for personal faith formation or group discussion.



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

FORMED

LINK TO REGISTER... IT'S FREE!

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, August 17th

7:15am Barbara Lenahan

8:45am John & Eileen Caffrey

Tuesday, August 18th

7:15am Joseph Ragusa

8:45am Mary Simeti

Wednesday, August 19th

7:15am Joseph Ferrara, Sr.

8:45am Luis Zambrano

Thursday, August 20th

St. Bernard

7:15am St. Raymond Parish

8:45am Mary Lynch

Friday, August 21st

St. Pius X

7:15am Edward Loretere

8:45am Jane & John Gilhooly

Saturday, August 22nd

Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:45am Brenda Mezzanotte

Ruth M. Drohan

Joyce & Ralph Sellitti (L)

5:00pm Francis Gallagher

Sunday, August 23rd

7:30am Barbara DeStefano

9:00am Paul Colantino

10:30am Edward DelGiorno

12:00pm Margaret Cantanno

Pola Cifrientez

Mary Lane

Patricia Nelson

Camille M. Tuite

Patrick Michael McManus

4:30pm St. Raymond Parish



REST IN PEACE

Brian McCarthy

Patricia Orzano

James Deschler

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



Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

Ezekiel 24:15-23/Matthew 19:16-22

Tuesday

Ezekiel 28:1-10/Matthew 19:23-30

Wednesday

Ezekiel 34:1-11/Matthew 20:1-16

Thursday

Ezekiel 36:23-28/Matthew 22:1-14

Friday

Ezekiel 37:1-14/Matthew 22:34-40

Saturday

Ezekiel 43:1-7ab/Matthew 23:1-12

Sunday

Isaiah 22:19-23/Romans 11:33-36

Matthew 16:13-20

ST. RAYMOND CHURCH

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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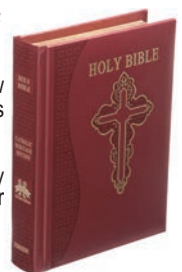
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