

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, March 8, 2026

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

*"If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts."*

-Psalm 95:1



March 8, 2026

Third 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 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

Julianne Grennen

Baby Faith Madison

Herb McIntyre

Mary Lynch

Anthony Campanile

Linda Dagostino

Baby Cooper Graham

Karen Pagnotta

Maureen Condiss

Jodi Neckles

Timothy Murphy

Jim Marasco

Lauren Greco

Christine I.

Eileen Roberts

Jeanne Swanson

Betty McHale

Rosemarie Lombardo

Eileen Appel

Elaine & Eddie Corrado

Dianna Viglieta

Nick S.

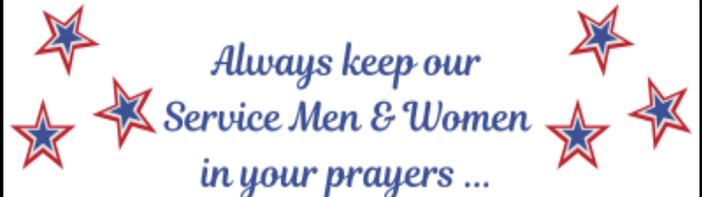
Sally Perry

Rosemarie Salabini

Caroline Saporito

Connie Montesino

(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.



Father Chuck's Corner

Greetings and God's blessings be yours on the Third Sunday of Lent! The readings this Sunday invite us to grapple with the times we may feel spiritually dry and question God's providence. In the first reading from Exodus, the people are complaining to Moses about being stranded in the desert. They feel they will all die of thirst. When Moses conveys the people's frustration to God, he is told to strike a certain rock with his staff and water will flow forth for the people and their livestock. The Israelites were testing God saying, **"Is the Lord in our midst or not."** Then, in the second reading from his Letter to the Romans, Paul encourages the people to remain steadfast in their faith for God will not leave them. **"And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."** And finally in Matthew's gospel about the **"Woman at the Well"** we see Jesus offering a Samaritan woman the **"living water"** of salvation. His water will satisfy her spiritual thirst and lead her and all believers to eternal life. **"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up into eternal life."**

It is easy going through life relying mostly on what we can see and touch. Things seem more **"real"** than spiritual things, than things we can't always wrap our minds around, more real than the things we are asked to believe in faith. When one is hungry, food sounds more important than God. When you are sick, getting well sounds more important than God. When you're in danger, getting to safety sounds way more important than God. And when you haven't any money, getting a job sounds way more important than God. And even when you are lonely, making a friend sounds way more important than God. You know, they sort of are, because pursuing those things don't have to take the place of God. They are not in competition with God. Probably doing those things is what God wants, a way to cooperate with his grace. Even in the gospel, Jesus took a drink of water before saying anything else. Being faithful doesn't mean we can't pursue things that make us happy and certainly doesn't mean we can't do things to try to soothe our pain or our sorrow or our disappointment.



But what they aren't supposed to do is get in the way of going to the well. They shouldn't get in the way of our journey into holiness, get in the way of our relationship with Jesus who is the only one who can guarantee us anything. And he does guarantee us love, compassion, understanding, mercy, forgiveness, and ultimately, salvation. Even joy, peace, happiness, meaning and hope and every good thing can only come about through the grace of God who is all of those things. So, think about what you want and then what you need and then be sure you want God above all these things. For in the end, God is really all we need.

Our **"Giving, Not Giving Up.....It's a Lenten Thing"** program began this Sunday. Parishioners were asked to bring **"toiletory items"** to Mass and place them in front of the altar. Thank you for doing so. These items are a great help for Parish Social Ministry in assisting those they serve. Next week we are asking you to bring some **"gift cards"** to Mass. The list of requested gift cards is found in the bulletin. Please help out if you can.

This coming Thursday evening, March 12th will be the next **Lenten Holy Hour** for the Third Week of Lent. Come and spend this time in Eucharistic Adoration reflecting on your Lenten journey thus far. Also, our Lenten series, **"Understanding the Mass,"** continues this Wednesday evening at 7pm in the school cafeteria.

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 additional note is news and needs from **Parish Social Ministry**, info from **Religious Education** (Faith Formation), an invitation to the **"St. Patrick's Celebration,"** Saturday, March 21st. as well as an order form for the **"Pot of Gold 50/50,"** 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 copy of the bulletin at home each week.

Have a great Third Week of Lent. **Pray, sacrifice and share your Lenten smile with others. Plus remember: No matter what you face in life, don't let go of God's hand.** God bless always.
Father Chuck

WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

MARCH 8, 2026—THIRD 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 8, 2026—THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST READING

Exodus 17:3-7

In those days, in their thirst for water, the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "Why did you ever make us leave Egypt? Was it just to have us die here of thirst with our children and our livestock?" So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? a little more and they will stone me!" The LORD answered Moses, "Go over there in front of the people, along with some of the elders of Israel, holding in your hand, as you go, the staff with which you struck the river. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock in Horeb. Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it for the people to drink." This Moses did, in the presence of the elders of Israel. The place was called Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled there and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD in our midst or not?"

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD; let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us. For he is our God, and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. Oh, that today you would hear his voice: "Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the desert, Where your fathers tempted me; they tested me though they had seen my works."

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

SECOND READING

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Brothers and sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God. And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

GOSPEL

John 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?"—For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.—Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.'" The woman said to him, "Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep; where then can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water. "I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain; but you people say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You people worship what you do not understand; we worship what we understand, because salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; and indeed the Father seeks such people to worship him. God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one called the Christ; when he comes, he will tell us everything." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking with you." Many of the Samaritans of that town began to believe in him. When the Samaritans came to him, they invited him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. Many more began to believe in him because of his word, and they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the savior of the world."

ST. RAYMOND CHURCH
HOLY HOUR

Preparation for Lent Evening



FEBRUARY 23RD • MARCH 2ND

MARCH 12 • MARCH 16TH • MARCH 24TH

7:00PM - 8:00PM

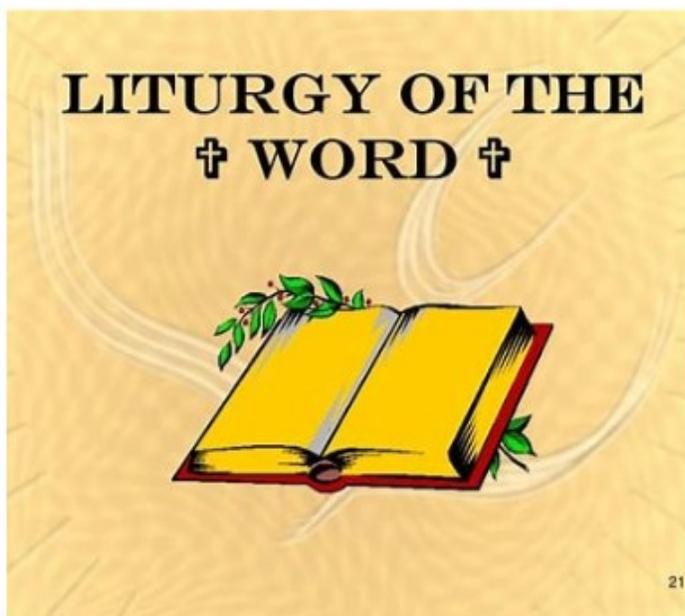
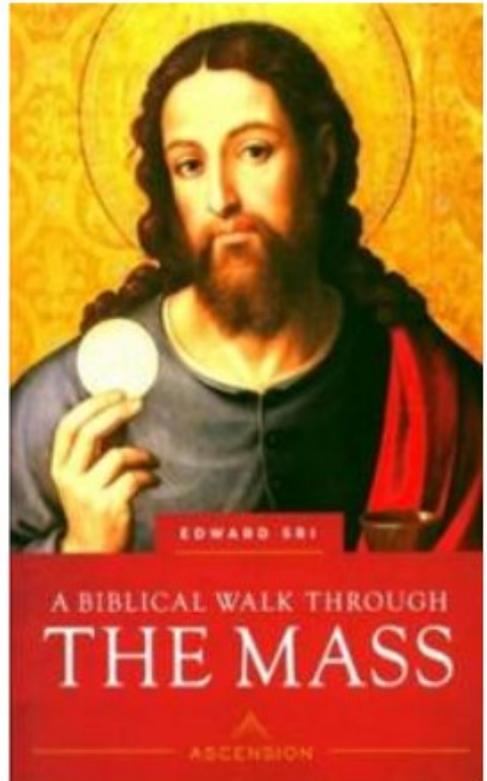
✦ *Exposition • Reflection • Music • Benediction*

St Raymond's Lenten Series

Understanding The Mass

SESSION 2 OVERVIEW: THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

The Introductory Rites gather the people of God and prepare them to enter sacred worship. Through the Sign of the Cross, Penitential Act, Gloria and Collect, the faithful acknowledge God's presence, confess their sins and are disposed to hear His Word worthily.



SESSION 3
March 11th, 7 pm in
School Cafeteria:
Liturgy of the Word
Read Chapters 7-13
*A Biblical Walk
Through the Mass,*
by Edward Sri

"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 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 8th TOILETRIES
Deodorant, Shaving Cream, Razors, etc.



March 15th SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS
King Kullen, Stop & Shop, Lidl



March 22nd BABY ITEMS
Diapers - Sizes 1 - 6, Baby Wipes,
Baby Shampoo, etc.



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.



Sacrament of Reconciliation

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



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

JOIN US FOR A VERY SPECIAL

LENTEN PRESENTATION

Featuring
Lay Franciscan, Catholic Recording Artist
and Retreat Master

AL BARBARINO

Al will be singing and sharing a
very special Lenten Reflection:

LENT=
REPENT & ETERNAL LIFE



THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

7PM ROSARY - 7:30PM LENTEN PRESENTATION

ST. RAYMOND CATHOLIC CHURCH

263 ATLANTIC AVE, EAST ROCKAWAY, NY 11518

Al Barbarino Recordings will be available.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FAITH FORMATION

Lucy Ostermann, Director



ATTENTION 2ND GRADE PARENTS

All 2nd grade students along with their parent(s) are to attend a First Holy Communion retreat on Saturday, March 7th 2026 at 2:30pm in the auditorium. The retreat will last 2 hours. After the retreat, all are to attend the 5pm Mass.



BOYS' VALENTINE DANCE

What a wonderful evening was had by all who attended our Boys' Sweetheart Valentine Dance last Saturday 2/28/2026. Though it was a small group, the boys and their escorts had a lot of fun. This event was made possible by the hard work of our coordinators, Mrs. Joanna Agnello & Mrs. Laura MacLeish ably assisted by Ms. Erin McCadden-Grey. None of our special events could happen without the dedication of these women.

Not only do they 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.

5TH & 6TH GRADE CONFESSION – WEEK OF 3/9/2026

Our 5th & 6th Grade Religious Education students will be attending confession on the following dates:

MONDAY STUDENTS 3:30PM-4:30PM 3/9/2026

TUESDAY STUDENTS 3:30PM-4:30PM 3/10/2026

WEDNESDAY STUDENTS 3:30PM-4:30PM 3/11/2026



- TEACHERS & STUDENTS- PLEASE GO DIRECTLY TO THE CHURCH FOR CONFESSION ON YOUR ASSIGNED DATE. TEACHERS' FOLDERS WILL BE IN THE CHURCH FOR THE TEACHERS TO TAKE ATTENDANCE.
- PLEASE TRY TO ARRIVE 5 MINUTES EARLIER. INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS MAY TAKE A LITTLE TIME SO PROMPTNESS BEFORE THE ACTUAL CONFESSIONS IS IMPORTANT.
- THE CHILDREN DO NOT NEED TO BRING THEIR RELIGION BOOKS TO THE CHURCH.
- THE CHILDREN WILL BE DISMISSED FROM THE FRONT OF THE SCHOOL NOT THE CHURCH.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS BY TEENS – TUESDAY 3/10/2026

Our 7th & 8th grade students will participate in a Stations of the Cross by Teens on Tuesday, March 10th, 2026 at 7:30pm in the Church. This presentation is quite moving as it goes through the events of each Station as seen through the eyes of a teenager. It also gives our Blessed Mother's thoughts as she watches her son suffer so greatly. Rehearsal for students either reading or carrying up a symbol is scheduled for Monday, March 9th, 2026 from 7pm-8:30pm in the Church. All students along with a parent are asked to attend the presentation on Tuesday 3/10. A reflection paper is due in class from each student either Monday 3/16 or Tuesday 3/17.

All parishioners are invited to attend!!



FIRST GRADE MASS









**THE THIRD SUNDAY
OF LENT
WEEKLY GUIDE FOR
PERSONAL PRAYER**



Come & See

Until you do, you will
never know

SUMMARY OF THE READINGS FOR THE WEEK



For the Third Sunday of Lent, the Gospel from John 4:5–42 recounts Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well, where He gently draws her from misunderstanding to faith by revealing Himself as the source of divine life. Jesus declares, *"Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst"* (John 4:14), and invites the woman as well as all of us to recognize our deepest thirst and to allow Him to satisfy it with the living water of grace.

Monday is the Optional Memorial of Saint Frances of Rome (Laywoman, wife, and later religious), who was known for her deep prayer life and charitable service to the poor of Rome. By honoring Saint Frances of Rome during Lent, the Church highlights the spiritual trait of faithful perseverance in ordinary duties united with contemplative prayer, teaching us that holiness flourishes in both family life and generous service. Her witness reminds us that even amid worldly responsibilities, a heart fixed on Christ becomes a wellspring of mercy for others.

This week the First Readings come from 2 Kings 5:1–15ab; Daniel 3:25, 34–43; Deuteronomy 4:1, 5–9; Jeremiah 7:23–28; Hosea 14:2–10; and Hosea 6:1–6. These readings present a consistent Lenten call to humility, obedience, repentance, and steadfast love. From Naaman's cleansing through simple obedience, to the prayer of Azariah in the furnace, to Moses' exhortation to keep God's statutes, to the prophetic pleas of Jeremiah and Hosea for sincere return of heart, the message is clear: God desires faithful love and a people who listen to His voice.

The Gospels for the Third Week of Lent stress the need for our conversion of heart expressed through mercy, humility, and trust in God's saving plan. Each Gospel gently but firmly invites us to examine our pride, extend forgiveness, and return to the Father who never tires of welcoming us.

For Monday and Tuesday, the Gospels are taken from Luke 4:24–30 and Matthew 18:21–35, respectively. On Monday, Jesus is rejected in Nazareth, declaring, *"No prophet is accepted in his own native place,"* revealing how familiarity can harden hearts against grace. On Tuesday, in the parable of the unforgiving servant, He commands radical mercy, teaching that forgiveness must be extended *"seventy-seven times,"* as we ourselves have been forgiven.

For Wednesday and Thursday, the Gospels are taken from Matthew 5:17–19 and Luke 11:14–23, respectively. On Wednesday, Jesus affirms the enduring meaning of the law, saying, *"I have come not to abolish but to fulfill,"* calling us to interior fidelity rather than mere external compliance. On Thursday, after casting out a demon, He warns, *"Whoever is not with me is against me,"* urging a decisive commitment to Him.

For Friday and Saturday, the Gospels are taken from Mark 12:28–34 and Luke 18:9–14, respectively. On Friday, Jesus proclaims the greatest commandment: *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,"* uniting love of God and neighbor as the heart of discipleship. On Saturday, in the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector, the humble plea *"O God, be merciful to me a sinner,"* reveals that contrition, not self-righteousness, opens the door to justification.

For the Fourth Sunday of Lent, the Gospel is taken from John 9:1–41. Jesus heals the man born blind and proclaims, *"I am the light of the world,"* revealing that true sight comes through faith in Him and that spiritual blindness is healed when we courageously step into His light.



*“If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.”
-Psalm 95:7-8*



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

DAILY PRAYER THIS WEEK

For the Third Week of Lent, our journey takes us from the well of living water to the humble plea for mercy. I am from thirst to transformation, through humility, forgiveness, and wholehearted love. In every encounter, whether it be at home, at work, and in prayer, Christ invites me to return to Him with sincerity so that my heart may be renewed and my life reflect His mercy.

MONDAY – PERSEVERANCE AMID REJECTION

“No prophet is accepted in his own native place” (Luke 4:24). When my efforts at home or work are misunderstood or unappreciated, I can remember that even Christ faced rejection, yet He remained faithful to His mission. Instead of discouragement, I am invited to respond with quiet perseverance and trust in God’s greater purpose.



My Prayer: Lord, strengthen me to remain faithful when my efforts go unseen or unrecognized.

TUESDAY – BOUNDLESS FORGIVENESS

“I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times” (Matthew 18:22). In family life and professional relationships, small grievances can accumulate, yet Jesus calls me to forgive generously as I have been forgiven. True freedom comes not from keeping score but from releasing resentment into God’s mercy.

My Prayer: Lord, enlarge my heart so I may forgive quickly and completely.

WEDNESDAY – FULFILLMENT OF THE LAW

“I have come not to abolish but to fulfill” (Matthew 5:17). Jesus reminds me that faith is not about minimal obligation but about allowing God’s commandments to shape my heart from within, guiding how I speak, decide, and act throughout busy days. In my responsibilities at work and within my family, I am called to live with integrity that reflects not just external compliance but interior love of God’s will.

My Prayer: Lord, help me to embrace Your law not as a burden but as a path to deeper love and faithfulness.

THURSDAY – DECISIVE COMMITMENT

“Whoever is not with me is against me” (Luke 11:23). When Jesus casts out a demon and confronts disbelief, He challenges me to examine whether I am fully aligned with Him or drifting into spiritual complacency. Amid competing priorities and distractions, I must consciously choose Christ in both small and significant decisions.

My Prayer: Lord, strengthen my resolve to stand firmly with You in all I do.

FRIDAY – GREATEST COMMANDMENT

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart” (Mark 12:30). Jesus teaches that authentic discipleship begins with wholehearted love of God, which naturally flows into love of neighbor in concrete acts of patience, generosity, and respect. In my daily interactions, this commandment calls me to make love, not efficiency or recognition, the true measure of my success.

My Prayer: Lord, teach me to love You above all things and to reflect that love in every relationship.

SATURDAY – HUMBLE REPENTANCE

“O God, be merciful to me a sinner” (Luke 18:13). The tax collector’s simple prayer reveals that humility, not self-justification, opens the heart to God’s transforming grace. When I honestly acknowledge my weaknesses, I discover that God’s mercy restores my peace and renews my strength to begin again.

My Prayer: Lord, grant me a humble and contrite heart that trusts completely in Your mercy.

HERE'S YOUR INVITATION TO THE
**ST. PATRICK'S
CELEBRATION**

FROM THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Come enjoy the rich Irish traditions,
complete dinner, Irish music
(by The McSwitch),**

**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 21, 2026 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

U Pot of Gold 50/50

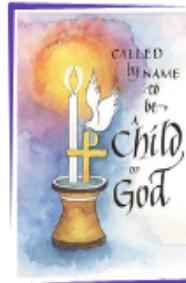
There will be a special "Pot of Gold 50/50" that will be held on Saturday, March 21st. This "pot" has no lid so the "sky's the limit." The winning ticket will be pulled at the St. Patrick's Celebration, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus on the 21st. The "Pot of Gold" tickets are always available and 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 21st.

Tickets are also available for purchase at the rectory during regular office hours. 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!"



God Bless Our Newly Baptized

- Raymond Peter Schaeffner, 7U*
- Luke James Felbinger*
- Michael Joseph Arm*
- Joaquinn Chilio Casimir*
- Vincent Kevin Picconi*
- Mila Valentina Fini*
- Juliana Maria Ryan*
- Grace Maria Anastasio*
- Nicholas Joseph Troiani*
- Egidio William Stuck*



MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." – Matthew 5:4

Our parish's Bereavement Support Group offers a supportive, peer-based space for those who are grieving after the death of someone dear. The group brings together individuals who share the common experience of grief and provides a safe, confidential environment where participants may talk, listen, and reflect alongside others who understand.

Our Bereavement Support Group meets in small groups and is gently facilitated to encourage respectful conversation, mutual support, and shared experience. This is not therapy, but a place to connect with others, speak openly about grief, and find comfort in knowing you are not alone.

The group usually welcomes participants after the initial four months following a death and honors each person's journey and pace. Through shared stories and thoughtful reflection, participants are encouraged to remember those who have died, acknowledge the impact of grief, and move forward with understanding and support from the community.

We meet in the fall and spring, on Thursday evenings for six consecutive weeks in our parish school cafeteria.

All who are grieving are welcome.

"Grief is the price we pay for love."

"Those we love do not leave us; they live on in our hearts and memories."

St. Raymond's Bereavement Ministry

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



Six Sessions beginning Thursday April 23, 2026 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: _____



“Whenever hate or exasperation seizes you, think of the love of St. Joseph, who was the first man to set his eyes on the human face of God”.
Pope Benedict XVI
Feast of Saint Joseph
– March 19th

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 Federal Credit Union Supports 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

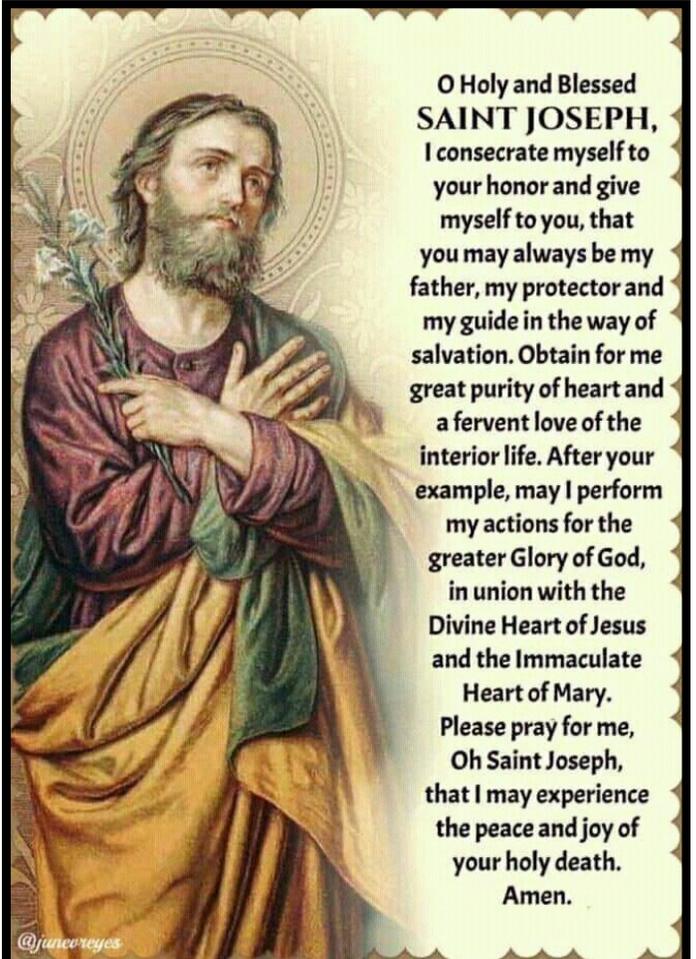
visit their website at: www.oceanfinancial.org.

“Each of us can discover in Joseph—the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence—an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble.”

Patris corde



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O Holy and Blessed
SAINT JOSEPH,
 I consecrate myself to
 your honor and give
 myself to you, that
 you may always be my
 father, my protector and
 my guide in the way of
 salvation. Obtain for me
 great purity of heart and
 a fervent love of the
 interior life. After your
 example, may I perform
 my actions for the
 greater Glory of God,
 in union with the
 Divine Heart of Jesus
 and the Immaculate
 Heart of Mary.
 Please pray for me,
 Oh Saint Joseph,
 that I may experience
 the peace and joy of
 your holy death.
 Amen.

@juncoreyes

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*

"GIVINGNOT GIVING UP"

St. Raymond's Food Pantry clientele is constantly 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 parishioners to donate items at each of the Masses to assist the Parish Social Ministry in meeting the needs of the people they serve. Thank you Father Chuck for your continued support.

Here are the scheduled dates and items needed.

MARCH 8th TOILETRIES - Deodorant, Shaving Cream, Razors, Shampoo, Conditioner
MARCH 15th SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS - Stop and Shop, King Kullen and Lidl
MARCH 22nd BABY ITEMS - Diapers --sizes 1 to 6, Baby Wipes, Baby Shampoo

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 as your only source of income, please call our office and we can assist you with food.

Pantry items still needed: Baked Beans, Pasta Sauce, Grape Jelly, Peanut Butter, Canned Fruit, Ketchup, Cold Cereal, Coffee, Black Tea, Pancake Mix and Syrup.

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!



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

LANGUAGE OF ILLUSION

Do you remember the euphemisms the pro-abortionists used to promote abortion - a necessity and, eventually, a "right" for women? Remember? "It's not a baby, it's just tissue", "terminate a pregnancy", and the so-called democratic phrase "choice". All those phrases were used to hide the truth about abortion. Now the pro-death culture in New York State has struck again. On Feb. 6th, Gov. Hochul made good on her promise and signed into law the "Medical Aid in Dying" bill. In announcing her reasoning, she said, "New Yorkers deserve the choice, not by shortening their lives, but by shortening their deaths - I firmly believe we made the rights decision." There's that democratic sounding word again - "choice". And how does one "shorten a person's death"? That's the same language of illusion the pro-abortionists used with abortion - "choice" and "terminate a pregnancy". After over 50 years of abortion, we know that most women who had abortions did not feel like they had a "choice" but were coerced into having it. And, since 1973, over 60 million babies in utero have been killed by abortion. Let us not be tricked again. Physician-assisted suicide shortens a person's life by killing that person through administering deadly medication. The American Medical Assn. is strongly opposed to physician-assisted suicide. "Respect for life does not demand that we attempt to prolong life by using medical treatment that is ineffective of unduly burdensome. At the same time, intentionally hastening death - whether through drugs or deliberate neglect of basic care - offends our God-given dignity and is never permissible." (USCCB 2025)

Like abortion, physician-assisted suicide is not a right but a grave wrong!



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Edward J. McColgan,
Gerald Marx, Robert J. Monahan
and Jean Sheehan**
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**We are called to bring others
to Him. When Jesus spoke to
the woman at the well and
revealed to her the wrongness
of her ways, she believed
Him to be the Christ and
brought her people to Him.**



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



The Sodality of Our Lady

The Sodality of Our Lady invites you to join us for Corporate Communion on Sunday, March 15th, at the 10:30 am Mass.

All are welcome to sit with us in the marked pews. On Monday evening, March 16th, our monthly meeting will also be our St. Patrick's/St. Joseph's Day celebration in the school cafeteria.

Doors open at 7pm, meeting starts at 7:30, followed by our double celebration of goodies and fun!



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

FOUNDED IN 1833, THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL IS A WORLDWIDE ORGANIZATION OF LAY CATHOLICS, FOLLOWING CHRIST'S CALL TO SERVE THE POOR, THE SUFFERING, AND THE DEPRIVED. OUR FOUNDING ACTIVITY, STILL PRACTICED TODAY, IS THE HOME VISIT. THROUGH THESE VISITS, VINCENSIAN MEMBERS ESTABLISH PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED. WHERE RESOURCES ALLOW WE CAN PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED AND OR LEAD THEM TO OTHER RESOURCES WHERE THEY MAY BE ABLE TO OBTAIN THE HELP THEY REQUIRE.

ST. RAYMOND PARISH

HAS HAD AN ACTIVE CHAPTER (KNOWN AS A "CONFERENCE") OF THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOR DECADES AND INVITES ALL WHO WISH TO HELP NEIGHBORS IN NEED.

PLEASE CALL ED AT 887-9325

JOIN THE FOLK GROUP!

A MINISTRY OF MUSIC, FAITH & COMMUNITY

Do you love music and want to be part of something joyful and meaningful? The Folk Group offers a fun, modern take on traditional church music,

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU WITH US!

We're a welcoming group of people who come together to share music, faith, and friendship. While some of us play instruments or have formal training, it's not required. What connects us is our shared love of music, community, and worship. Whether you sing, play, or just want to be part of a faith-filled musical group,

YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN!

Open to anyone from 7th grade and up—no upper age limit!

 Rehearsals: Sundays at 11:00 AM

 Location: Rectory Lower Level

 We sing at the 12 Noon Sunday Mass

Interested? We'd love to hear from you!

 Call Nadine Robinson at 516-784-6775

 Or email: straymondsfolkgroup@gmail.com

Come make a joyful noise with us!





“Dear friends, let us ask for the grace of a Lent that leads us to greater attentiveness to God and to the least among us...”
- Pope Leo XIV

Dear Friends:

During the special Lenten season, please allow me to share a special request with you. If you have never contributed to the Catholic Ministries Appeal, or if you haven't contributed in a number of years, please consider making this the year that you join with me and other members of our Parish family to make a donation to the 2026 Appeal.

As you may already be aware, 100% of all the money raised is used to support the ministries of the Appeal that serve more than 600,000 people each year, and our parish shares in the money raised to use for our own local needs.

These programs include services to people in need; affordable housing for senior citizens; people with disabilities and our veterans; respect life initiatives; and formation of our priests, deacons, lay leaders, and young people. These are just a few of the programs that help make our church and this Island a vibrant and wonderful place to live.

But to help ensure that we can always serve those who come to us for aid, support and spiritual guidance, we need help from you!

If 100 of our parishioners who have not supported us in the recent past made a \$25 contribution this year – think about how many more people we could help! If that amount is more than you can manage, consider \$5 or \$10. Every gift counts and makes a difference in the lives of others! THANK YOU!!

Please make check payable to the Catholic Ministries Appeal

Name: _____
 Parish: _____
 Address: _____
 City, State _____
 Zip Code: _____
 Telephone number: _____
 Home _____
 Cell: _____
 Signature: _____

**To make a donation, you can also visit <https://www.drvc.org/CMA/or>
 call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296.
 Thank You!**

FORMED

This week on **FORMED...**



Why do we fast during Lent? Does anybody really like fasting?

Fasting can feel like a hard Catholic diet. Is there more to it? In this episode, we will dive into how this physical act of penance deepens our spiritual lives and learn what our sacrifices should be motivated by.



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

FORMED

LINK TO REGISTER... IT'S FREE!

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, March 9th

7:15am Paul & Audrey Heinzl

8:45am Terese L. Campbell

12:15pm Juliette Fleming

Tuesday, March 10th

7:15am Helene Mimnaugh

8:45am Scanlon & Brandon Families

12:15pm Carmela Zizzo

Wednesday, March 11th

7:15am Kathleen & Seamus Ryder

8:45am Holy Souls in Purgatory

12:15pm Domenica Cuscino

Thursday, March 12th

7:15am Maureen & David Ohlsen, Sr.

8:45am Holy Souls in Purgatory

12:15pm Ronald Murdza

Friday, March 13th

7:15am St. Raymond Parish

8:45am Holy Souls in Purgatory

12:15pm St. Raymond Parish

Saturday, March 14th

8:45am Executive New York Bank for Saving

Joseph Ninivaggi

Dorothy Smith

Gail Larson

5:00pm Kathleen Venis

Sunday, March 15th

7:30am Paul Dengel

9:00am Carol Fitzgerald

10:30am Sodality

12:00pm Carrie Rossi, Mario Rinaldi

Mark Dejak, Catherine Carfora

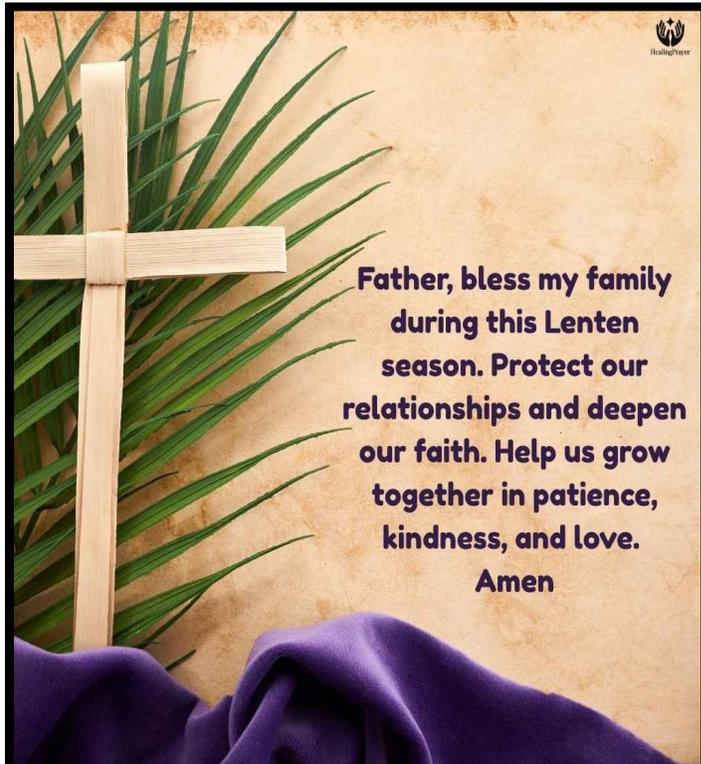
Mario P. Garcia, Barbara Schaefer

Patrick Michael McManus

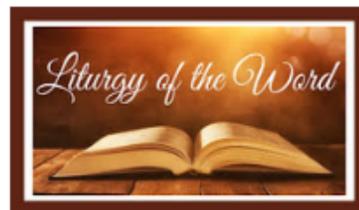
Mario P. Garcia

Imelda Milliken

4:30pm St. Raymond Parish



Father, bless my family during this Lenten season. Protect our relationships and deepen our faith. Help us grow together in patience, kindness, and love.
Amen



Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

2 Kings 5:1-15ab/Luke 4:24-30

Tuesday

Daniel 3:25, 34-43/Matthew 18:21-35

Wednesday

Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9/Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday

Jeremiah 7:23-28/Luke 11:14-23

Friday

Hosea 14:2-10/Mark 12:28-34

Saturday

Hosea 6:1-6/Luke 18:9-14

Sunday

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Ephesians 5:8-14/John 9:1-41

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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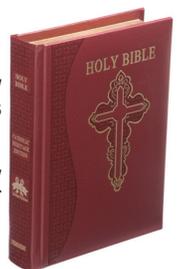
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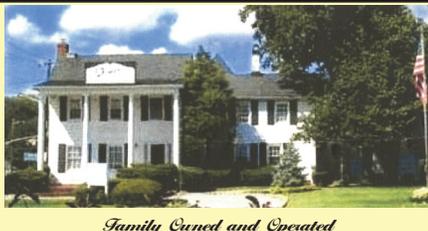
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