

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, October 19, 2025

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

"But when the Son of Man comes, will
he find faith on earth?" -Luke: 18:8



29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 19, 2025

Welcome To Our Parish Family!

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

Rectory

Office Hours are Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm;
Saturdays from 9:30am-4pm. Sundays 9am-5pm

Web Site: www.SaintRaymonds.org

Facebook: St. Raymond Parish, East Rockaway

E-Mail: StRayRcc@optonline.net

Rectory.....593-5000

Rectory Fax.....887-0554

Parish Social Ministry.....887-9197

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

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

Religious Education Office.....593-9075

Religious Education Office Fax593-1156

E-Mail: strayfaithformation@aol.com

Pastoral Care Of The Sick

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

Devotions

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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

Nocturnal Adoration

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

Miraculous Medal Novena

Saturdays following 8:45am Mass.

Confessions

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

Baptisms

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

Bereavement Support Group

Call the rectory office for meeting times.

Marriages

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

Prayer Groups

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

Music Ministries

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

Folk Group: Sings at 12 Noon Mass on Sundays from September—June; practice on Sunday at 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

Mary Lynch

Linda Dagostino

Karen Pagnotta

Jodi Neckles

Diane Minucci

Billy (Tri-Cycle)

Jim Marasco

Christine I.

Jeanne Swanson

Nick S.

Gerry Peknic

Rosemarie Lombardo

Loretta Broughal

Julianne Grennen

Herb McIntyre

Anthony Campanile

Baby Cooper Graham

Maureen Condiss

Timothy Murphy

Elizabeth Lacchini

Maureen McCarthy

Maureen Ohlsen

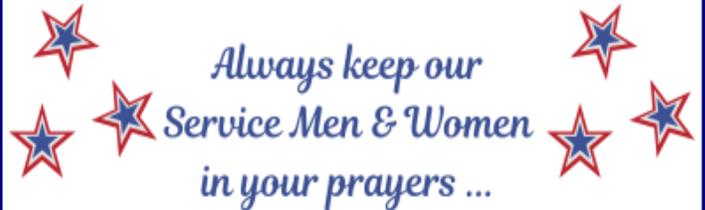
Lauren Greco

Eileen Roberts

Dianna Viglietta

Betty McHale

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



LC Alex James Cooper US MARINE CORPS

LC Dean Thomas Cooper US MARINE CORPS

Lt. Col. Mary P. King , M.D., US ARMY

Commander Joseph Garbitelli US NAVY

Sgt. Thomas Stanley Golebiewski USMC

Staff Sgt. Emily Golebiewski US AIRFORCE

Staff /Sgt. Matthew R. Hines - US ARMY

LC Connor Thomas McHale US MARINE CORPS

Commander Joseph Leahy US NAVY

Sgt. Bryan Petriccione US ARMY -Cavalry Unit

Lt. Joseph Woloszyn US NAVY

TSGT Curt Abdool US AIRFORCE

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR OUR
WOUNDED SOLDIERS.**



Greetings and God's blessings be yours on the Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The theme of this Sunday's readings is that God is always faithful and responds to our deepest needs. In the first reading from Exodus, we see how trusting in God leads to experiencing his faithfulness. Moses tells Joshua to do battle with Amalek, and he will watch from a hill with the staff of God in his hand as a sign of faith. ***"I will be standing on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand."*** Then in the second reading from 2 Timothy, Paul encourages the people to remain faithful to what they have learned from the scriptures, which gives them wisdom in their faith salvation in Jesus Christ. ***"All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reformation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work."*** And finally in Luke's gospel, Jesus emphasizes that God will not fail to answer our pleas if we ask him where our deepest needs lie. Like the judge who answers the widow because of her persistence, God too will favorably look upon those who call out to him day and night. ***"Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them? I tell you; he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily."***

We all wish that we were always good at getting our way, good at influencing people and getting them to do what we want them to do. Some people are good at this, but most of us aren't. The power of persuasion can be a very useful thing. But does it work with God? Is God really like the judge in today's gospel? Just keep nagging him and we get our way? There really is no comparison between God and this judge. God is actually more like the people who can't be manipulated, tricked or persuaded to do anything they don't want to do. We can't trick God. We can't get him to do something he doesn't want to do, or that isn't good for us, or contrary to who he is. But you know, there is a little part of us that wants to try anyway. Maybe God will change his mind or pay more attention to us. However, God doesn't work this way, which is pretty obvious. But Jesus then does say: ***"Will not God secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night?"***

Jesus doesn't say there is no point in asking. Rather he says we should continually make our needs and thoughts and hopes and fears and every other thing in our hearts known to our loving God. Our persistence will not make God different, but it can make us different. By remaining totally dependent on God we become aware that God is the only one who has our best interests at heart. He's the only one who knows us and loves us completely. Our prayers of petition keep us in right relationship with God and one another. It is our persistence and humble, faithful hearts that helps us open ourselves up to every good thing God wants for us. So, keep asking, seeking and knocking, because this is who you are, and understand that only God can bring about changes in us and the world.

This week I received a check for **\$500** from the Ocean Financial Credit Union as part of their parish revenue sharing program. Every quarter we receive a check based on the members from our parish that have an Ocean Financial Visa or Debit Card. To date we have received **\$37,195** as part of this program over the past 15+ years. The more members who use a Visa Credit or Debit card, the more money will be donated to our parish. Think about it. I did and I do.

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), 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 for quick and easy reference.

Have a great week! ***Smile , share, keep asking, seeking and knocking. Plus remember: Setbacks pave the way for comebacks.***

God bless always.

Father Chuck



WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

OCTOBER 19, 2025—29TH 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

OCTOBER 19, 2025—29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING

Exodus 17:8-13

In those days, Amalek came and waged war against Israel. Moses, therefore, said to Joshua, "Pick out certain men, and tomorrow go out and engage Amalek in battle. I will be standing on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand." So Joshua did as Moses told him: he engaged Amalek in battle after Moses had climbed to the top of the hill with Aaron and Hur. As long as Moses kept his hands raised up, Israel had the better of the fight, but when he let his hands rest, Amalek had the better of the fight. Moses' hands, however, grew tired; so they put a rock in place for him to sit on. Meanwhile Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side and one on the other, so that his hands remained steady till sunset. And Joshua mowed down Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

I lift up my eyes toward the mountains; whence shall help come to me? My help is from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

May he not suffer your foot to slip; may he slumber not who guards you: indeed he neither slumbers nor sleeps, the guardian of Israel.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

The LORD is your guardian; the LORD is your shade; he is beside you at your right hand. The sun shall not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

The LORD will guard you from all evil; he will guard your life. The LORD will guard your coming and your going, both now and forever.

R. Our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 3:14-4:2

Beloved: Remain faithful to what you have learned and believed, because you know from whom you learned it, and that from infancy you have known the sacred Scriptures, which are capable of giving you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for refutation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that one who belongs to God may be competent, equipped for every good work. I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching.

ALLELUIA

Hebrews 4:12

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The word of God is living and effective, discerning reflections and thoughts of the heart.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

Luke 18:1-8

Jesus told his disciples a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary. He said, "There was a judge in a certain town who neither feared God nor respected any human being. And a widow in that town used to come to him and say, 'Render a just decision for me against my adversary.' For a long time the judge was unwilling, but eventually he thought, 'While it is true that I neither fear God nor respect any human being, because this widow keeps bothering me I shall deliver a just decision for her lest she finally come and strike me.'" The Lord said, "Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says. Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? Will he be slow to answer them? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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!



St. Raymond's Parish Social Ministry

The Ryan House

"The Heart of the Parish"

12 Roosevelt Avenue, Lynbrook, NY 11563

516-887-9197



FOOD PANTRY HOURS OF OPERATION

MONDAY THRU WEDNESDAY FROM

10AM TO 3PM

(Suggested to call for an appointment)

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

During the month of September, the Parish Social Ministry assisted 95 households with food, personal care and household items and advised the clients regarding other services offered through the Department of Social Services, Catholic Charities and St. Vincent DePaul. We also welcomed two new clients and provided them with food and advised them of other services available to them.

Food assistance is available to 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 sole source of income, please contact the Parish Social Ministry and we can help you with food.

PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED

PASTA OR RICE SIDE DISHES, PASTA SAUCE, CANNED TOMATOES, INSTANT MASHED POTATOES, STUFFING, WHITE RICE, CANNED PINTO, BLACK AND BAKED BEANS, CANNED BEETS, CANNED FRUIT, GRAPE JELLY, CANNED MEAT, JUICE, SNACKS, JELLO OR PUDDING, KETCHUP, MAYONNAISE AND MUSTARD.

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 and in the Altar Server's Sacristy.

Thank you all for always helping us serve the people in need in our community.

You are all in our prayers and may God's blessings shower upon all of you!

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED FOR
THE PARISH
SOCIAL MINISTRY!!**



**JOIN US IN SHARING
KINDNESS
TO OTHERS!!**

**St. Raymond's Parish
Social Ministry is in need
of volunteers to help stock
shelves, pack groceries,
make appointments, greet
clients and assist them
with food pickup.**

**The food pantry is open
from Monday through
Wednesday from 10am to
3pm. As a volunteer, you
would work two and half
hours, either morning or
afternoon, one day a week.**

**For more information -
Please call 516-887-9197**



**The Parish Social Ministry needs
volunteer drivers to assist our
parishioners who have no one
to take them to their medical
appointments in the area.**

**Please contact the
Parish Social Ministry
Monday thru Wednesday**

10am to 3pm

516-887-9197

**if you have some free time to
volunteer to help us and your
fellow parishioners.**

**Thank you and
God Bless You!**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

FAITH FORMATION

Lucy Ostermann, Director



Faith Formation

ATTENTION 9TH GRADE PARENTS/STUDENTS

9th grade Confirmation is scheduled for Thursday, October 30th, 2025 in St. Raymond Church. The Most Reverend Andrzej Zglejszewski will be administering the Sacrament of Confirmation to the students. There will be two ceremonies that day - one at 11am and one at 2:30pm. This information was e-mailed to parents in May. The classes have been broken down into two groups. Please look for the name of the teacher your child had for

8TH GRADE RELIGION CLASS.

Group 1 - 11am Ceremony – Mrs. Maria Lopez, Mrs. Danielle Peknic, Mrs. Petra Schoen

Group 2 – 2:30pm Ceremony – Mrs. Nancy Mott, Ms. Denise Rivenburgh, Mrs. Jennifer Ruggiero, Kellenberg, St. Mary, Chaminade, Home

Confirmation Rehearsal and Gown Distribution - Child and Sponsor are to attend their designated rehearsal. If the Sponsor is not able to attend the rehearsal, then we ask that a parent attend in his/her place.

Group 2 Rehearsal – Monday, October 27th, 2025 7:30pm St. Raymond Church



CONFIRMATION



ATTENTION 1ST GRADE PARENTS

Our first 1st grade parent/student meeting will be held Sunday 10/26/2025. All students and a parent(s) are asked to go the auditorium at 10:30am. After the meeting, all students and their parent(s) are to attend the 12Noon Mass.

Please remember to bring your child's workbook that you picked up at the 9/30 parent meeting and a pencil.

Children can have a snack (provided by parents) at 11:30am while they wait to go over to the 12Noon Mass.

Congratulations to two members of our Religious Education family. On October 23rd, 2025, the Diocese will have the Catechetical Service Award Ceremony at St. Agnes Cathedral. Mrs. Siobhan Kelhetter will receive the St. Joseph Catechetical Service Award for 15 years of service to Religious Education. Mrs. Nancy Mott will receive the St. John XXIII Catechetical Service Award for 25 years of service to Religious Education. We have a wonderful group of catechists who are dedicated to our program. They are truly a gift to the parish of St. Raymond.

CHRISTMAS FAIR!

*Sponsored by the Sodality
of Our Lady*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH

10:00AM-3:00PM

ST. RAYMOND SCHOOL CAFETERIA

**BAKERY- MONEY TREE - CHRISTMAS GIFTS
MONEY TREE - HANDMADE KNITS & CRAFTS
RAFFLES - 50/50 - GRANY'S ATTIC
REFRESHMENTS AT THE COUNTRY KITCHEN!**



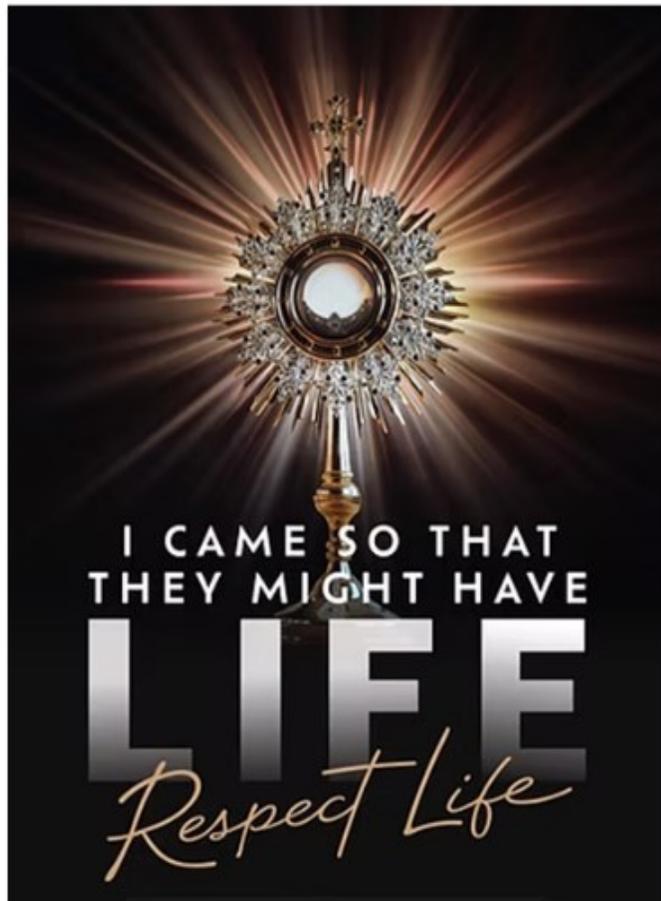
A Prayer for Life to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

O Jesus, you came that we might have life—and have it in abundance. Together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you form us in our mothers' wombs and call us to love you for all eternity. As your most precious gift of human life is attacked, draw us ever closer to your

Real Presence in the Eucharist. Dispel the darkness of the culture of death, for you are the light that shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it. By the power of your Eucharistic Presence, help us to defend the life of every human person at every stage.

Transform our hearts to protect and cherish all whose lives are most vulnerable.

For you are God, forever and ever. Amen.





Summary of the Readings for the Week

For the Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time, the overall theme of the readings encourages us to anchor our lives, in the face of family tension, work pressures, and personal anxieties, in steadfast prayer, believing that God listens when we persist. In the first reading, Moses keeps his arms raised in prayer and intercession, so that “when Moses held up his hands, Israel prevailed” (Exodus 17:11), reminding us that perseverance in prayer can sustain a spiritual battle. In the Gospel, Jesus urges persistence: to “pray always without becoming weary” (Luke 18:1), trusting that God “will secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night” (Luke 18:7).

This week the Church honors four saints, who, while very different, embody what the Church calls missionary holiness: a holiness that is not withdrawn from the world, but poured out in love, sacrifice, and evangelization. They demonstrate that true Christian discipleship is both contemplative and active, that is, rooted in prayer and suffering, yet directed outward in courageous service and witness. Monday of this week is the Optional Memorial of Saint Paul of the Cross (Priest). Wednesday is the Optional Memorial of Saint John Paul II (Pope). Thursday is the Optional Memorial of Saint John of Capistrano (Priest). Friday is the Optional Memorial of Saint Anthony Mary Claret (Bishop).

The First Readings for Monday through Saturday continue to present excerpts, specifically from chapters 4-8, of Saint Paul’s Letter to the Romans. In these passages, he unveils the heart of the Gospel: that humanity is justified not by works of the Law, but through faith in Jesus Christ, whose death and resurrection restore communion with God.

Paul holds up Abraham as the model of unwavering faith, whose trust in God’s promise was “credited to him as righteousness.” He contrasts Adam’s disobedience, which brought sin and death into the world, with Christ’s obedience, which brought grace and eternal life. Where sin abounded, grace

overflowed all the more, revealing the superabundance of God’s mercy and the triumph of divine love over human failure. From that foundation, Paul turns to the moral and spiritual consequences of this new life in Christ: a dying and rising with Christ that liberates us from the tyranny of sin. Paul does not deny the inner struggle; he confesses the human inability to do good apart from grace, crying out for deliverance that comes only through Jesus Christ.

The Gospel passages for this week come from Luke 12 and 13. Jesus teaches about the urgency of conversion and the wisdom of living with eternal perspective. He warns against greed through the parable of the rich fool, whose abundance blinded him to his mortality and to God’s claim on his soul. True wealth, Jesus insists, lies not in earthly possessions but in being “rich in what matters to God.” Jesus urges His disciples to be vigilant and faithful stewards, ready for the Master’s return at any moment. The images of lamps burning and servants awake remind believers that discipleship is active watchfulness, lived in fidelity and service.

Jesus then deepens His call to decision and repentance. He reveals that His coming brings not mere comfort but a purifying fire and the necessity of choice, even division, between those who follow Him and those who resist. Believers must read the “signs of the times” and seek reconciliation before judgment. In the parable of the barren fig tree, Jesus presents both warning and mercy. God’s patience gives every soul time to bear fruit, but His justice will not delay forever.

For the Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, the readings invite us to bring to God our real, humble self in prayer, putting aside pretensions in family and work, trusting that God lifts up the humble who cry out to him. Jesus contrasts the proud and the tax collector, drawing us to humility: “God, be merciful to me a sinner” (Luke 18:13), noting that “everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted” (Luke 18:14).



“Then he told them a parable about the necessity for them to pray always without becoming weary.” -Luke 18:1



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

Contemplating Sunday’s readings, I can remember that in my family, work, and commitments, I will face weariness, discouragement, and potentially pressure or injustice. Rather than give up, I can lift my arms in prayer and persevere, inviting others (my spouse, children, coworkers) to support me in prayer too. In work, when obstacles rise or justice seems delayed, I can return to persistent trust, not by my strength alone, but by invoking God’s sustaining grace. I can whisper often: “Our help is from the Lord” when I feel weak.

As the week begins, Jesus tells the parable of the rich fool who stores up wealth for himself but is not rich toward God. I am presented with the theme that faith that trusts God’s promise must reshape how I regard wealth, security, and life’s priorities. I am invited to ground my security not in bank accounts, investments, or “what I can control,” but in the promise of God. In family life, I can ask: Are we storing up “treasures on earth” or nurturing what matters eternally? Or at work, I can order my tasks and time in light of what God promises, not merely human success.

On Tuesday, the Gospel (Luke 12:35–38), Jesus calls us to be servants ready and vigilant for the Master’s return: lamps lit, girded, ready to answer when He knocks. In prayer, I can ask: Where have I allowed sin (selfishness, sloth, impatience) to gain a foothold? I can keep my “lamp,” that is, my prayer, fidelity, acts of love, burning so that when Christ knocks (in the needs of a child, in the surprise of a challenge), I open promptly.

In the midweek Gospel, Jesus warns that the Master will come at an unexpected hour, and the faithful steward will be rewarded, but the unfaithful will be punished (Luke 12:39–48). Every day, I must guard against the subtle complacency that says, “I will get to that later” whether in prayer, confession, kindness, reconciling relationships. In my family, I can look for small ways to serve without being asked.

In Thursday’s Gospel (Luke 12:49–53), Jesus speaks of the fire he came to bring, and the division he may bring even among close relationships, not as his desire, but as a reality for those who must choose his way. This is the reality of discipleship which involves sacrifice and sometimes rupture, for the sake of truth and fullness of life. In my family life, I may face friction when I choose Jesus over compromise; I pray for grace to accept necessary divisions (of values) with charity.



In my prayer life, I need not pretend I’m beyond struggle; I can bring my inner conflicts with honesty before God, begging for deliverance. At home, I can repent quickly, seek reconciliation with loved ones rather than letting tension fester.

At the end of the week (Luke 13:1–9), in the parable of the barren fig tree, Jesus tells of recent tragedies and cautions that unless I repent, I will perish; he grants one more year of cultivation but warns that fruit must come or the tree will be cut down. Here grace meets urgency: God’s Spirit grants life, yet conversion must bear fruit.

I can breathe in the freedom that repentance brings; I can try again, especially with my children and my spouse. But I also heed the call to bear fruit: to show kindness, to evangelize, to live justice and love in daily acts. In quiet moments, I can repeat: “There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,” allowing that assurance to free me into bold, fruitful living.



ST. RAYMOND'S HUMAN LIFE COMMITTEE

MONTH 4

Developing Baby

"I had a dream today!"

Spiritual Adoption Program Well, your little baby now weighs six ounces. He has fingernails and eyelashes. He has his own unique fingerprints, which will remain the same until he dies. His taste buds are working. His sense of hearing is developing and present at 14 weeks. There are no major developments anymore. At this month rapid eye movements (REMs) can be detected - a sign of dreaming. Your spiritually adopted baby is already well formed, internally and externally. All he needs now is time to gain weight and grow strong.

What a miracle he is!

If you are pregnant and worried that delivering a baby is more than you can handle right now, or know anyone who feels that way about their pregnancy, please call the following number for free, caring, confidential help. Take your time; don't rush to make a decision. Please call first. You are not alone. We can help. The life Center - #516-798-9100.



"There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary."

Venerable Sister Lucia dos Santos of Fatima Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

Pastoral Council Members

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



If even dishonest people will sometimes do good for others out of persistence- how much more will our loving God? We too should learn from our Lord and be respectful and attentive to the needs of others. Do good to others for love of God, not for convenience like the dishonest judge in today's Gospel.

Ministry of Consolation



Offer the precious gift of your time, presence and sympathy to those who have lost a loved one.

**Work one week a month with a team to assist families in preparing and celebrating the Funeral Mass for recently deceased loved ones.
If Interested Call Doreen Dolan 516-593-5000**



*Gina Gerardi
and
Harry Mandel*

*Married at
St. Raymond's Church
in October 2025*



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

visit their website at: www.oceanfinancial.org.

St. Joseph, Defender of Life Prayer

Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child. We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God's most precious gift of life. Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life – especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things. Amen.

We ask Catholics to offer this prayer daily, from now until October 1, the beginning of Respect Life Month. Free online and print versions of the prayer can be found at www.respectlife.org/prayer-to-st-joseph. Thank you for responding to this invitation to pray and for your support in protecting innocent children and their vulnerable mothers from the evil of abortion.

St. Joseph, Defender of Life, pray for us!

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OF MARY**

*Please Come
Into The
Rectory And
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**SACRET HEART
OF JESUS**



DID YOU KNOW THAT OCTOBER IS DESIGNATED AS FRANCISCAN MONTH?

Franciscan Month has been started to share the greatness of St. Francis and the Franciscan way of life. We may think of Francis as the “Birdbath Saint;” but there is so much more to him than protecting gardens and birds. His amazing conversion story is so inspiring. The mission of Franciscan Month is to celebrate the more than 800 year old Franciscan movement and to demonstrate how relevant St. Francis still is today. As only one example, his virtues outlined in the Peace Prayer attributed to him – love, faith, hope and giving – are so desperately needed to transform the inclination to hate so prevalent in our polarized world.

This year, Franciscans around the world are celebrating the 800th anniversary of his Canticle of Creation prayer, where he praised the Lord for Brother Sun, Sister Moon, Brother Wind, Sister Water, Brother Fire, and Sister Mother Earth. Francis saw God in every created thing, animate and inanimate.

Deacon Bob Campbell is an active Secular Franciscan and will be happy to answer any questions you may have about Franciscan Month or the Secular Franciscan Order. Or visit franciscanmonth.org to learn more.



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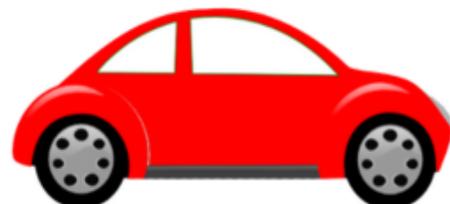
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2025

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You can make a difference in the lives of those around us by making a gift to this year's Catholic Ministries Appeal

Every Gift Counts!

A gift of \$25 may help pay the gas for a Meals-On-Wheels van to deliver food for a day.

A gift of \$50 from an emergency fund may help pay the electric bill in a cold winter month for a family in need.

A gift of \$100 may help a Catholic Campus Minister bring daily Mass to students.

A gift of \$250 may help subsidize a home for an adult who is developmentally disabled.

A gift of \$1,000 may help support a Seminarian's education.

Because of you, every year we serve more than 600,000 people in our Long Island Community. This support enables our children to continue to receive the gift of spiritual formation, sacramental preparation, and quality education. It allows seminarians and lay leaders to fulfill their calling to serve the community. With your support, Catholic Charities can maintain its services for the poor and disadvantaged, and we can continue to reach out to our young people and others to find the best ways to guide and pass on our faith from generation to generation.

For more information about the Catholic Ministries Appeal, please visit <https://www.drvc.org/donate/cma/or> call 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

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MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, October 20th

7:15am Frances and Charles Hess

8:45am Marcia Sweno

Tuesday, October 21st

7:15am Marian Kleszczewski

8:45am Anna Killarney

Wednesday, October 22nd

7:15am Adam Czartoryski

8:45am Francesco D'Aulisa

Thursday, October 23rd

7:15am Francis Gallagher

8:45am Joseph Ingrao

Friday, October 24th

7:15am Anna Killarney

8:45am Richard Bowman

Saturday, October 25th

8:45am Nilda R. Sondon

5:00pm Arleen Puglissi

Sunday, October 26th

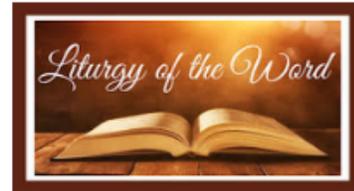
7:30am Vincent & Geraldine Malone

9:00am Joan E. Heimerich

10:30am Antonio Tavella

12:00pm Michael S. Sloan,
Christian Martyrs of Africa,
Andrzej Stafinski,
Michael Barto,
Richard French,
Dr. Alfred Marks,
Anne Marie McInerney Scully

4:30pm St. Raymond Parish



Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

Romans 4:20-25/Luke 12:13-21

Tuesday

Romans 5:12, 15b, 17-19/Luke 12:35-38

Wednesday

Romans 6:12-18/Luke 12:39-48

Thursday

Romans 6:19-23/Luke 12:49-53

Friday

Romans 7:18-25a/Luke 12:54-59

Saturday

Romans 8:1-11/Luke 13:1-9

Sunday

Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18/Luke 18:9-14



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Memory of
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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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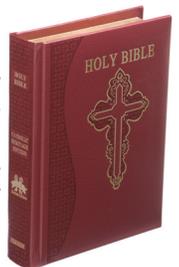
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