

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 Vincent H. Bulus
Father Theodore Iloh

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

**Pastoral Associate, Youth &
Parish Social Ministry**
Deacon Richard W. LaRossa

School Principal
Sr. Ruthanne Gypalo, I.H.M.

Director of Religious Education
Mrs. Evelyn Contaldi

Business Manager
Thomas J. Donovan (RIP)

South Nassau Hospital Chaplain
Father Cornelius Dery

Parish Staff

Music Ministry
Laura Garbitelli

Folk Group
AnnMarie Lynch

Plant Manager
Steve Bennett

Parish Secretary
Doreen Dolan

Bulletin Editor
Linda Ohlsen

The Parish of St. Raymond

A Eucharistic Community of Faith, Love and Friendship

Sunday, March 21, 2021

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

“Whoever loves his life loses it, and
whoever hates his life in this world will
preserve it for eternal life.”

~John 12:24



March 21, 2021

Fifth 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-5pm;
Saturdays from 9:30am-1pm.

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-Thursday from 10am-2pm.

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

St. Raymond School.....593-9010

St. Raymond School Fax.....593-0986

Religious Education Office.....593-9075

Religious Education Office Fax593-1156

Pastoral Care Of The Sick

Holy Communion—Available to the homebound;
call the rectory to schedule an appointment.

Devotions

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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

Nocturnal Adoration

First Fridays from 8-9pm.

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

Charismatic Prayer Group: Every Tuesday at 7:30pm
in the rectory lower level.

Men's Prayer Group: Every 4th Friday at 8pm in
Our Lady's Chapel.

Music Ministries

Children's Choir: Sings at the 9am Mass on the 3rd
Sunday of the month from September—June; practice on
Tuesdays at 5pm in the school auditorium.

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 Wednesdays at 7:30pm in
the rectory lower level.

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 Deacon Rich LaRossa.



**PLEASE REQUEST TO JOIN OUR
NEW FACEBOOK GROUP!
ST. RAYMOND PARISH, EAST ROCKAWAY
SPIRITUAL AIDS AND INFORMATION
WILL BE POSTED TO KEEP US
ALL CONNECTED
DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIMES.**



**CATHOLIC FAITH
— NETWORK —**

The Catholic Faith Network (CFN)

Broadcast of the Celebration of the Eucharist:

Daily Mass Celebrated by Pope Francis from the Santa Marta Chapel in Rome

Monday - Friday at 11:00 am, 9:30 pm ET

Saturday at 11:00 am, 9:30 pm ET

Sunday at 1:30 pm, 8:30 pm ET

St. Agnes Cathedral, Rockville Centre, NY

Monday – Friday at 8:30 am, 12:30 pm ET

Sunday at 11:00 am, 7:00 pm ET

St. Patrick's Cathedral, NY

Monday – Friday at 6:30 pm ET



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

SPC Frank Candreva US ARMY
SPC Giuseppina (Josie) Coppola US ARMY
Lt. Col. Mary P. King, M.D., US ARMY
Lt. Com. Joseph Garbitelli US NAVY
Sgt. Gerard Moran
Lt. Com. Joseph Leahy US NAVY

***Please remember to pray for our
wounded soldiers.***

Father Chuck's Corner

Greetings and God's blessings be yours on the Fifth Sunday of Lent! The readings today show how God has always sought to build relationships to bring people into his mercy, compassion, and steadfast love, which can never be shaken. In the first reading from Jeremiah, we see how God's chosen people had abandoned him and wouldn't listen to the prophet Jeremiah. The people had failed to live up to their covenant relationship with God that had been established on Mt Sinai. Still, God offers another covenant, with forgiveness and mercy that aims at reaching the hearts of his people so they will listen to his word. **"I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God and they shall be my people."** Then in the second reading from Hebrews, Jesus, as one of us, accepted suffering, and death out of obedience to his heavenly Father. **"Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him."** And finally, in the gospel from John we have the final entry of Jesus into Jerusalem where he will meet his ultimate fate of crucifixion and death. This gospel is really a reflection by Jesus on the meaning of his death. The **"hour"** is used to signify the moment of his actual death. The key to understanding the **"hour"** is to see that the crucifixion and death of Jesus is also the moment of his glorification and exaltation. This is highlighted by Jesus speaking of a grain of wheat dying in order to produce fruit. **"And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself."**

God is always coming to us through covenants, trying to form a relationship with us. Throughout salvation history, God has revealed himself as someone who comes to humanity and remains faithful to the covenant even when we keep breaking it. God's covenant started with a couple, then expanded to a family, to a nation, to a kingdom and eventually through Jesus to a new and everlasting covenant with the whole world. Now we at times wonder if God remembers his covenant. That's when we look to Jesus and see that even when feeling forsaken by his Father on the cross, he fulfills the new and everlasting covenant that brings eternal salvation for all people who follow him.

The pain in our spiritual lives is like the grain of wheat. We need to allow God to create a clean heart in us, that is changed, shaped and molded by God. Then we become the kind of person that God wants us to be, someone who dies in this life in order to find eternal life. All through Lent we look for the sins that need to be purged from our lives. As our lives are transformed, molded and shaped by God's mercy, compassion, and steadfast love, we can use our relationships with others to help them **"come and see"** Jesus as well.

Many thanks to all those who donated gifts cards last weekend at the Masses or dropped them off at the rectory. Your generosity is a great help to both our Parish Social Ministry and Human Life Committee in their outreach to those in need.

This week is the final one for our 2021 Lenten season. Next Sunday is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week. There will be the distribution of blessed palm and the services for the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday) all will be celebrated as in the past. Of course, there will be restrictions on how we will do certain things, but Holy Week is definitely a go this year. There is a parish mailing for Holy Week and Easter that everyone should be receiving any day now which contains the schedule for all the services as well as additional times for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Keep that schedule handy.

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** and the **Principal's Corner** of St. Raymond School, an order form for the new round of **Parish Picks**, an ad for the **Pot of Gold 50/50**, an invitation to join FORMED (your Catholic faith on demand), a special announcement about **St. Raymond School** and much more. To keep informed, keep a copy of the bulletin at home each week for quick and easy reference.

Have a great Fifth Week of Lent. Keep at it with your praying, sacrificing and almsgiving. **And remember: It's hard to get in shape spiritually when you only work out on Sundays.** Have a great week. God bless always.

-Father Chuck



Special Announcement from Father Chuck

Dear Parishioner,

I make this announcement with a feeling of deep sadness and regret. It pertains to St. Raymond Grammar School, which unfortunately will be closing at the end of this school year. This has been the hardest decision I have had to face in all my years of priesthood and as a pastor. For the past 94 years, St. Raymond School has played a vital role in forming future generations of Catholics. Many of you reading this are graduates of our school and have sent your children here too. Founded by, and served to this day by the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, St. Raymond School has a long history of wonderful achievements.

However, the last five years have been challenging ones for our school. Our enrollment has declined 50% to currently 123 students. And we know that would probably be even lower if we opened again in September 2021. To sustain operations during these past five years, our parishioners have provided over \$1 million in direct support to keep the school running. In the 2019-20 school year, the school sustained itself through \$330,000 additional support from our parish and the Diocese. While it was very gratifying that we continued to provide an excellent learning experience both digitally and in-person during the COVID-19 pandemic, operating like this has really strained the financial challenges faced by our parish and school. Revenue both for the school and parish has also declined during this time.

I have worked with analysts and advisors from Morning Star in conjunction with the Education and Finance departments of the Diocese throughout these past two years in an effort to find an opportunity to see our school through these challenges. After much prayer and reflection, I have recognized that the parish can no longer support the operations of the school without going into debt. And so, with much regret, I, along with the above entities, felt that St. Raymond School should close at the end of the current school year.

I know that this is particularly difficult for our parish as a whole. St. Raymond School has been such an important part of parish life and its closing marks the end of tremendous work done each year by a very dedicated principal, faculty and staff. Please know that the reason for our closing is only due to the financial realities and declining enrollment as mentioned and not for any lack of commitment on the part of our community. It is just very unfortunate that in order for St. Raymond Parish to sustain itself, our beloved school must close.

Please know that all our St. Raymond students will be warmly welcomed into any of our other Catholic Elementary Schools in the Diocese of Rockville Centre. This week the Department of Education will be holding several sessions for current parents to assist in the process of selecting and transferring to any of our other schools. If you have any questions, the Department of Education is staffing a telephone information line (516-280-4124) and an email address: education@drvc.org. It has also set up a special website where you can go for more information: www.drvcschools.com

Again, I would like to thank all the IHM sisters, who have served at St. Raymond School over the years, especially our Principal, Sister Ruthanne and Sister Lorraine who have been with our school for many of these last years. And I also want to thank our teachers and staff, both past and present and all our school parents who have given their all to make our school a beacon of faith and love for many years. Thank all of you for your commitment to Catholic education through the 94 years of St. Raymond Grammar School and the sacrifices so many of you and past generations have made to our parish and our school. In this most difficult time let us pray for the strength to keep strong in our faith and know that the Lord is with us always and will bring light out of this darkness

I hope you can see through any sadness you have and disappointment with me to know that together St. Raymond Parish will continue to be a place of faith, love and friendship. God bless always. ***Father Chuck***

Pot of Gold 50/50

Once again there will be a special "Pot of Gold 50/50" in honor of St. Patrick Day and all that is Irish. The "pot" has no lid so the "sky's the limit." The winning ticket will be drawn on Sunday afternoon, March 28th.

Strips of tickets were included in the March/April regular envelope mailing.

They can also be purchased at the Rectory during regular office hours.

The "Pot of Gold" chances are \$10 each and three for \$25. Simply return the ticket stubs with payment in the Envelope to the rectory, either by mail, in person, or in the Sunday Mass collection by Sunday, March 28th.

The more tickets sold, the greater your winning share and the greater the profit of St. Raymond's. And you really 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!"



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2021

PALM SUNDAY, 03/28/21

Blessing & Distribution of Palm at all Masses

Regular Saturday/Sunday Mass Schedule

HOLY MONDAY, 03/29/21

9:00am-4:00pm Confessions in the Rectory

HOLY TUESDAY, 03/30/21

5:00pm-6:00pm Confessions in the Church

7:00pm-8:00pm Confessions in the Church

HOLY WEDNESDAY, 3/31/21

5:00pm-6:00pm Confessions in the Church

7:00pm-8:00pm Confessions in the Church

HOLY THURSDAY, 4/1/21

8:00pm Parish Mass of the Last Supper
in Church (Eucharistic Adoration in the
Church till Midnight)

GOOD FRIDAY, 4/2/21

3:00pm Solemn Liturgical Service
in the Church

7:30pm Folk Group Stations
of the Cross in the Church

HOLY SATURDAY, 4/3/21

11:30am Blessing of Easter Foods
in the Church

8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass in the Church
(The most beautiful Service of the year)

EASTER SUNDAY, 4/4/21

Mass Schedule in the Church

7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am

12:00 Noon & 1:30pm

(No 4:30pm Mass on Easter Sunday)

WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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.



The Our Father

Our Father,
Who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come.
Thy Will be done,
on earth as it is in Heaven.
Give us this day
our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who
trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST READING

Jer 31:31-34

The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers the day I took them by the hand to lead them forth from the land of Egypt; for they broke my covenant, and I had to show myself their master, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD. I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer will they have need to teach their friends and relatives how to know the LORD. All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the LORD, for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more.

SECOND READING

Heb 5:7-9

In the days when Christ Jesus was in the flesh, he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

Jn 12:26

Whoever serves me must follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, there also will my servant be.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.
Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense. Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me.
R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.
A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me. Cast me not out from your presence, and your Holy Spirit take not from me.
R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.
Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners shall return to you.
R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

GOSPEL

Jn 12:20-33

Some Greeks who had come to worship at the Passover Feast came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we would like to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me. "I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again." The crowd there heard it and said it was thunder; but others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come for my sake but for yours. Now is the time of judgment on this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." He said this indicating the kind of death he would die.



Be Still, and know that I am GOD

Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn

Gives Back!

For each donated car, truck or van, running or not, the Associated Vincentian Charities will give back to our parish \$75-\$200 per vehicle.

**IRS TAX DEDUCTION
FREE TOWING
ANY CONDITION**

If you or someone you know has an old or neglected vehicle that is not being used, please call: 718-491-2525
For details: svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org



The Rose for Life Program

The Rose for Life program began here at St. Raymond on Mother's Day, May 12, 1985. A rose is placed on the Offertory Table at the 5:00pm Mass and is presented to the priest at the Offertory. The rose symbolizes the life of a preborn baby who dies from abortion. It remains at the tabernacle for the coming week.

The main purpose of the rose is to remind each one of us to pray for the babies who are in danger of abortion. Prayer is one of the most important ways to stop abortion. The rose also serves a special remembrance of the life of our loved ones, in whose name the rose is dedicated each week.

For dedications, please call Mary Healy at 887-4062.



Bishop Andrzej's Lecture Series Continues Liturgical Catechesis Tuesdays this Spring @ 7:30 p.m.

March 23 Liturgy and the Paschal Mystery in Us...
online via ZOOM

April 27 Liturgy and St. John Paul II Reform

May 25 Liturgy and Personal Growth

So that Bishop Andrzej can safely continue his Liturgical Catechesis lecture series, presentations in February and March will be available only through ZOOM. In order to be emailed the ZOOM link, you must register. Please see below for instructions on how to register in order to gain access to these presentations. If you already receive updates regarding Bishop Andrzej's presentation schedule, the ZOOM link will automatically be emailed to you.

**Please call or email to register:
Suzanne Lynn at 516-744-6850;
westernvicariate@drvc.org.**



Dynamic Catholic

Be Bold. Be Catholic.®

Become the-Best-Version-of-Yourself

What if, this Easter, your soul was more alive than at any other point in your life? That can happen. Not by accident. But intentionally. By feeding your soul with a daily course of prayer. Let us get back to the basics this Lent. Let us

Master the fundamentals. Let us become people of prayer! Join Matthew Kelly for free, daily Lenten reflections, and start feeding your soul like you never have before!

Sign-up at www.dynamiccatholic.com

Religious Education- Faith Formation
Evelyn Contaldi, Director

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Group 1-Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 11am
Mrs. Joyce & Mrs. Layng classes plus
home schooled children

Group 2-Saturday, May 1, 2021 at 11am
St. Raymond School students & Mrs. Ohlsen's class

Group 3-Saturday, May 1, 2021 at 1pm
Mrs. Hollenstein & Mrs. Casucci's classes

Group 4-Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 11am
Mrs. Agnello & Mrs. Breuer's classes

Group 5-Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 1pm
Mrs. Hannon & Mrs. Kelhetter's classes



ATTENTION 8TH GRADE PARENTS

Dates for 2021 Confirmation are not yet determined due to the pandemic. As soon as we know what the plan will be, we will advise parents immediately.

HOME TEACHING

For parents who have opted to teach Religion to their children at home, the student's completed workbooks are due the week of 4/19/2021. We are more than half way through the Religious Education school year and this is a reminder that you have until our final week of classes to complete your child's lessons. Mrs. Contaldi has been in touch with each of you and will be following up with you again early February. As we get closer to April, we will advise you of the procedure to return the completed books to the Religious Education office.

FIRST GRADE PARENTS

First grade parents have been teaching their children at home. The completed student workbooks are due to the Religious Education office the week of 04/26/2021.

Principal's Corner
Sister Ruthanne

Today I am doing something that I do not normally do - and that is to take a line from the Gospel and use it out of context. In today's Gospel we read "unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit". I am relating the verse to the announcement earlier this week that St. Raymond School would be closing at the end of the school year. Perhaps with this unfortunate "dying" we will all see the "fruit" of our work for the last 95 years.

What can I say about this week's announcement? I can tell you that it is hard, slightly unsettling, and sometimes sad. I can also tell you that we have the third trimester to make the best one ever and that is exactly what our goal is! St. Raymond School is our special family, and we are about making memories that will last a lifetime. So, watch us as we learn, pray, help others, and grow into the best people we can be - and we will celebrate all that we have become!

For the upcoming week I would like to remind all families that will need it, that transportation requests are due to the various school districts on Wednesday, March 24th. Please be sure to get those requests in on time since districts do not need to honor them if they are late. I also want you to remember that Friday, the 26th is a half day. The teachers will have a professional development afternoon.

Thank you to all who participated in the Stop & Shop A+ rewards program. We received a check for over \$500 from the company. We also are expecting a check for \$254 from Moe's and the fundraiser that they helped us with this month. (I told you we are a special family!!)

It is amazing to me that next Sunday is Palm Sunday and the start of Holy Week. Let us make these last two weeks of Lent a prayerful experience. Have a peaceful week.

God bless you all.

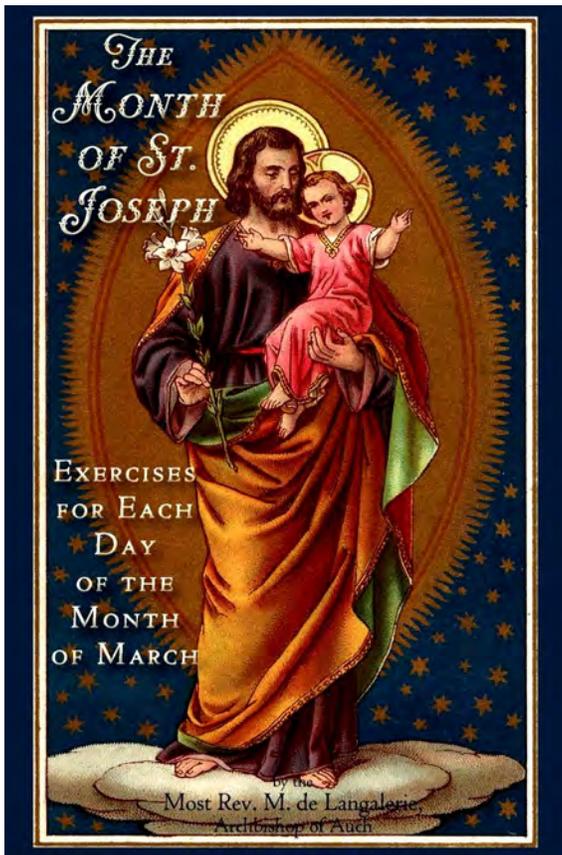


THE YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH

Because of his unique relationship to Jesus and Mary, St Joseph is among heaven's most powerful protectors and intercessors.

This devotion's origin is traced to an incident involving two Franciscan priests traveling in a ship along the Belgium coast. A storm hit and the ship was sunk. For three days and three nights, the two priests clung to a plank and prayed to St Joseph. Then, in youthful form, St Joseph appeared to the priests, guided them to safety and taught them the practice of reciting seven Our Fathers and seven Hail Mary's in honor of his Seven Sorrows and Seven Joys.

The Seven Sorrows and Seven Joys each stem from seven powerful moments in St Joseph's life. Following is the list of the Seven Sorrows and Seven Joys which the faithful have observed to obtain special graces through the intercession of St Joseph.



Joseph's Seven Sorrows

1. The doubts St Joseph has about Mary (Matt. 1:19)
2. The lowly poverty of Jesus' birthplace (Luke 2:7)
3. The Circumcision: Jesus' first blood spilt for us (Luke 2:21)
4. The Painful Prophecy of Simeon (Luke: 2:34)
5. The Exile of the Holy Family into Egypt (Matt, 2: 14)
6. The Hard Trip Returning from Egypt (Matt. 2:22)
7. The Loss of the Child Jesus for Three Days (Luke 2:45)

Joseph's Seven Joys

1. *The Message of the Angel* (Matt. 1:20)
2. *The Birth of the Savior* (Luke: 2:10-11)
3. *The Honor of Naming Jesus* (Matt. 1:25)
4. *The Knowledge of the Effects of Jesus' Redemptive Work* (Luke 2:38)
5. *The Overthrow of the Idols of Egypt* (Is. 19:1)
6. *Life with Jesus and Mary at Nazareth* (Luke 2:39)
7. *Finding the Child Jesus in the Temple* (Luke 2:46)

The lesson from these moments is to capitalize our sorrows and joys for eternity. Too many sufferings and consolations are lost for heaven. The method to sanctify sorrow and joy is to endure them all patiently and to offer them up in union with Mass celebrated throughout the world joined to the intercession of Mary Immaculate and St Joseph for the salvation of the dying.

-From *The Josephite Harvest*, Spring 2021



Litany of St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

*Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.*

Jesus, hear us.

Jesus, graciously hear us.

God, the Father of Heaven,
God, the Son, Redeemer of the world,
God, the Holy Spirit,
Holy Trinity, One God,

*Have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us.*

Holy Mary,
St. Joseph,

*pray for us.
pray for us.*

Renowned offspring of David,

pray for us.

Light of Patriarchs,

pray for us.

Spouse of the Mother of God,

pray for us.

Chaste guardian of the Virgin,

pray for us.

Foster father of the Son of God,

pray for us.

Diligent protector of Christ,

pray for us.

Head of the Holy Family,

pray for us.

Joseph most just,

pray for us.

Joseph most chaste,

pray for us.

Joseph most prudent,

pray for us.

Joseph most strong,

pray for us.

Joseph most obedient,

pray for us.

Joseph most faithful,

pray for us.

Mirror of patience,

pray for us.

Lover of poverty,

pray for us.

Model of artisans,

pray for us.

Glory of home life,

pray for us.

Guardian of virgins,

pray for us.

Pillar of families,

pray for us.

Solace of the wretched,

pray for us.

Hope of the sick,

pray for us.

Patron of the dying,

pray for us.

Terror of demons,

pray for us.

Protector of Holy Church,

pray for us.

Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world,
Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world,
Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world.

*spare us, O Lord.
graciously hear us, O Lord.
And prince over all his possessions.*

He made him the lord of his household.



Let us pray, — O God, in your ineffable providence you were pleased to choose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your most holy Mother; grant, we beg you, that we may be worthy to have him for our intercessor in heaven whom on earth we venerate as our Protector: You who live and reign forever and ever.

Saint Joseph, pray for us.



“May the Holy Spirit lead us on a true journey of conversion, so that we can rediscover the gift of God’s word, be purified of the sin that blinds us, and serve Christ present in our brothers and sisters in need.” - Pope Francis

Almsgiving in Lent

Lent is a perfect time for us to pray for those in need - whether it is for their material, emotional or spiritual needs.

And when you practice fasting and abstinence during these forty days, please remember those of our neighbors who are hungry and consider sharing your gifts with them.

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



[For more information about the Catholic Ministries Appeal, please visit drvc.org/cma](https://drvc.org/cma)

or call 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

Parish Social Ministry

The Heart of the Parish

*"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."
-Isaiah 41:10*

Pantry needs for this week: Rice side dishes, tomato sauce, canned pasta, instant mashed potatoes, baked beans, mixed vegetables, beets, jelly, carrots, jello, juices, razors, sugar.

**Thank you all for you loyal support and prayers.
God bless you all.**



Abstinence and Fasting

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



EASTER MASSES OF REMEMBRANCE

Many people like to request the intention for a Mass on Easter Sunday. Since there are a limited number of Masses for Easter, all requests are not able to be fulfilled. Therefore, there will be a special Novena of Masses for Easter; the Easter Masses of Remembrance.

Those who you mention will be remembered at all the Masses during the Easter season. Special envelopes have been mailed with the regular envelope packet and in the Easter mailing to all parishioners. They are also available on the front side pews and the back pews by the doors of the church. Simply fill out the intentions you wish to have remembered on the front of the envelope, include your donation and either mail it back, drop it in the Sunday Mass collection or place it in one of the wooden boxes marked "Easter Masses." Please do so by Sunday April 4th. Thank you! -Father Chuck



St. Raymond Human Life Committee

"The feast of the Annunciation celebrates the visit of the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to inform her that she was to be the Mother of Jesus. The feast coincides with the celebration of the anniversary of the papal encyclical, "Evangelium Vitae" (The Gospel of Life). This prophetic document on the dignity and inviolability of every human life was put forth by Pope John Paul II on the solemnity of the Annunciation in 1995. The connection of these two events highlights the profound reality about the true value of every human person. "It was at the moment of Mary's 'yes', that 'the Word became flesh and dwelt among us'. (John 1:14) Like the unborn child of today, the unborn child, Jesus, grew and developed in His mother's womb. Each of us is made in the image and likeness of our Creator to share in the very life of God in the world of His presence, a trace of His glory. (Gospel of Life - 4) May we recognize that to proclaim The Gospel of Life is to proclaim Christ, He who made His dwelling among us..."

(USCCB, Living The Gospel of Life)
"America defend life!" (Pope John Paul II)



THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

STATIONS 1-7



THE FIRST STATION-JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DIE

Just as Jesus was wrongfully accused, sometimes people falsely place blame on me to escape the responsibility themselves. And yes, sometimes I also put others down in order to build myself up. When Jesus was condemned to death, even those who had once followed Him went along with Pilate. Do I care more about being accepted by those around me than returning your love? Help me Lord. Be with me Lord.

THE SECOND STATION-JESUS IS GIVEN HIS CROSS

Lord, help me remember the humble and loving way You carried Your cross up to Calvary when I experience life's heavy burdens and strife. Sometimes I think I can't go on. Help me remember I am not alone. You are always with me. May I imitate Your virtues of love, humility and perseverance while dealing with my crosses and offer them up on behalf of my sins, for the sick and less fortunate. Help me to understand that there is nothing You and I can't get through together.

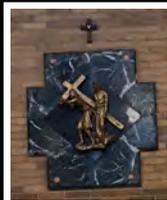


THE THIRD STATION-JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

I am like you, Jesus, in that I take up my own cross. But my cross is made up of my sins, temptation and Materialism. I carry my cross through my life, like You, Jesus, carried Your cross to Calvary. Jesus, You fell under the weight of my sins. I fall by accepting temptation and giving into evil. I fall when I give in to gossip or hurt others. You carry my sins to death so I can be free. Help me, Jesus, to really understand all that You have done for me. Help me to make my burden lighter.

THE FOURTH STATION-JESUS MET HIS MOTHER

How does anyone have the strength to watch someone they love suffer and die? Death knows no boundaries and takes everyone. I need to have the strength and faith of Mary when I am faced with the loss of a loved one. Lord, while I know death is not an end but really a beginning, please give me the strength of faith that Your mother showed, and help me to be strong for the others who are grieving.



THE FIFTH STATION-SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS CARRY HIS CROSS

I need Your help to get me through these tough situations that I encounter during my day. Help me discover my options through prayer. Please help me to be nicer to those who are against me, and let me be trusting in my relationships with my friends, family and neighbors. I have enough to handle on my own. Why, then, am I further burdened with worry about family members or friends? Why does it always seem to be me who has to take on their problems as well as my own? Lord, show me the way.

THE SIXTH STATION-VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS

Every day I see people who are suffering or in need of help. They seem to be everywhere. I wish someone would help them. I'm so busy; I just don't have the time. That isn't really true. I guess I just don't want to be involved. I have my own problems, I don't need to take on any more. O Lord, teach me to see Your face in the faces of those who need comfort. You have assured us that random acts of kindness will have their own rewards, if not here and now, then later, with you in the kingdom.



THE SEVENTH STATION-JESUS FALLS AGAIN

In spite of my best intentions, I am so weak and fall again. I try to do the right thing, but temptations are so strong. I know, when Jesus stumbles and falls, He is suffering greatly. He knows He must continue in order to save me and lead me on the path to God. He loves me so much that He just keeps on going-for me. With Your help, I can have the courage and the faith to get up again and continue on. Help me to pray that I will not follow my own way but, instead, the way of the Lord, for which Jesus was sacrificed.

PUT YOUR CROSS AT THE FOOT OF HIS CROSS

STATIONS 8-14

THE EIGHTH STATION-JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

How difficult I find it sometimes to think of others particularly when I am troubled or hurting. Sometimes I get so wrapped up in myself that I shut others out, and I wonder if I can go on. Lord, You have shown me love and compassion for others even when they scorn You. Please help me to look beyond the exterior of others and help me to show compassion as You did. Please don't let me be selfish. Instead, let me always be merciful in my journey through life.



THE NINTH STATION-JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME

I Sometimes fear the future. I become afraid of change. I am just so unsure of myself, let alone others. I need confidence. I need to know I am not alone. I need to understand that I am worthy of love and respect. Lord, forgive me for each day of my life that I sin against You. Sometimes I have the best intentions, but I turn away from You anyway. Help me to appreciate all you have done for me. Give me strength and wisdom to seek kindness in others and see myself in the image and likeness of God.



THE TENTH STATION-JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS

My possessions are very important to me. I surround myself with beautiful and expensive things. I have far more clothes than I really need, and sometimes I spend money on silly things and forget about others who don't even have necessities. Dear Jesus, you not only sacrificed everything, You laid down Your life for me. Help me to be a strong spiritual follower in faith. Please show me the right way towards eternal happiness by following Your example.



THE ELEVENTH STATION-JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

O, my God, sometimes I persecute others because they are different. I am embarrassed when I think of some of the things I've said about others. It's so easy to gossip. Sometimes I just don't like people because of their skin color or religion. Give me the courage to not give in to the pressures of putting others down. Dear Jesus, please forgive me and the others like me, and help me, instead to be Your messenger of love and care to all I meet so that they may experience Your love and concern through me.



THE TWELFTH STATION-JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

Jesus, give me the strength so that I can survive the mysteries of life that are ahead of me. I know I'm going to fall many times. Give me the courage to stand back up. Let me recognize all the good things that surround me each day of my life. Our heavenly Father gave all of us a beautiful world. You even died so our sins would be forgiven. May I be like You in Your perfect example of sacrifice and love. Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.



THE THIRTEENTH STATION-JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

Lord I am truly sorry for forgetting You. I am sometimes preoccupied by my life when I should be focusing on You. I really don't know why, but I always seem to let all the things in my life crowd you out. Often, when I do pray, I do not concentrate on my prayer. I sometimes just say the words and don't pay attention to what I am saying. Help me to show that You are my first priority by setting aside time for You each day.



THE FOURTEENTH STATION-JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

Dear Jesus, following Your death, helplessness and despair was felt by many. Your death on the cross left those who really knew You empty inside. Lord, when I am feeling empty inside, help me to attain inner strength and peace to make it through the day. Knowing that You love me and believe in me, gives me the reassurance I need. Help me to face my problems, and to remember that You are with me always until the end of time.



It's time for the next round of..



Dear Friends,

We are about to venture on another segment of Parish Picks. To enhance Parish Picks we have added a new system so you can obtain additional tickets.

Here's how the new system works: The basic entry to participate in Parish Picks is \$60.00. For \$60.00 you will get **THREE TICKETS**. If you contribute \$120 you will receive **SIX TICKETS**. Yes, we are offering additional tickets for **FREE** according to the amount you contribute (see below)

	Number of Tickets	-		TOTAL AMOUNT
Ticket Cost	for each \$60.00	Free Tickets	BONUS TICKETS	OF TICKETS
\$60.00	1	1	1	3
\$120.00	2	2	2	6
\$180.00	3	3	3	9
\$240.00	4	4	4	12
\$300.00	5	5	5	15
\$360.00	6	6	6	18

Your participation would greatly help the expenses St. Raymond incurs. **YOU GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT!** We would like to give you a call and **MAKE YOU HAPPY!**

The next segment begins in **February 2021** and goes through **July 2021**. You "**regulars**" know how it works, but for those of you who haven't yet joined...here's the scoop: The cost of a ticket is still \$60, and you're eligible to participate in all the monthly drawings because even if you win, your ticket automatically goes back in for the remaining drawings. Each month the following prize amounts are awarded:

1st Prize: \$1,000 2nd Prize: \$500 3rd Prize: \$250 4th Prize \$250

Entry money for the next six months must be received by January 18, 2021. Ticket numbers are not reserved; they will be given in the order in which your payment is received. Members of the committee can be contacted to answer any questions.

On behalf of the Parish Picks Committee, I thank you for your continuous support of this parish fundraiser. Your participation is a big help to St. Raymond Parish and our many ministries. God bless you always.

Sincerely, Father Chuck, Pastor & Julianne Grennen & Doreen Dolan
StRayRCC@optonline.net or 516-593-5000

St. Raymond's Parish Picks Order Form

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ for _____ ticket (s) in the Parish Picks. I will receive extra tickets for each ticket that I purchase in accordance with the chart shown on the enclosed letter. (Each ticket is good for 6 months of chances and costs \$60.)

Name: _____ Envelope #: _____

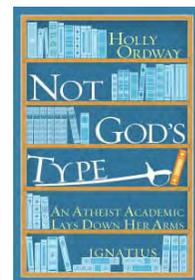
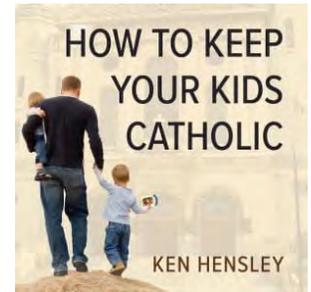
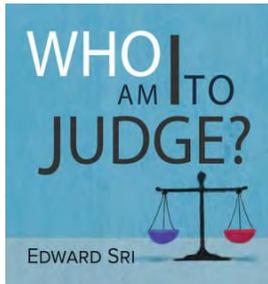
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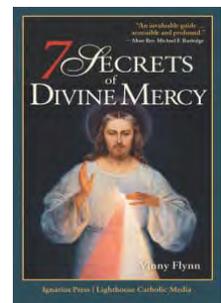


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Masses for this Week

Monday, March 22nd

7:15am Sean Scully
8:45am Nirma Nile
12:15pm Carolyn Talbot (living)

Tuesday, March 23rd

7:15am Joan & William Stanton
8:45am Josephine Genova
12:15pm Al DiGiacomo

Wednesday, March 24th

7:15am Donna LaFiandra
8:45am John & Veronica Tuzzi
12:15pm Juan Rivas

Thursday, March 25th *Annunciation of the Lord*

7:15am Neil Romano
8:45am Anne & Frank Behrman
12:15pm Helen & Theodore Rehm

Friday, March 26th

7:15am Kathleen & Seamus Ryder
8:45am Terence Carnes
12:15pm Stella & Laurence Mackey

Saturday, March 27th

8:45am Violet McHale, Estebana Moreno Deras
Anton Giese
5:00pm Joan DelGiorno (32nd Anniversary)

Sunday, March 28th *Palm Sunday*

7:30am Cornelius & Arlene Schloth
9:00am Angelo Guadagno
10:30am Rose Thies
12:00pm Kevin Mahlmann, Brendan & Vincent McGuire
William Flynn, John Henry Stender, Sr.
Barbarino/Leporati Families
Kathy Marascia, Estebana Moreno Deras
4:30pm St. Raymond Parish

Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 /Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday

Nm 21:4-9 /Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/ Jn 8:31-42

Thursday

Is 7:10-14; 8:10 /Lk 1:26-38

Friday

Jer 20:10-13 /Jn 10:31-42

Saturday

Ez 37:21-28 /Jn 11:45-56

Sunday

Mk 11:1-10 /Phil 2:6-11 /Mk 14:1—15:47

Please Pray for Our Sick

Fr, Tom Moriarity, Deacon Rich LaRossa, Valerie Fellows, Jeanette Kostyrka, Margaret Mary Barbato, Taylor Clark, Liz Biondi, Jodi Neckles, Olivia Bonino, Anthony B., Alyssa B., Bart Castellaneta, Victoria Wilkinson, Nick, Kathleen Clancy, Rob Ruggiero, Peter Scala, Suzie McHale, Baby Madison Grace Layman, Ellen Bretschneider, Hailey Faith Beavers, Ginny Kondrat, Baby Faith Madison, Pamela Guzzaro, Pat Bolino Ann Marie Russo, Joseph Fiore
(Names are printed for 3 weeks unless the rectory is notified otherwise.)



Rest in Peace

Katherine Scott

Stephanie Lamontanaro



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This week do something extra kind for someone in your family. If you don't normally do the laundry, try it. If you don't normally do the dishes, do them.

Parish Bulletin Board



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE of ROCKVILLE CENTRE

The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) is available on Optimum channel 29/137, Verizon FiOS TV channel 296, and Charter Spectrum channel 162/471 throughout the New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut area. The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) is also available on selected cable and satellite systems nationwide, along with a vast on-demand library of original programming and a high quality 24/7 live stream.



Great News! Worldwide Marriage Encounter has gone "Virtual"!

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and some span multiple weeks on a given weekday.

Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority.

Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call at or visit them at <https://www.mema.org>

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Collection Envelopes

To insure the accuracy of the recording of your weekly offering, please indicate the amount of your offering on the front of your envelope and write your envelope number on your check. And please do not tape or staple the contents or envelope flap.

Thank you! And God Bless you for your stewardship!

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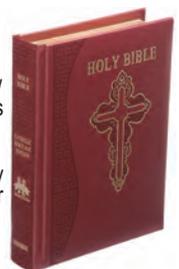
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