

## Masses

Saturday Eve 5:00PM  
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30AM,  
12 Noon 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

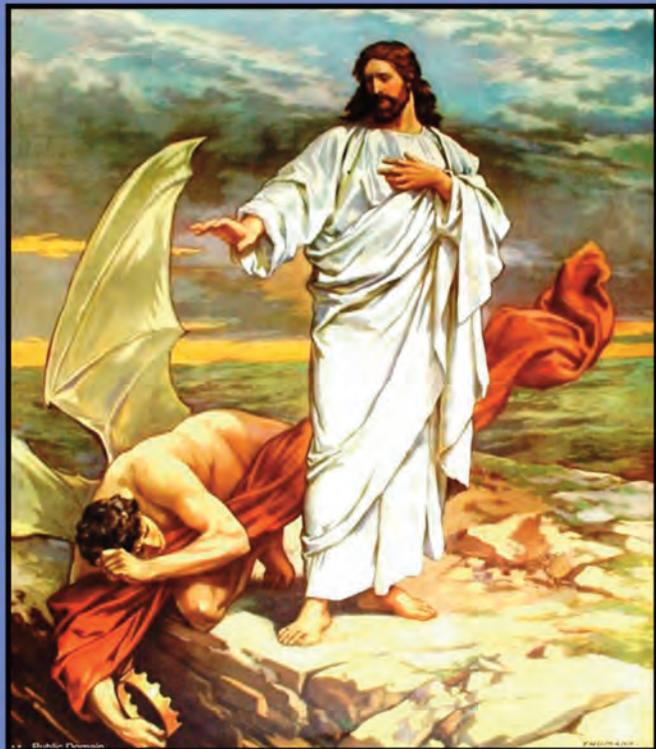
Sunday, February 21, 2021

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

“The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent,  
and believe in the gospel”

-Mark 1:15



February 21, 2021  
First 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](http://www.SaintRaymonds.org)

**Facebook:** St. Raymond Parish, East Rockaway

**E-Mail:** [StRayRcc@optonline.net](mailto: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 Fax .....593-1156

### 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 First Sunday of Lent!** Here we go again so it's time to put on that Lenten smile. The readings today all try to make the case for Lenten change, conversion, and a recommitment to being Christian. In the first reading from Genesis, God is establishing a fresh start for humanity after the flood. The descendants of Noah are seen as choosing to be faithful to God. Therefore, God will never destroy humanity again. He makes a covenant with humanity sealed by the rainbow. **"I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth."** Then in the second reading from 1 Peter, Jesus is seen as dying for the sake of humanity, and just as God saved Noah and his family, by the grace of God we are saved through the waters of Baptism.

**"Beloved: Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God."** And finally, we have the usual First Sunday of Lent gospel which focuses on the temptation of Jesus in the desert. Jesus has now taken over from John the Baptist and the radical presence of God in the person of Jesus is underway. But first there is a purification which Jesus undergoes in the desert. While Israel often failed when confronted by temptation in the desert, Jesus fends off Satan on every attempt made to tempt him. When he emerged from the desert he started to take over where John the Baptist left off. **"This is the time of fulfilment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."**

So here we re in Lent. **Maybe the Christian commandment to love can be boiled down to a simple rule: Do good and avoid evil.** If we find ourselves stuck in a place where it is hard to do good, we need to find a place like the one Pope Francis urges us to locate, a place where we can use our best gifts to help those who are hurting the most, or the ones we feel called to help the most. Lent puts the emphasis right in front of our eyes. We are called to repentance and a recommitment to the Christian life, a different life.

If we are doing Lent the right way, we go to the desert with Jesus. We go there to let ourselves be formed or reformed by God. We separate ourselves from our consumer culture so that Jesus can shape us into a people who are different, a purposefully different community. This Lent is a time for us to reexamine and call into question the very values and attitudes on which we base our every day lives and behavior.

What does this Lent mean to you and me? One simple thing to keep doing in the Lenten weeks ahead is to ask yourself a question before making decisions, before acting. **Is this action or decision one that will please God and not simply you?** Ask God to teach you to live your life to the full, and yet a life lived based on God's love. So, vow to do good this Lent, whether it involves time, money, or the way you relate to one another.

As we move more into the first week of Lent, please remember that besides the usual 7:15am and 8:45am Masses Monday thru Friday there will be a 12:15pm Mass also celebrated on those days. And while there will not be the Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings, there is a Stations of the Cross-prayer service in the bulletin each Sunday of Lent for you to use either at home or during a visit to church during the week. There is also a great way to make your Lenten journey truly a walk with Jesus. By having a subscription to **FORMED** you have at your disposal so many great Catholic programs, documentaries, movies, teachings, and resources for the entire family. I know that you will find so many helpful resources at your disposal.

**And the subscription is FREE.** It is a gift to you from your parish. Just follow the link found on the parish website and sign up. I promise you will not be disappointed. Hopefully, despite living under the restrictions of this pandemic we can still make Lent a spiritually enriching one through our prayer, sacrifices and helping of those in need.

**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** (hurry, don't miss out on this chance to win big bucks), the Lenten **Stations of the Cross** service for personal use, 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 great First Week of Lent. **Pray, sacrifice and help others all with a Lenten smile. And remember: You can tell how big a person you by what are it takes to discourage you.** God bless always.

**-Father Chuck**



# WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021 – FIRST 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, FEBRUARY 21, 2021 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

## FIRST READING

**Gn 9:8-15**

God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you: all the birds, and the various tame and wild animals that were with you and came out of the ark. I will establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all bodily creatures be destroyed by the waters of a flood; there shall not be another flood to devastate the earth." God added: "This is the sign that I am giving for all ages to come, of the covenant between me and you and every living creature with you: I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the covenant I have made between me and you and all living beings, so that the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all mortal beings."

## SECOND READING

**1 Pt 3:18-22**

Beloved:  
Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit. In it he also went to preach to the spirits in prison, who had once been disobedient while God patiently waited in the days of Noah during the building of the ark, in which a few persons, eight in all, were saved through water. This prefigured baptism, which saves you now. It is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers subject to him.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9**

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths, Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior.

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your love are from of old. In your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O LORD.

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Good and upright is the LORD, thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, and he teaches the humble his way.

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

## VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

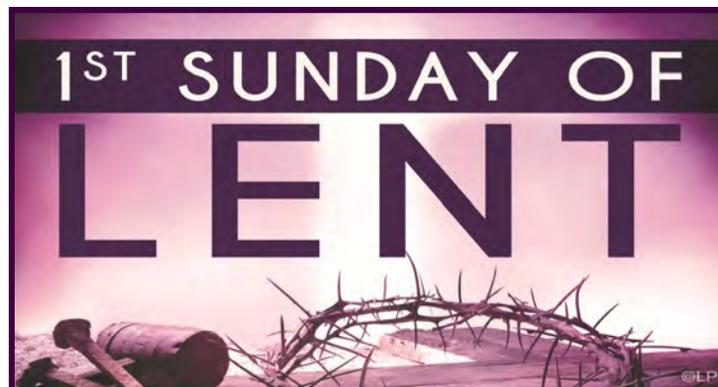
**MT 4:4b**

One does not live on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes forth from  
the mouth of God.

## GOSPEL

**Mk 1:12-15**

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."



# 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.





## PRAYER FOR THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER

O God, Who by delivering to Thy blessed Apostle Peter the keys of the kingdom of Heaven, didst confer upon him the pontifical power of binding and of loosing, grant that, by the help of his intercession, we may be delivered from the bonds of our sins. Who livest and reignest with Thee, One God, world without end.

Amen.



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

**February 23 Liturgy and Our Covenant with God...**  
online via ZOOM

**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**

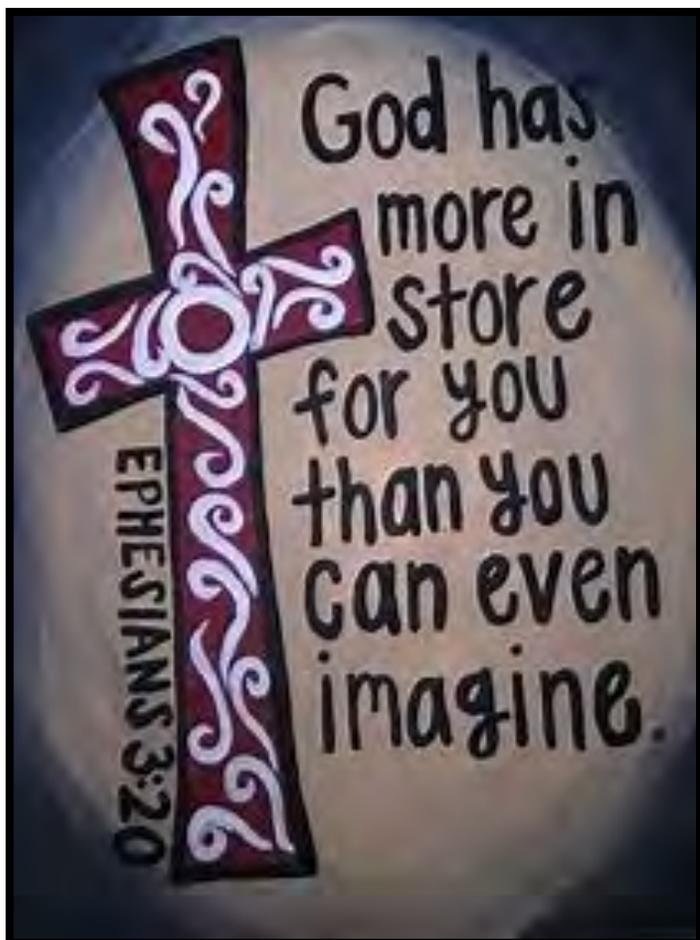
Be Bold. Be Catholic.®

### **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](http://www.dynamiccatholic.com)**



## 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.





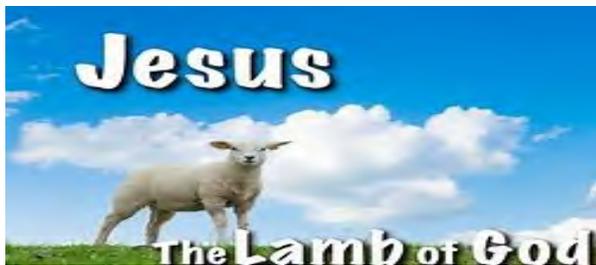


## The Rose for Life Program

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.



### A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

**O Most Blessed Virgin Mary**, Mother of Mercy, at this most critical time, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care.

Most Holy Mother, we beg you to reclaim this Land for the glory of your Son. Overwhelmed With the burden of the sins of our nation, we cry to you from the depths of our hearts and seek refuge in you motherly protection.

Look down with mercy upon us and touch the hearts of our people. Open our minds to the great worth of human life and to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

Free us from the falsehoods that lead to the evil of abortion and threaten the sanctity of family life. Grant our country the wisdom to proclaim that God's law is the foundation on which this nation was founded, and that He alone is the True Source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

O Merciful Mother, give us the courage to reject the culture of death and the strength to build a new Culture of Life. **Amen.**

### 2021 MASS BOOK



**The 2021 Mass Book is now open! Come into the Rectory and have a Mass said for a loved one!**

*"Put all the good works in the world against one Holy Mass; they will be as a grain of sand beside a mountain."*

*– St. John Vianney*

**Religious Education- Faith Formation**  
*Evelyn Contaldi, Director*

**Classes will resume and the office will re-open on Monday 2/22/2021.**

**ATTENTION 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE PARENTS**

An e-mail was sent to all 2<sup>nd</sup> grade parents (memo to St. Raymond School students) with information regarding First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. If any 2<sup>nd</sup> grade parent did not receive the e-mail, please notify the Religious Education office at 516-593-9075 or e-mail econaldsre@optonline.net.

**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 8<sup>TH</sup> 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.

**REMINDER TO 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENTS**

On February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 an e-mail along with four Confirmation assignment attachments was sent to the parents. This is a reminder that this homework is due in the Religious Education office on or before 3/1/2021. Instructions on how to return these assignments are at the top of each page that was sent. If parents need the forms re-sent, please e-mail the Religious Education office – econaldsre@optonline.net.

**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.

**Principal's Corner**  
*Sister Ruthanne*

Listen carefully to the Collect from today's mass. It reads: "Grant, almighty God, through the yearly observances of holy Lent, that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their efforts." Sounds like a wonderful way not only to begin Lent, but to practice during the days of the season.

So today is the end of our annual WINTER BREAK, and we start back to school tomorrow. Hopefully, all will be healthy and well-rested! We are quickly coming to the close of the second trimester which means comps for the BRIDGE and end of the term tests for everyone else. Students have that information and should be preparing for the tests already.

I want to welcome Mrs. Ann Szalai to our school for the remainder of the year. Mrs. Szalai has been working with our BRIDGE students in Miss Berghammer's place and has agreed to stay with us till the end of year. We are most grateful to her for joining our school at this time.

Thanks so very much for your continued support of the school. I understand that our "second go around" with the fundraiser with Baxter's was quite successful and that many folks visited Chipotle on the 10<sup>th</sup>. I realize that these seem to be rather insignificant, but please know that every little bit helps. God bless you for your effort.

Please continue to check our school website at [www.srsny.org](http://www.srsny.org) for updated information about the school. Folks who are visiting for the first time should click on the "I am new" tab for a little extra help. Feel free to call the school with questions or more information. We will be delighted to assist you. Have a prayerful week. Remember that Lent is prayer, sacrifice, and alms-giving - all for the Lord.

**God bless!**

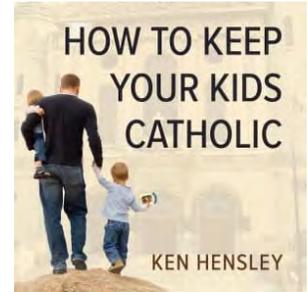
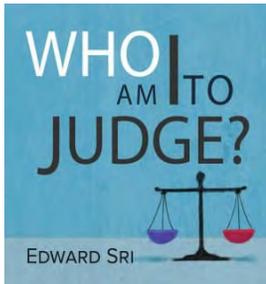




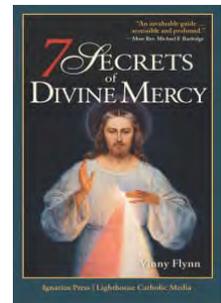
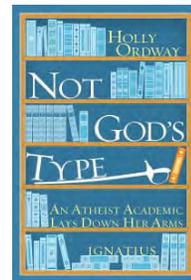
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# *It's time for the next round of...*



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 #: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Address: \_\_\_\_\_**

**City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_**

## Sodality of Our Lady Scholarship Exam 2021

**WHAT:** Three \$800 scholarships sponsored by  
The Sodality of Our Lady at St. Raymond's Church.  
Three \$150 Marianne Malone Memorial Scholarships.

**WHO:** Any eighth grade student, living within the geographic boundaries of St. Raymond's Parish, who has been accepted for admission to a Catholic High School in September 2021.

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 11, 2021.  
Time 4:00pm to 5:00pm

**WHERE:** The test will be administered through Email  
(instructions will be sent to participants after the registration deadline)

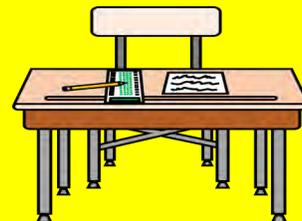
**EXAM:** ONE ESSAY

**HOW:** To Register – Call or text Patricia Winter (516)376-0364 before Friday, March 5, 2021. Your registration will be confirmed. If you have not received a confirmation please call again.

**REGISTRATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER  
FRIDAY, March 5, 2021**

**\*\*\*ABSOLUTELY No add-ons past the DEADLINE.**

***A student cannot sit for the exam without first being registered\*\*\****



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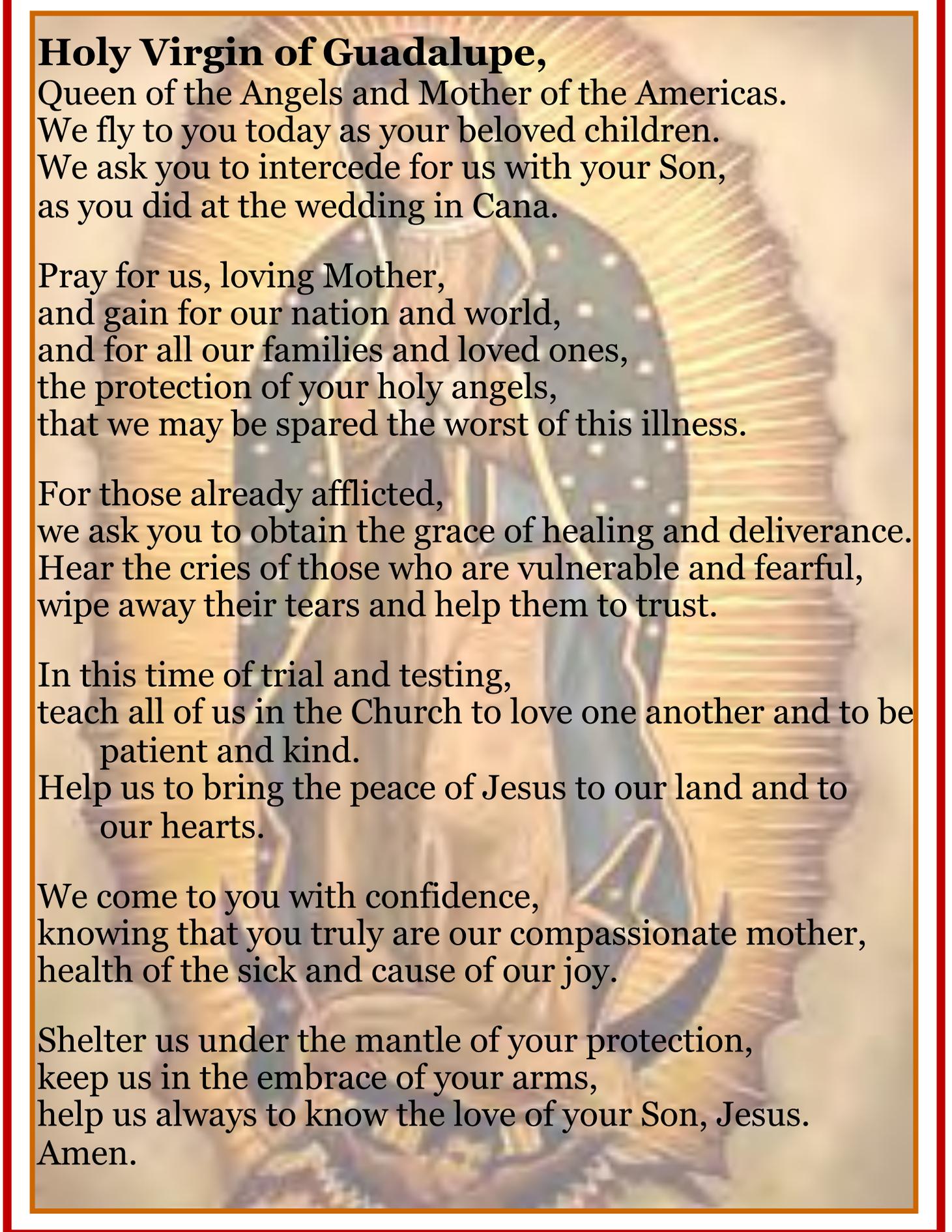
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AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE  
*We will serve the Lord.*

JEREMIAH 29:43





## **Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,**

Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.

We fly to you today as your beloved children.

We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,  
as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother,  
and gain for our nation and world,  
and for all our families and loved ones,  
the protection of your holy angels,  
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted,  
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.  
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,  
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing,  
teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be  
patient and kind.

Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to  
our hearts.

We come to you with confidence,  
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,  
health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,  
keep us in the embrace of your arms,  
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.  
Amen.

**A Prayer as I put on my mask:**

Creator,  
As I prepare to go into the world,  
Help me to see the sacrament  
In the wearing of this cloth-  
Let it be "an outward sign  
Of an inward grace"-

**A tangible and visible way of living  
Love for my neighbors,**

**Christ,**  
Since my lips will be covered,  
Uncover my heart,  
That people would see my smile  
In the crinkles around my eyes.

Since my voice may be muffled,  
Help me to speak clearly,  
Not only with my words,  
But with my actions.

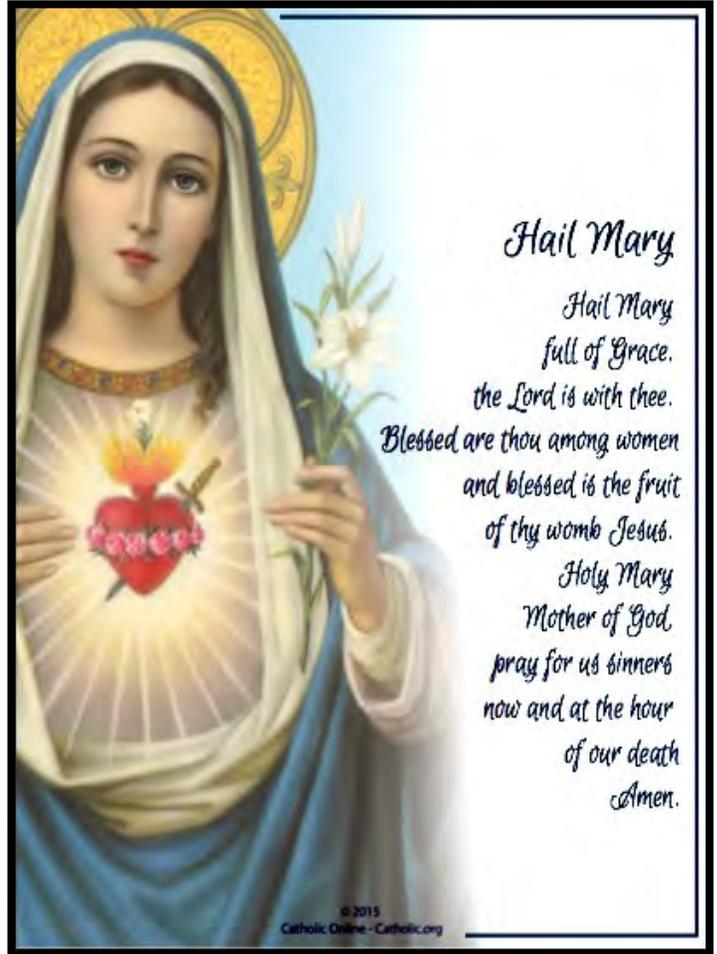
Holy Spirit,  
As the elastic touches my ears,  
Remind me to listen carefully-  
And full of care-  
To all those I meet.

May this simple piece of cloth be  
Shield and banner,

And each breath that it holds,  
Be filled with your love.

In your name and in  
The name of love  
I pray.

May it be so, May it be so.



**PRAYER OF  
SPIRITUAL  
COMMUNION**

*My Jesus, I believe that you are  
present in the most Blessed  
Sacrament, I love You above all  
things and I desire to receive You  
Into my soul. Since I cannot now  
receive You sacramentally, come at  
least spiritually into my heart. I  
embrace You as if You have already  
come, and unite myself wholly to  
You. Never permit me to be  
separated from You.*

*Amen*





# Masses for this Week

## Monday, February 22nd

*Feast of the Chair of St. Peter*

- 7:15am Regina Rodenburg (living)
- 8:45am Teddy Ramos, Sr.
- 12:15pm Eileen Schmitt (living)

## Tuesday, February 23rd

- 7:15am Michael Gordon
- 8:45am Veronica Gordon
- 12:15pm Edward A. Farrell

## Wednesday, February 24th

- 7:15am Holy Souls in Purgatory
- 8:45am Donohoe Family (living)
- 12:15pm Gregory Bardak

## Thursday, February 25th

- 7:15am Ralph LaRegina
- 8:45am Holy Souls in Purgatory
- 12:15pm Roderick McLane

## Friday, February 26th

- 7:15am Winifred Kent Eaton
- 8:45am Nunny Abbott
- 12:15pm St. Raymond Parish

## Saturday, February 27th

- 8:45am Tom Collins
- 5:00pm George Martorana

## Sunday, February 28th

- 7:30am Robert Cissari
- 9:00am Joseph O'Doherty
- 10:30am Franco Barbuto
- 12:00pm Kristopher Polanco
- 4:30pm St. Raymond Parish

### Scripture Readings for the Week

#### Monday

1 Pt 5:1-4 /Mt 16:13-19

#### Tuesday

Is 55:10-11 /Mt 6:7-15

#### Wednesday

Jon 3:1-10/ Lk 11:29-32

#### Thursday

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 /Mt 7:7-12

#### Friday

Ez 18:21-28 /Mt 5:20-26

#### Saturday

Dt 26:16-19 /Mt 5:43-48

#### Sunday

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/ Rom 8:31b-34 /Mk 9:2-10

### Please Pray for Our Sick

Fr, Tom Moriarity, Deacon Rich LaRossa, Valerie Fellows, Jeanette Kostyrka, Rudy Romano, Tamika Brown, Azai Betty McCormack, Cathy Maziejka, Stephen Iervalino, Ralph Cerrato, Sky Mary Cirrito, Pat Bolino, Anthony Sisco Gloria Criscuolo, Gina Mazzola, Dr. Sam Iyer, Samara Q, Patricia Criscuolo, Joan Ellyn Bolino, Connie & Fred Polik, 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.

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



**Rest in Peace**  
Mary Nucifero



### The Sanctuary Light

For this week in memory of

Kristopher Polanco

Much love,

The Ohlsen & Weinblatt  
Families



### The Rose for Life

In Memory of

Father Gerard O'Meara

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As we begin our Lenten journey, what is one thing you can do throughout this season to serve your God and neighbor? Perhaps, if your means allow, give a little more in the weekly offertory or donate goods to a parish's food pantry?

# 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.

### Engaged Encounter *Preparing for Marriage?*

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For info, call Lenny & Pat Walker at 631-563-1032, or visit [www.engagedencounterli.org](http://www.engagedencounterli.org)

### End of Life Decision Making

Catholic teaching on end of life decisions; nutrition and hydration; palliative and hospice care; assisted suicide, euthanasia; healthcare proxies and living wills.

For info, visit [www.catholicendoflife.org](http://www.catholicendoflife.org).

### 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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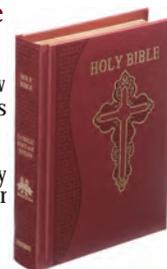
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