

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, October 18, 2020

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

“Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar
and to God what belongs to God.”

-Matt 22:21



October 18th

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome To Our Parish Family!

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

Rectory

Office Hours are Monday-Friday from 9am-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.



**We would like to update our
list of our service Men & Women,
in order to keep them In our prayers.
Please email any requests to
strayrcc@optonline.net and write
“Attention Bulletin Editor”
in the subject line. Also, include
name, rank and branch.**

Thank you!



**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 Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time! Today's readings emphasize that God is the giver of all gifts and our achievements and successes are a direct result of his goodness. Whether we are aware or not, the praise for what we may have done belongs not to us but instead, in all honesty, to God. In the first reading from Isaiah, the prophet shows that God alone provides all we need to be creative in this world. **"I have called you by name; giving you a title, though you knew me not."** Then in the second reading from 1 Thessalonians, Paul shows gratitude to the people for being committed to faith, hope and love, and for their acceptance of the Gospel. **"For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction."** And finally, in Matthew's gospel we have the beginning of a series of controversies between Jesus and the Pharisees. This particular episode is a high impact one for the Jews. Should they pay the hated Roman tax? Jesus knows he is being tested and so when he looks at a coin, his answer actually qualifies that everything belongs to God. **"Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God."**

If you take some time to think about a special talent or gift you have received, I wonder if you also believe that God was the giver of your gift? We do not usually think about how many people or groups were involved in making or developing the talent or gift we are thinking about. But if you think back far enough, I believe you would discover that everything you have has come from the giver of all gifts. And when you reflect as such, then you are into the meaning of today's readings. All of us have received gifts we tend to overlook or for which we take full credit. Seldom do we realize they are God given as today's Old Testament reading points out. Then Paul teaches us about gratitude as the response we make to God for all he has given us. Gratitude also is quite a gift in and of itself. And it costs the one who gives so little. Then the gospel points out that not all gifts are accepted because they may not be what one really wants or expected. The Pharisees wanted a royal Messiah who could drive out the Romans who had ruled the Jews for almost 100 years. But Jesus amazed them with his answer. They could not respond to it and so many of them went away to plot against him some more. But those who accepted Jesus received the gift of everlasting life. What better gift is there than that?

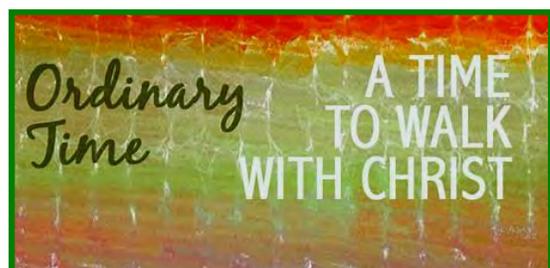
This weekend we celebrated the **Sacrament of Confirmation** for a group of our ninth graders. While we cannot have the usual celebration of Confirmation with a bishop this year due to the pandemic restrictions, we are able to still have the sacrament for our parish. There will be three more Confirmation services over the coming weeks so that all those who prepared over the last two years will have Confirmation conferred upon them. Congratulations to the first group of Confirmands, their sponsors, and parents. May the Gifts of the Holy Spirit fill you with a strong fervor for living your Catholic faith for the rest of their lives. Special thanks to our Religious Education Department and St. Raymond School who helped in the formation of our students to get them ready for their Confirmation day.

Our Backwards Money Drawing is only four weeks away! There are still about 250 tickets available. Remember that the grand prize for the last ticket drawn is \$10,000.00, plus there are other prizes totaling another \$10,000.00 which will also be won. We could still use more help as **"ticket agents"** by stopping by the rectory to take a ticket (s) that you will get sold over the next couple of weeks. Thanks to all those who have purchased a ticket and are acting as ticket agents. With the help of everyone we can make this fundraiser for our parish and school a big success once again.

Please remember to take home a copy of the bulletin when you leave Mass today or read it on the parish website (www.SaintRaymonds.org). 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 **Backwards Money Drawing**, an invitation to join **FORMED** (your Catholic faith on demand) and much more. To keep informed, keep a copy of the bulletin at home each week for quick and easy reference.

Have a great week. **Smile, share and help someone in need. Plus remember: Write you own eulogy. Never stop revising.** God bless always.

-Father Chuck



WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020—29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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 Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great
glory, Lord God, Heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the
Father, You take away the sin of the
world, have mercy on us;
You take away the sin of the world,
receive our prayer; You are seated
at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One;
you alone are the Lord.
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God, the Father.
Amen

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, OCTOBER 18, 2020—29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST READING

IS 45:1, 4-6

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, Cyrus, whose right hand I grasp, subduing nations before him, and making kings run in his service, opening doors before him and leaving the gates unbarred: For the sake of Jacob, my servant, of Israel, my chosen one, I have called you by your name, giving you a title, though you knew me not. I am the LORD and there is no other, there is no God besides me. It is I who arm you, though you know me not, so that toward the rising and the setting of the sun people may know that there is none besides me. I am the LORD, there is no other.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10

R. (7b) Give the Lord glory and honor. Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all you lands. Tell his glory among the nations; among all peoples, his wondrous deeds. R. Give the Lord glory and honor. For great is the LORD and highly to be praised; awesome is he, beyond all gods. For all the gods of the nations are things of nought, but the LORD made the heavens. R. Give the Lord glory and honor. Give to the LORD, you families of nations, give to the LORD glory and praise; give to the LORD the glory due his name! Bring gifts, and enter his courts. R. Give the Lord glory and honor. Worship the LORD, in holy attire; tremble before him, all the earth; say among the nations: The LORD is king, he governs the peoples with equity. R. Give the Lord glory and honor.



ALLELUIA

PHIL 2:15D, 16A

R. Alleluia, alleluia.
Shine like lights in the world
as you hold on to the word of life.
R. Alleluia, alleluia

SECOND READING

1 THES 1:1-5B

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: grace to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers, unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith and labor of love and endurance in hope of our Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and Father, knowing, brothers and sisters loved by God, how you were chosen. For our gospel did not come to you in word alone, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with much conviction.

GOSPEL

MT 22:15-21

The Pharisees went off and plotted how they might entrap Jesus in speech. They sent their disciples to him, with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are a truthful man and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. And you are not concerned with anyone's opinion, for you do not regard a person's status. Tell us, then, what is your opinion: Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" Knowing their malice, Jesus said, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites? Show me the coin that pays the census tax." Then they handed him the Roman coin. He said to them, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

BACKWARDS MONEY DRAWING

Back by popular & necessary demand, our special fundraiser for St. Raymond Parish and School, the "**Backwards Money Drawing!**" This special fundraiser will be held on **Sunday Afternoon, November 15, 2020. Tickets for the Backwards Drawing are \$100.00 each, with only 500 tickets available.**



The grand prize of **\$10,000.00** will be awarded to the last ticket drawn. There will also be an additional **\$10,000.00** in prize money spread amongst other tickets as they are drawn. **For us to be successful, we need to sell all 500 tickets!** While \$100.00 may be high, the price can easily be shared with family, friends or co-workers. The key is to be in it for a chance at the grand prize of \$10,000.00. Winners need not be present at the drawing. Tickets are available at the rectory during regular office hours and you may also use the tear-off below to order a ticket.

Backward Drawing Prizes



- Ticket #1- \$500
- Ticket #50- \$200
- Ticket #100- \$200
- Ticket #150- \$200
- Ticket #200- \$200
- Ticket #250- \$200
- Ticket #300- \$200
- Ticket #350- \$200
- Ticket #400- \$200
- Ticket #450- \$200
- Ticket #491- \$300
- Ticket #492- \$400
- Ticket #493- \$500
- Ticket #494- \$600
- Ticket #495- \$700
- Ticket #496- \$800
- Ticket #497- \$900
- Ticket #498- \$1000
- Ticket #499- \$2500



Ticket #500 - \$10,000 (Grand Prize)

Backwards Money Drawing Ticket Order Form – November 15, 2020

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ Number of Tickets: _____



The Journey of Grief

Share the memories of your beloved.
Let us encourage you with compassion.
Life has changed for you, we are here
with caring hands.

St. Raymond's Bereavement Ministry
Call: 516-593-5000



Stewardship

a way of life

***This week, reach out to your elderly
friends and relatives. Give them a call
and let them know you are thinking
about them.***



Not all of us
can do great things.
But we can do small things
with great love.

Parish Social Ministry

The Heart of the Parish

"Your cup of joy will over flow"

-John 15:11

Parish Pantry needs for this week include: Hot cereal, cold cereal, canned carrots, peas, string beans and potatoes; rice sides, canned fruit, shampoo, conditioner, laundry and dish detergent.

***Blessing on you and your families as we make
our way through this pandemic. May you stay
healthy and strong in God's love.***



OPENING OF THE 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



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.

Religious Education - Faith Formation

Evelyn Contaldi, Director

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION 2020/2021

For the 2020/2021 school year, Religious Education classes will be taught via ZOOM classes and will begin the week of October 19th, 2020 and go through April 22nd, 2021.

GRADE 1 HOME PROGRAM - PARENTS WILL MEET 5 TIMES VIA ZOOM DURING THE RELIGIOUS ED SCHOOL YEAR WITH A CATECHIST TO REVIEW EACH UNIT IN THE CHILD'S BOOK.

GRADE 2 TUESDAYS 4PM-4:45PM -ALSO AVAILABLE IS ON TUESDAY CLASS 4:30PM-5:15PM & ONE MONDAY 4PM-4:45PM

GRADES 3, 4, 5, 6 MONDAY/WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY 4PM-4:45PM

GRADES 7 & 8 MONDAYS OR TUESDAYS - 7PM-7:45PM

The following are the dates that your child will be receiving Confirmation in St. Raymond Church. Fr. Chuck Romano will be the presider at all Confirmation ceremonies. The groups are broken out by the name of the teacher your child had for 8th grade Religion:

Saturday, October 17th, 2020 10AM

St. Raymond School students

Saturday, October 24th, 2020 10AM

Mrs. Chrissy Costello – class 8-6

Mr. Charlie Kelly – class 8-7

Saturday, November 7th, 2020 10AM

Mrs. Mary Beth Perri – class 8-1

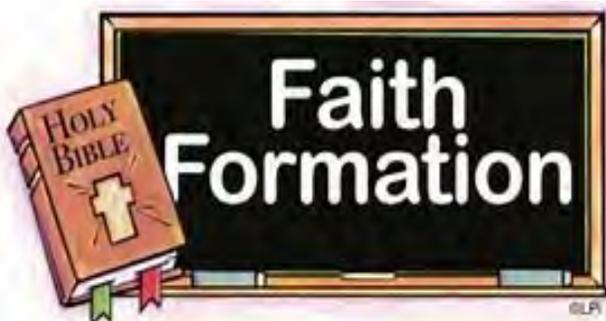
Kellenberg students

Saturday, November 7th, 2020 2PM

Mrs. Kloeckener – class 8-2

Mr. Neil Schloth – class 8-3

1. In each pew – Child + Sponsor + parents + 4 additional guests = 8 PEOPLE IN THE PEW. NO MORE THAN 8 PEOPLE ARE PERMITTED IN YOUR CHILD'S ROW – THE 8 INCLUDES THE CHILD AND THEIR SPONSOR.
2. NO ADDITIONAL GUESTS – THE CONFIRMANDI WILL BE FILLING PEWS NEAR OR TO THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.
3. EVERYONE MUST WEAR A MASK.
4. GOWN PICK-UP - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH, 2020 – 5PM-8PM – ST. RAYMOND SCHOOL CAFETERIA (MASKS MUST BE WORN). IF YOU CANNOT MAKE THIS DATE, HAVE SOMEONE PICK UP ON YOUR BEHALF.



Principal's Corner

Sister Ruthanne

Like St. Paul to the Thessalonians in today's second reading, "We give thanks to God always for all of you, remembering you in our prayers..." It is so appropriate to thank all of you for your continued support, both spiritual and financial. We would be lost without you. I suppose that Catholic Schools have always depended on the generosity of the parishioners to contribute to the upkeep of the schools. In this time of pandemic, that is even truer. So, thanks again for all that you do to help keep us afloat - and with a smile!

We want to congratulate our 2020 graduates on the occasion of their Confirmation. It is wonderful that these young men and women have taken the next step in their faith development and we truly applaud them for their efforts. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide you as you grow in faith, hope and love.

Over the next couple of weeks our children will be taking the iReady diagnostic tests in Math and Reading. The test is being administered to students in kindergarten through eighth grade and is computer based. There is no special prep - just a good night's sleep and healthy breakfast.

Speaking of the iReady test, the teachers, once again, need to be instructed on how to best use the results. Therefore, I am adding an EARLY DISMISSAL (11:30 AM) on Monday, October 26th so that they can receive all that they need to utilize the results properly. I am sorry for the inconvenience it may cause, but it needs to be completed before the end of the month. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

Our Parent Club has set up a McDonald's Night for Wednesday, October 28th at the Oceanside McDonald's on Atlantic Avenue from 5 to 8 pm. This time, however, it is for the drive thru. Even though the children love to use the playroom, it is too much like playing in a petri dish - too many germs during a pandemic!

We are also having our annual WALK FOR EDUCATION during the students' physical education classes the last week of October. Our students will be asking for sponsors for their walk. The little ones (K-3) walk around the perimeter of the building, while the older ones circle the block. Mr. Dolan is working with the classes individually so that we can maintain social distancing. Thanks for your support - as always!

Now with my IHM hat, I want to remind all those who purchased memberships in the IHM Silver Circle that the first drawing of this year is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21st. Hopefully, we will be receiving phone calls to announce local winners. We have about 115 tickets in the pot! Good luck to all.

Enjoy the week and let us pray for one another. God bless each of you.





LIVE THE GOSPEL OF LIFE Respect Life Month Statement, October 2020

*Most Reverend Joseph F. Naumann
Chairman, USCCB Committee on
Pro-Life Activities*

As Catholics in the United States, we will soon mark our annual observance of October as Respect Life Month. It is a time to focus on God's precious gift of human life and our responsibility to care for, protect, and defend the lives of our brothers and sisters.

This year's theme, "Live the Gospel of Life," was inspired by the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of Pope John Paul II's encyclical *The Gospel of Life*. Pope John Paul's masterfully articulated defense of the right to life for children in their mothers' wombs, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and the marginalized is more relevant today than ever before.

This past November, the U.S. bishops reaffirmed that "the threat of abortion remains our preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed." While we noted not to "dismiss or ignore other serious threats to human life and dignity such as racism, the environmental crisis, poverty, and the death penalty," we renewed our commitment to protect the most fundamental of all human rights—the right to live.

This past January, I shared with Pope Francis that the Bishops of the United States had been criticized by some for identifying the protection of the unborn as a pre-eminent priority. The Holy Father expressed his support for our efforts observing that if we fail to protect life, no other rights matter. Pope Francis also said that abortion is not primarily a Catholic or even a religious issue, it is first and foremost a human rights issue.

The Gospel of Life provides a blueprint for building a culture of life and civilization of love. The important work of transforming our culture begins by allowing the Gospel of Christ to touch and transform our own hearts and the decisions we make. May we strive to imitate Christ and follow in his footsteps, caring for the most vulnerable among us. Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, may Our Lord grant us the grace to live courageously and faithfully his Gospel of life.



St. Raymond Human Life Committee

"A couple of weeks ago I went for my physical, and was in the x-ray room. There, as clear as day, was the dramatic warning: 'X-rays can be dangerous to your unborn baby. Let the technician know if you are pregnant.' We all know it, don't we? We're not talking about a "fetus", "a mass of cells", but a baby. The x-ray technicians know it; the obstetricians who show the sonogram to the mom know it; even the teenage mom on a recent program sympathetic to abortion knew it when she pointed and whispered, 'Don't tell me that little baby is just an it.'.. This is a civil rights issue, the premier civil rights issue of our day!" (Most Rev. Timothy Dolan)

To be "pro-choice" or to be "pro-abortion" are basically the same to the babies in the womb. Even though the "pro-choice" people do not agree with abortion for themselves, they would not "interfere" with a "woman's choice". Neither group works to legally end abortion thereby, protecting the innocents - and thus the killing of the babies in the womb continues each and every day. There is no in-between when deciding the fate of the human babies in the womb. It is either life or death, pro-life or pro-choice/ pro-abortion.





October 1, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Today, I have some important but difficult news to share with you. Earlier this morning, the Diocese of Rockville Centre has filed a voluntary petition for reorganization under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. This decision was not made lightly. However, in the year since the passage of the Child Victims Act, more than 200 lawsuits alleging sexual abuse have been filed against the Diocese of Rockville Centre. What became clear is that the Diocese could not continue to carry out its spiritual, charitable and educational missions while also having to shoulder the increasingly heavy burden of litigation expenses associated with these cases.

Filing for Chapter 11, we believe, is the only way for the Diocese to ensure a fair and equitable outcome for everyone involved. That is because the bankruptcy court will centralize all litigation and oversee a settlement that ensures that no survivor is left out or gets unfair compensation at the expense of another survivor.

During this period of restructuring, most Diocesan operations and ministries will continue without interruption. We anticipate that current and future financial liquidity will be sufficient to fund normal operations and services during this restructuring process. Our employees will be paid their normal wages. Benefit programs will continue, uninterrupted. Our vendors will be paid for all goods and services after filing, and ordinary operations will continue as before.

We know that most people experience the life of the Church through their parish, so it is important to note that the good work of our parishes and Catholic schools is expected to continue as normal. Since the parishes and schools of the Diocese of Rockville Centre are separate legal entities, they are not included in this Chapter 11 filing. But it is also the case that after Chapter 11, the Diocese will have fewer financial resources to help struggling schools and parishes.

I also would like to stress that the practice of our Catholic Faith and administration of the sacraments continues just as it has and will not be affected by this legal filing. It is my hope and prayer that operations will be unaffected during the restructuring process as we work to maintain the stability of our many ministries. We will certainly need to prioritize the charitable missions that are essential to Long Island, but the work of the Church must continue. Catholic evangelization must and will continue.

We know that this is hard for people across the Diocese to digest and especially difficult for the many people of Long Island, both Catholic and non-Catholic, who depend on the Church in so many ways. Parishioners will certainly have many questions, so it is important for everyone to understand what this decision means, to avoid any misconceptions.

A settlement will be determined based on the assets of the Diocese and will not include any parish offertory donations collected during Mass or any contributions to the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Our financial and legal advisors are maximizing the availability of insurance coverage and investment proceeds. It is important to note that in bankruptcy, all assets of the Diocese are part of the court record and therefore publicly available and that the process is completely transparent. All public information relating to the filing can be found on a dedicated Chapter 11 website, which can be found by clicking on the Chapter 11 icon found on the diocesan website at www.drvc.org.

For the Diocese, fair and equitable treatment for survivors of sexual abuse has always been a top priority. That is why we created the Independent Reconciliation and Compensation Program in 2017. Since then, the program has assisted approximately 350 survivors of sexual abuse. But that program also has greatly depleted our financial resources, leaving us with fewer resources to be able to litigate the CVA cases.

Over the last year, our advisors have studied our financial and legal situation extensively and concluded that a Chapter 11 filing was the only way to ensure an equitable settlement for abuse survivors, help us manage litigation expenses and carry out our essential mission and ministries.

We will work diligently with all survivors, creditors and ministries to maintain open communication while we work toward our goal of completing a settlement and a restructuring plan that includes a comprehensive resolution for those suffering survivors. Our Diocese underwent extensive reforms in 2003 with the creation of our Office for the Protection of Children and Young People. We will continue to be vigilant in our commitment to child protection.

I ask each and every Catholic on Long Island during these painful times to embrace the power of the Cross of Jesus Christ and His Divine Mercy, and to help others carry their crosses, especially survivors of clergy sexual abuse. Together, we ask for the intercession of our Blessed Mother Mary, Mother of the Church, that she continue to intercede for a spirit of holiness and mission in this Diocese and the raising up of a new generation of saints on Long Island to serve the Church and the world. All of us, as members of the faithful, are called to find strength in the Word of God and the Sacraments and to live Christ's spirit of humility, charity, compassion, sensitivity and courage. We ask for the intercession of our patroness, the courageous martyr Saint Agnes, for the fortitude to joyfully and charitably proclaim the Gospel and the Splendor of Truth in every public square.

Please know that I am praying for each and every one of you and your families and in a special way for the survivors of clergy sexual abuse. I also pray that through this restructuring process, the Diocese can emerge stronger, having resolved these issues with dignity and fairness and put everyone in a better position to move forward and heal.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John O. Barres". The signature is written in a cursive style with a cross at the beginning.

Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

Parish Questions and Answers Regarding the Diocese Filing

General Q&A

1-What is Chapter 11?

Chapter 11 is a legal mechanism for court-supervised reorganization or restructuring of a corporation's obligations. Chapter 11 provides a way for a corporation to address its financial condition in order to remain a viable entity, while continuing day-to-day operations.

2-Why did the Diocese of Rockville Centre (The Diocese) file for Chapter 11?

The Diocese took this action to ensure the viability of its ongoing mission and charitable services, while it works toward a fair and equitable way to compensate survivors of sexual abuse who brought lawsuits under the Child Victims Act. Ensuring fair and equitable settlements with all survivors requires the Diocese to manage the increasing costs of this litigation. Filing will allow the Diocese to work toward a settlement with survivors AND, at the same time, maintain its mission; serving the common good of all.

3-What entities are included in the Chapter 11 filing?

Only the Diocese itself is included in the filing. Parishes, Catholic schools and religious orders within the Diocese are not included in the filing. The Diocese of Rockville Centre is a distinct religious corporation from the Parishes, some of which include Catholic Schools as part of their missions.

Some of the Parishes are named in Child Victims Act lawsuits along with the Diocese. The Diocese will ask the Bankruptcy Court to "stay," or halt, any civil actions against the Parishes and bring these cases under the umbrella of the process to resolve abuse lawsuits that they expect to set up in the Chapter 11 case.

4-How does the Chapter 11 filing impact DRVC Schools?

Parishes, elementary schools and high schools are separate legal entities from the Diocese and are not filing Chapter 11. The Chapter 11 filing is not expected to have a direct impact on the day-to-day operations of our schools or parishes. The continued employment, salaries, and benefits of DRVC school employees also will not be impacted by this filing.

5-Why choose bankruptcy?

We hope this choice will establish a single process to compensate all survivors. We believe this offers the best opportunity for equitable settlements for all survivors.

6-Why now?

The Diocese has been named in more than 200 lawsuits since the Child Victims Act went into effect August 14, 2019. It has become clear to the Diocese that, to ensure that available financial resources are distributed fairly, it must mitigate the increasing litigation expenses and implement a comprehensive and equitable settlement with all survivors.

7-Is the bankruptcy a way to minimize your financial responsibilities to the victims?

No. The bankruptcy process will provide a transparent look at the Diocese's financial status. All documents filed in a Chapter 11 are available publicly, including information about financial resources, borrowing, insurance coverage, investments, pension obligations and expenses. It will be plain to see what the Diocese can afford to pay survivors. Our goal is to compensate the survivors of abuse as equitably as possible while continuing with our charitable missions.

8-What happens to the lawsuits that have been filed against the Diocese?

The Chapter 11 filing triggers a "stay" that essentially freezes all litigation against the Diocese. The Diocese will work with all survivors, within the Chapter 11 process, to finalize a settlement of the litigation claims. The claims and settlement will be part of the Diocese's Plan of Reorganization and must be approved by the Court before the Diocese can emerge from bankruptcy.

9-Does the Diocese have enough money to continue operating?

The Diocese believes its current and future liquidity will be sufficient to fund normal operations and services during the restructuring process and beyond. Vendors will be paid for all goods and services after the filing, and transactions that occur in the ordinary course of business will continue as before. Employees will be paid their normal wages, and health and benefits programs will continue uninterrupted.

10- long will the Diocese be in Chapter 11?

The Diocese of Rockville Centre will work to emerge from Chapter 11 as soon as possible. Given the seriousness of this situation, and the importance of dealing fairly with the survivors of abuse, we cannot give a definitive end date at this time.

11- Have other Dioceses filed and come out of Chapter 11?

Yes. Since the Child Victims Act was enacted and the window opened on August 14, 2019, four of the eight dioceses in New York have filed Chapter 11. While the New York Dioceses are still in the reorganization process, many other dioceses across the country have, through the Chapter 11 process, reached settlements with survivors of abuse.

12- Will my gift/donation to the CMA or other specific funds to be used to pay legal settlements?

No. Gifts and donations that are made to the CMA or to support specific ministries and programs will only be used for those purposes. Designated gifts can only be used for the purposes for which they were and are given.

13- Where did the Diocese file? Who is the judge? What is the case number?

The petitions were filed in U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York. The judge is the Hon. [name]. The main case number is [to be provided].

14- Where can I find Chapter 11 case information?

To ensure access to all restructuring information, the Diocese of Rockville Centre has created a link to its Reorganization Information page on the diocesan website, www.drvc.org, which contains a variety of information on our Chapter 11 restructuring. The Diocese has also set up a toll-free information line for inquiries at (888) 490-0633. For access to certain court documents and other information about our Chapter 11 case, please visit <https://dm.epiq11.com/drvc>.

Parish Q&A

15- Is our Parish included in the DRVC Chapter 11 filing?

No. Our Parish is a separate legal entity and therefore not included in the Chapter 11 filing of the Diocese.

16- Will our Parish file bankruptcy too now that the Diocese has filed?

No. There are no plans for parishes to file for Chapter 11.

17- What if our Parish has been named in a sexual abuse lawsuit? Will we need to file for bankruptcy to resolve it?

The Diocese will ask the Bankruptcy Court to “stay” or halt any sexual abuse actions against parishes and bring these cases under the umbrella of the process in order to resolve them.

18- Will my donation to the Parish during Mass now be used to settle sexual abuse lawsuits?

No. Monies collected from donors and parishioners will not be redirected toward litigation settlements.

19- What effect will the filing have on the operations and stability of Elementary and High Schools?

Each school is a separate legal entity from the Diocese and is also not included in the bankruptcy filing. Schools continue to pursue a variety of initiatives aimed at stabilizing and revitalizing. Today’s Chapter 11 filing, and the related legal proceedings, will not have direct impact on their day-to-day operations. The continued employment, salaries, and benefits of school employees will not be impacted by this filing.

20- Is there a chance that money for the DRVC schools could be used to pay abuse settlements?

Tuition, philanthropic support, and parish support of schools will, as always be fully dedicated to funding the operations of the schools are not impacted by the Diocese’s Chapter 11 filing.

21- If a parishioner has made a designated gift or donation to this parish, will that money remain here, or can it be moved to the Diocese for settlement purposes?

Designated gifts and donations are protected under New York state law and cannot be used to settle claims.

22- Will the Diocese lay off any employees as a result of the restructuring?

The Diocese has already made extensive budget cuts that resulted in the reduction of approximately ten percent of its workforce. At this time, no additional layoffs are expected.

23-The Diocese administers the lay and clergy pension and 403B funds, along with health and welfare benefits for parishes. Will there be changes in these programs? Will these funds be available to use for settlements?

The Diocese serves only as the administrator of these funds. The actual funds are held in trusts that are not available to any party for reasons other than the payments to beneficiaries as laid out in the various programs. We expect no changes in these programs as a result of the Diocese's filing.

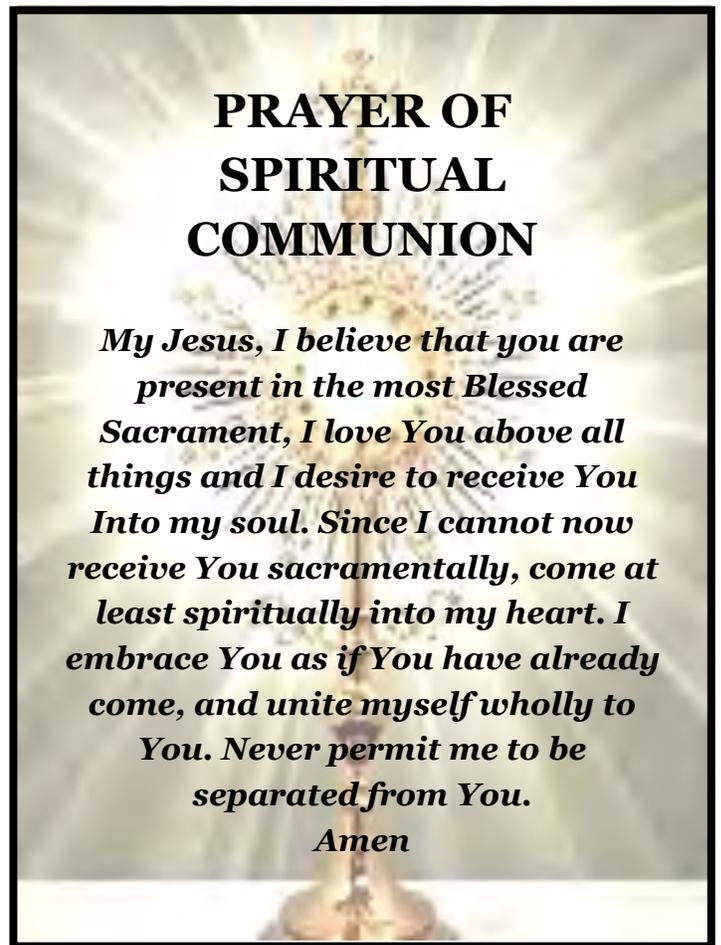
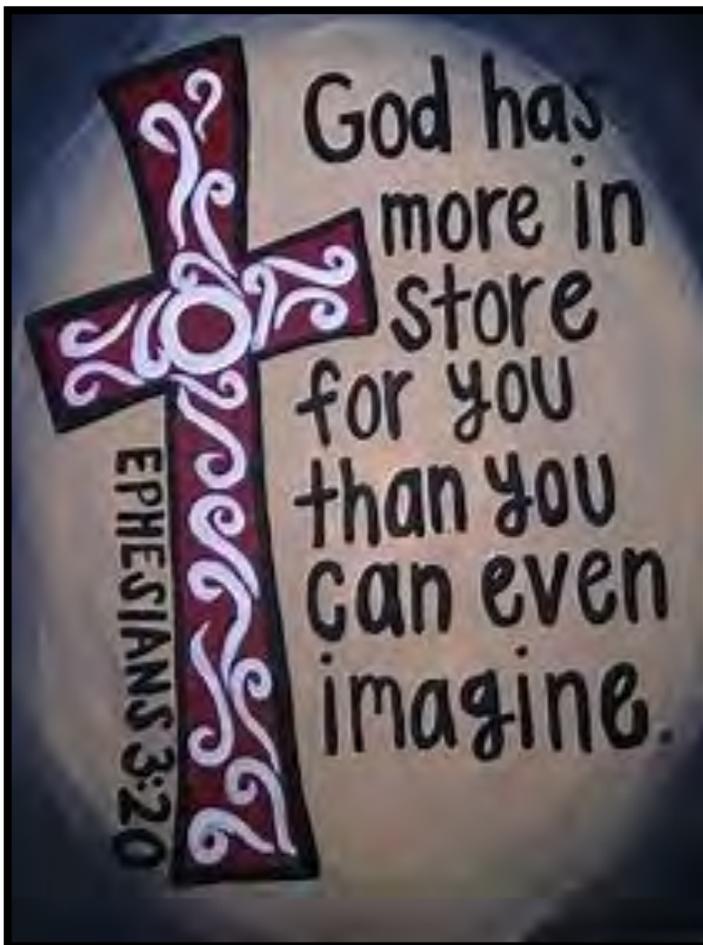
24-Is there a chance that the Diocese will sell this Parish or other real estate to help settle claims?

No. This parish and any real estate surrounding it are property of this parish, which is a separate legal entity from the Diocese. The Diocese does not have a legal right to sell property that belongs to a parish corporation.

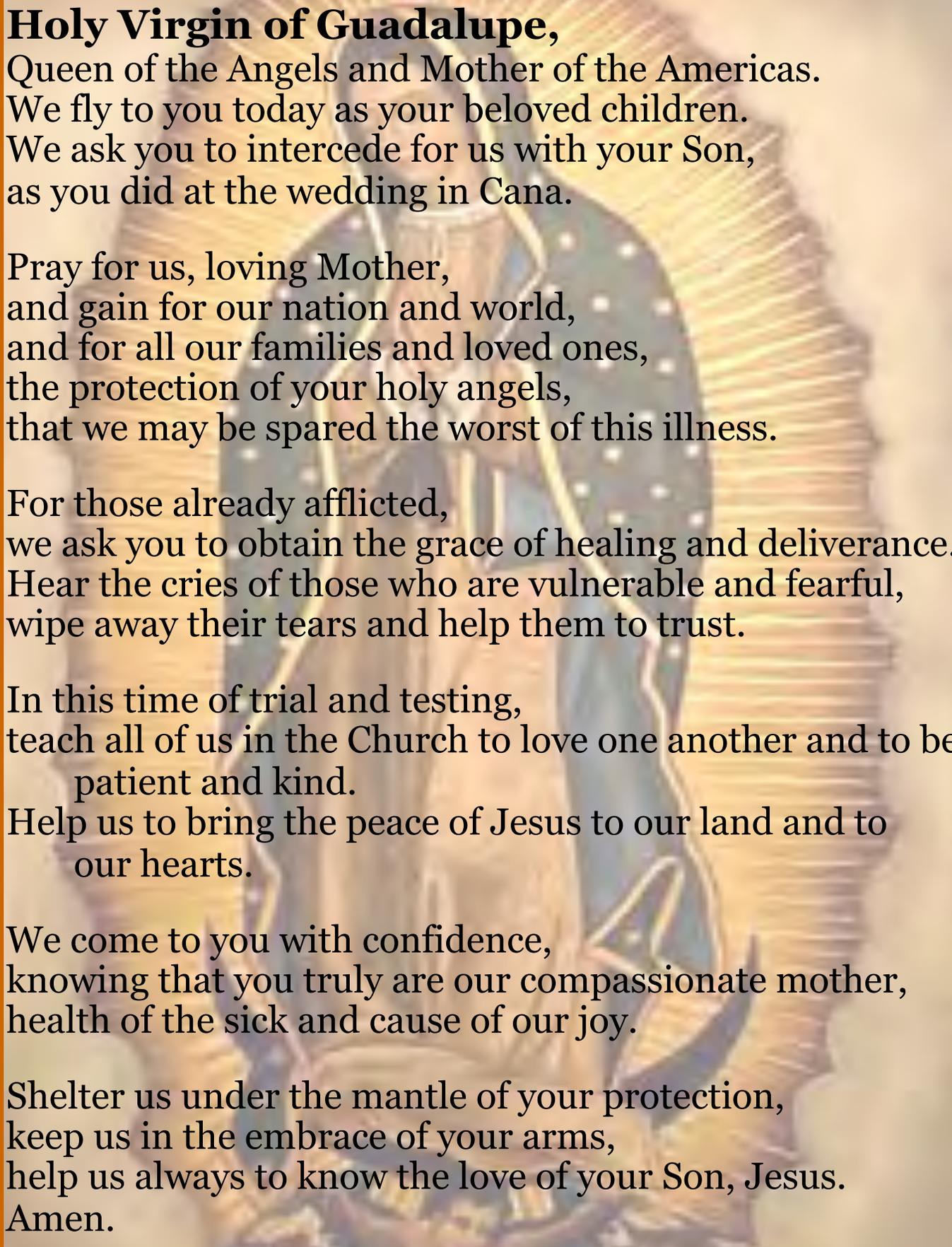
25-If our parish has been the subject of a sexual abuse allegation or lawsuit, what impact does the Diocese's filing have?

The bankruptcy process should bring closure to the lawsuits facing the Diocese and a release for all parishes from any and all abuse claims. As we move through the settlement process, additional information will be available.

Additional Information is also available by clicking on the restructuring icon on the DRVC website: www.drvc.org.



~PRAY WITHOUT CEASING~



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.

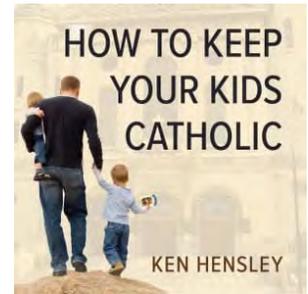
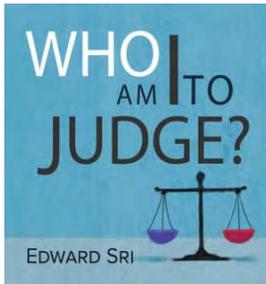
Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,
keep us in the embrace of your arms,
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.
Amen.



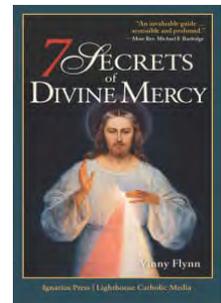
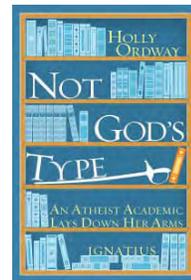
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A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

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.**



I.H.M. Silver Circle

Become a Member!



On behalf of all the IHM Sisters, I would like to invite you to become part of our Silver Circle Program, which is one of our most successful methods for raising funds to support our retired sisters. Last year, nearly \$150,000 was raised through the Silver Circle Program, and we hope this year will be just as successful.

As you may know, for many years the Sisters worked in parishes and schools without receiving any retirement benefits. Now it is an ongoing challenge to raise funds for their care. Your support of the Silver Circle Program helps us meet the needs of our retired sisters. It is a wonderful way to aid Sisters who have given their lives in service and are now in need of help from you.

Each Silver Circle membership is only \$25. Each membership you purchase offers you 324 chances to win monthly cash prizes, ranging from \$50 to \$1,000. Silver Circle raffle drawings take place on the third Wednesday of each month between October and June.

On a personal note, I can tell you that the people of St. Raymond School and Parish have been extremely supportive to the IHM Sisters. I am most appreciative of your generosity and hopefully that you will again join us in our efforts. We have had some winners—though in a way, we're all winners since being a Silver Circle member means being included in the daily prayers and sacrifices of all of our Sisters.

To purchase a membership, complete the form below, attach your check for \$25 (payable to Sisters of I.H.M.) and return to Sister Ruthanne's attention at the school, rectory or convent.

In Mary's Immaculate Heart, I remain,

Fondly, Sister Ruthanne

2020-2021 Silver Circle Membership Form

Name (Please check if new member)

Street Address (Please check if new address)

City State Zip

email address

Telephone



Masses for this Week

Monday, October 19th St. John Brebeuf
7:15am Roger Donohue *St. Isaac Jogues*
8:45am Palma & James Torre

Tuesday, October 20th
7:15am Frances & Charles Hess
8:45am Sr. Dolores McLoughlin

Wednesday, October 21st
7:15am Brendan McGuire
8:45am Pasquale Campano

Thursday, October 22nd
7:15am Tom Collins
8:45am Hank Wolfer

Friday, October 23rd
7:15am Francesco D'Aulisa
8:45am Joseph Ingrao

Saturday, October 24th
8:45am John & Maureen Raber
Al Roberts, Diane Schmitt
5:00pm Lauene Donnellan

Sunday, October 25th
7:30am Robert Thies
9:00am Tina Della Femina Bilotta
10:30am Dorothy Murphy
12:00pm Palma & James Torre
Gerard Fitzpatrick, Mary Ann Hartt
Maureen O'Shea, Stella Mackey
4:30pm St. Raymond Parish

Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday
EPH 2:1-10/LK 12:13-21
Tuesday
EPH 2:12-22/LK 12:35-38
Wednesday
EPH 3:2-12/LK 12:39-48
Thursday
EPH 3:14-21/LK 12:49-53
Friday
EPH 4:1-6/LK 12:54-59
Saturday
EPH 4:7-16/LK 13:1-9
Sunday
EX 22:20-26/I THES 1:5C-10/MT 22:34-40

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.

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



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Giovanni Marafioti
Jeanette Calogero



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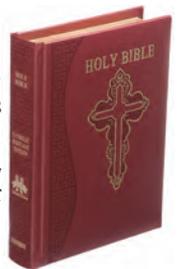
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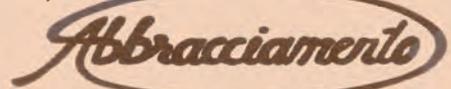


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