

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 Richard W. LaRossa
Deacon Thomas J. Malone Jr., T.S.A.

Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Lucy Ostermann

Saint Raymond Convent

Sr. Ruthanne Gypalo, I.H.M.
Sr. Lorraine Studley, I.H.M

South Nassau Hospital Chaplain

Father Cornelius Dery

Parish Staff

Music Ministry

Laura Garbitelli

Folk Group

AnnMarie Lynch

Plant Manager

Steve Bennett

Parish Secretary

Doreen Dolan

Bulletin Editor

Linda Ohlsen

The Parish of St. Raymond

*A Eucharistic Community of
Faith, Love and Friendship*

Sunday, March 19, 2023

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000



“While I am in
the world, I am
the light of
the world.”

~John 9-2

March 19, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Welcome To Our Parish Family!

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

Rectory

Office Hours are Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm;
Saturdays from 9:30am-4pm. Sundays 9am-5pm
Web Site: www.SaintRaymonds.org
Facebook: St. Raymond Parish, East Rockaway
E-Mail: StRayRcc@optonline.net
Rectory.....593-5000
Rectory Fax.....887-0554

Parish Social Ministry.....887-9197
Office Hours are Monday-Wednesday from 10am-2pm.
Parish Social Ministry Fax.....593-6278

Religious Education Office593-9075
Religious Education Office Fax593-1156
E-Mail: strayfaithformation@aol.com

Pastoral Care Of The Sick

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

Devotions

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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

Nocturnal Adoration

First Fridays from 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.

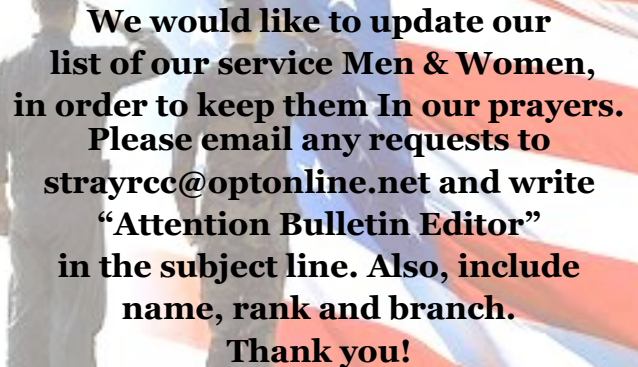
Music Ministries

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 Fr. Chuck Romano



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
PFC Alex James Cooper US MARINE CORPS
PFC Dean Thomas Cooper US MARINE CORPS
Lt. Col. Mary P. King, M.D., US ARMY
Commander Joseph Garbitelli US NAVY
Staff /Sgt. Matthew R. Hines - US ARMY
PFC Connor Thomas McHale US MARINE CORPS
Sgt. Gerard Moran
Lt. Com. Joseph Leahy US NAVY
Spec. Bryan Petriccione US ARMY –Cavalry Unit
Lt. JG Joseph Woloszyn US NAVY

Please remember to pray for our wounded soldiers.

Greetings and God's continued Lenten blessings be yours on the Fourth Sunday of Lent! Today's gospel brings us two important questions: What is truth? Who has control of the truth? The readings try to help us appreciate that Jesus is Lord of water, light and life. In the first reading from 1 Samuel we see how David is chosen and anointed the new King of Israel. Saul had failed because he tried to rule as if Israel was an earthly kingdom. Now God chooses a shepherd whose occupation right away pleases him. When David is anointed, the spirit of the Lord comes over him. As long as David follows the spirit's lead, he will truly serve the people well. After rejecting the other sons of Jesse, and upon seeing the youthful David, the Lord said, **"There, anoint him, for this is the one."** Then in the second reading from Ephesians, Paul encourages the believers to learn what pleases the Lord and to seek all goodness and truth. They no longer walk in darkness but rather in the Lord's light. **"Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness, and righteousness and truth."** And finally John's gospel tells the story of Jesus healing a man who had been born blind. This healing is a sign that shows how Jesus reveals the divine nature of God. There is much debate over how he was healed and what caused his blindness in the first place. The pharisees who are spiritually blind are the stubborn ones who have great difficulty believing in the man's testimony that Jesus did indeed heal him. **"One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see."**

It's safe to say that we all struggle with unbelief. Have you ever prayed for something, and then when it happens you convince yourself that it was a natural consequence for which God played no part. I think it's because sometimes our prayers do not seem to be answered yet at other times we have no doubt that we have received a healing, or our needs were heard. I know that God was the healer in my ability to stop smoking in 1988 and in receiving a liver transplant in 2016. **No doubt about it!** Yet I can still struggle with fully believing and trusting that God will hear and answer my prayers. I really feel it all comes down to placing and keeping Jesus as the center of my life. And it is the keeping part that I struggle with the most. Look at today's gospel about the healing of the man born blind. At first his own friends don't believe his story about being healed. Then the religious authorities won't tolerate his story because they believe they know how God acts in the world, so this man must be lying.



They reject God's invitation to a deeper faith. Next, they seek verification from the man's parents. They want the parents to verify that their son is lying, but they refuse to do so. Try as much as they can to get the man to recant his story, and without anyone else's support, he sticks to his story. So, instead of welcoming the man back into the community he is thrown out. By virtue of our baptism, we are united with Jesus, and we live in his truth. And just like the man born blind we become witnesses to Jesus in the world. People who come to the Catholic faith, particularly at this time of year need the community's witness of healing and forgiveness to strengthen them on their journey of faith. We do this so that we can at Easter be sent forth to give water, light and life to a world that needs it so very badly. Our world needs to experience the unique incarnation of Jesus we his Church's members have become.

Next weekend we are calling the Fifth Sunday of Lent (**Gift Card Sunday**)! Everyone is asked to bring a gift card from either **Stop and Shop or a Visa Gift Card** for Parish Social Ministry. These cards are a big help in meeting the needs of our parishioners who come for help both regularly and for emergencies. Please help by donating one of either a **Visa Gift Card or a Stop & Shop** card only. Place it along with your donation in the regular collection. Thanks!

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**, an ad for the **St. Patrick's Celebration** on Saturday evening, March 25th, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, reservation info for the Sodality of Our Lady's **Women's Day Retreat** on Saturday, March 25th, an ad for the next **Holy Hour** on Wednesday evening, March 29th, next week's **Gift Card Sunday Collection** at all the Masses on March 25-26, 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 Fourth Week of Lent! **Keep that Lenten smile going as you focus on Jesus and his light and life. Plus remember: You can't always get what you want, but if you pray sometimes, you just might find, you get what you need.** God bless always.
-Father Chuck

WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

MARCH 19, 2023-FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,

we give you thanks for your great
glory, Lord God, Heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the
Father, You take away the sin of the
world, have mercy on us;

You take away the sin of the world,
receive our prayer; You are seated
at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One;
you alone are the Lord.

You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God, the Father.

Amen

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and
in what I have failed to do,

[Pray while striking the breast 3 times.]
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial
with the Father; through him all things
were made. For us men and for our
Salvation he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father. He will come again in
Glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the
Son, who with the Father and the Son is
adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church. I confess one
Baptism for the forgiveness of
Sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead and the
life of the world to come.

Amen.

READINGS FOR TODAY'S MASS

MARCH 19, 2023-FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST READING

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

The LORD said to Samuel:

"Fill your horn with oil, and be on your way. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen my king from among his sons." As Jesse and his sons came to the sacrifice, Samuel looked at Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is here before him." But the LORD said to Samuel: "Do not judge from his appearance or from his lofty stature, because I have rejected him. Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the LORD looks into the heart." In the same way Jesse presented seven sons before Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any one of these." Then Samuel asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" Jesse replied, "There is still the youngest, who is tending the sheep." Samuel said to Jesse, "Send for him; we will not begin the sacrificial banquet until he arrives here." Jesse sent and had the young man brought to them. He was ruddy, a youth handsome to behold and making a splendid appearance. The LORD said, "There—anooint him, for this is the one!" Then Samuel, with the horn of oil in hand, anointed David in the presence of his brothers; and from that day on, the spirit of the LORD rushed upon David.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. He guides me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side With your rod and your staff that give me courage.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. You spread the table before me in the sight of my foes; you anooint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD for years to come.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.



SECOND READING

Eph 5:8-14

Brothers and sisters:

You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the fruitless works of darkness; rather expose them, for it is shameful even to mention the things done by them in secret; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says: "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light."

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 8:12

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.

GOSPEL

Jn 9:1-41

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him. We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" —which means Sent—. So he went and washed, and came back able to see. His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am." So they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He replied, "The man called Jesus made clay and anoointed my eyes and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went there and washed and was able to see." And they said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I don't know." They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees. Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." So some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the sabbath." But others said, "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them. So they said to the blind man again, "What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet." Now the Jews did not believe that he had been blind and gained his sight until they summoned the parents of the one who had gained his sight. They asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How does he now see?" His parents answered and said, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. We do not know how he sees now, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him, he is of age; he can speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone acknowledged him as the Christ, he would be expelled from the synagogue. For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; question him." To a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give God the praise! We know that this man is a sinner." He replied, "If he is a sinner, I do not know. One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see." So they said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?" They ridiculed him and said, "You are that man's disciple; we are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but we do not know where this one is from." The man answered and said to them, "This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where he is from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything." They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out. When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him. Then Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind." Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not also blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you are saying, 'We see,' so your sin remains.

LENT 2023

The Holy Season of Lent is an opportunity for all Christians to grow in faith through prayer, fasting and works of charity. St. Raymond Parish offers the following opportunities to assist you on your spiritual journey. Perhaps you can join us for some of these prayer gatherings during the coming weeks. Hopefully, we may all grow in our personal and communal experiences of Jesus during the holy time.

So, join us often and anytime.

We'd love to see you!



Additional Daily Mass

There will be an additional daily Mass at 12:15pm every week day throughout Lent.

Stations of the Cross

Will be prayed every Friday during Lent at 7:00pm in the church.



Eucharistic Adoration

In the Church every Thursday from 1-4pm and the First Friday of every month from 7:30-8:30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Gift Card Sunday

March 26th - Please bring a gift card from either Stop & Shop or a Visa Card for Parish Social Ministry. To help with the emergency needs of the people of our parish

Special Holy Hour

Wednesday, March 29, 2023 7:00-8:00pm in the church
Exposition-Adoration-Prayer-Reflection-Music & Benediction-Followed by fellowship

Abstinence & 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.



"Gift Card Sunday"

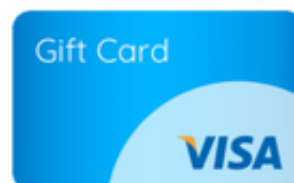
The weekend of March 25th & 26th, which is the Fifth Sunday of Lent, we will be having a special

"Gift Card Sunday"

for the benefit of our Parish Social Ministry. We are asking everyone to donate gift cards when you come to Mass that weekend. Simply place your gift card donations in the baskets along with your regular weekly contributions. Our Parish Social Ministry is requesting either Stop & Shop or Visa cards. Please get only these cards, for they are the only ones needed to serve our community at this time. So, remember

"Gift Card Sunday"

March 25th & 26th, the Fifth Sunday of Lent. It is the perfect way to practice some almsgiving!



Sodality of Our Lady Reminders



Deacon Bob is celebrating his 90th birthday on Sunday March 19, 2023. He wishes to extend an invitation to all the ladies of Sodality of Our Lady to attend the 12 Noon mass (instead of 10:30)

Donations by Sodality of cookies, brownies, cupcakes & fruit would be appreciated

Monday, March 20th, at 7:30 pm (doors open 7:00 pm) we will have our monthly business meeting covering a lot of important information. We are planning to have the Ballot Box to accept Board Nominations for 2023-2024 since there will be no April 17th Member Meeting due to the Spring Dinner on April 19th. THEN we will celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Step Dancers invited (waiting for confirmation) and Irish tunes by Joe Chojnacki and a special guest, Christine. Asking for donations of Irish Bread - Sodality will supply the St. Joseph Pastries. We are looking forward to a fun night and sincerely thank you for your continued support.



Sodality of Our Lady Spring Dinner

Wednesday ~ April 19, 2023 at 6:00 PM
St. Mary's - Knights of Columbus
78 Hempstead Ave., Lynbrook

Our thanks to Dorothy Bock (516-599-8264), Kathie Flood 516-599-1267), Jean Chojnacki (jnacki@optonline.net/516-402-0424) & Karen Gonyon (karengonyon@gmail.com/516-330-6982) who have once again offered their time to co-chair the dinner. Kathie & Dorothy will co-chair the Dinner and Jean and Karen will co-chair the Baskets and Raffles. The cost of the ticket is \$60 pp and table arrangements will be available at the March meeting. The invitation is open to your daughters, mothers, grandmothers, and of course your friends, please extend the invitation to all. As you prepare your table arrangements, please start to prepare your baskets. Call Jean or Karen to schedule a drop off or pick up. If it is not possible to drop off, let Jean or Karen know and they will be happy to pick it up for you. All tickets, reservations and baskets must be in by March 31st. If anyone knows of a restaurant/or store that would be willing to donate a gift card, please contact Jean or Karen who will provide the sodalist with a donation letter for the vendor. If you would like to help with this enjoyable fundraising event, please see Dorothy, Kathie, Jean, or Karen at the next meeting. Thank you all for your support and cooperation in making this dinner a success.



The Sodality of Our Lady

invites women of faith to our
5th Annual Women's Day Retreat
Saturday, March 25

We will begin at the 8:45 mass then proceed to the school cafeteria for coffee.

The presentation begins at 10:00 and concludes at 3:00 with a break for lunch at noon.

A Lenten Renewal

Presented by Sr. Mary T. Naccarato, PBVM

Program Fee: \$30, including lunch

Registration Closes: Monday, March 20

Checks made payable to: **Sodality of Our Lady**

****Please remit payment along with registration form to:

**Sodality of Our Lady, St. Raymond Church
263 Atlantic Ave, East Rockaway, NY 11518**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____

Email: _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

If you have questions, please contact Frances Corio at 516-401-5734 or Mary Thorpe at 516-524-3103

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - FAITH FORMATION

Lucy Ostermann, Director

Attention First Grade Parents

The First Grade Parent/Student meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, March 19th, 2023** at 11am in the St. Raymond School auditorium. After the meeting, the entire group will attend the 12 Noon Mass.

ATTENTION 7TH & 8TH GRADE PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Our 7th & 8th grade students will be going to confession during class time the following dates:

MONDAY STUDENTS 7PM-8PM 3/20/2023 TUESDAY STUDENTS 7PM-8PM 3/21/2023

ATTENTION 7TH & 8TH GRADE PARENTS/STUDENTS

Our 7th & 8th Grade students will present Stations of the Cross by Teens on Tuesday, March 28th, 2023 at 7:30pm in the Church. Both the student and a parent(s) are to attend. A reflection paper (a form will be distributed to students during class this week) will be due in class Monday, April 3rd or Tuesday, April 4th. There are regularly scheduled Religion classes for Monday evening students March 27th, 2023 from 7pm-8pm. Students who have reading parts or who are carrying up a symbol are to attend **REHEARSAL MONDAY, MARCH 27TH, 2023 7-8:30pm IN THE CHURCH.**

Mrs. Abuin's 7th grade class is growing & showing the kindness of Our Lord!



Mrs. Falbee's 2nd graders remember their Baptism Day!



ON BEHALF OF THE RECENT LETTERS AND AS THE PARENTS OF TWO MARINES, WE WANT TO START OUT BY TELLING YOU WHAT A GREAT FEELING IT IS TO GET LETTERS OF GRATITUDE FILLED WITH PRAYERS AND WARM WISHES FOR BOTH OF OUR SONS FROM COMPLETE STRANGERS. OUR FAMILY HAS BEEN FILLED WITH PRIDE SINCE DAY ONE ON THEIR DECISIONS TO SERVE OUR COUNTRY. THIS DECISION DIDN'T COME LIGHTLY. PRAYER HAS BEEN WITH US EVERY STEP OF THE WAY IN THE BEGINNING WE PRAYED THEY WERE WELL-INFORMED. THEN DURING THE TRAINING WE PRAYED THEY WERE SAFE AND NOW WE HAVE ALL THESE PRAYERS THAT WE SHARE WITH YOU.

YOU SHOULD ALSO KNOW BOTH OF THESE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS SOLDIERS WERE ALTAR SERVERS AND STUDENTS AT SAINT RAYMONDS SCHOOL. GRADUATES OF KELLENBERG MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL THEN WHILE IN COLLEGE AND OF PURSUING CAREERS WITH OTHER INTERESTS WHEN COVID STRUCK, AND THIS SEEM TO CHANGE EVERYTHING. AFTER SEVEN MONTHS OF WAITING IN 2022 THEY LEFT FOR USMC BOOT CAMP FOR 13 WEEKS SEPTEMBER 26, 2022. THEY GRADUATED DECEMBER 21, 2022 AND HAVE A 3 1/2 MORE YEARS OF SERVICE AHEAD OF THEM AT THE MINIMUM. WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THEIR SAFETY. AS THEY WILL CONTINUE TO WORK FOR OURS.

Our 7th & 8th graders sent letters to these Marines



THE ROSE FOR LIFE

In Honor of
St. Joseph

For Dedications call
Mary Healy 887-4062



STEWARDSHIP

Time ♦ Talent ♦ Treasure

Like the blind man in today's Gospel, there are many in our lives, our parish and our community who need assistance. This week, pray a decade of the Rosary for someone you know who is in need of prayer (perhaps someone struggling with mental or physical health issues).



St. Raymond's Parish Social Ministry
The Ryan House "The Heart of the Parish"

12 Roosevelt Avenue, Lynbrook, NY 11563
516-887-9197

Food Pantry Hours of Operation
Monday - Wednesday from 10am to 2pm
(Suggested to call for an appointment)

"Do not close your hand to someone in need."

Deuteronomy 15:7

Food assistance is available for those in need who live within our Parish boundaries. During the month of February, our Parish Social Ministry assisted 60 households with food, personal care and household items. We also welcomed two new clients into our Outreach Program and helped them with food and other services they needed. We all know how grocery prices have been skyrocketing and it is getting especially harder for seniors, who depend on their Social Security benefits as their sole income, to make ends meet. If you are a senior citizen who lives within our Parish boundaries and are having a difficult time financially to afford groceries, please contact our office and we will try to help you out with food so that you can pay your other bills.

Pantry items needed this week: Snacks, Jelly, Pancake Syrup, Dish Washing Detergent, Laundry Detergent, Shampoo, Conditioner, Deodorant and Shaving Cream.

Thank you as always for helping us serve the people in need in our community. Food donations are greatly appreciated and can be brought to the Ryan House when it is open or donations can be left in the bin on the porch. Also food donations can be left in the Altar Servers Sacristy.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity. You are always in our prayers.

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

STATIONS 1-7

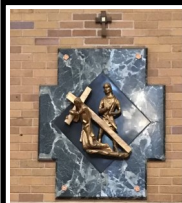
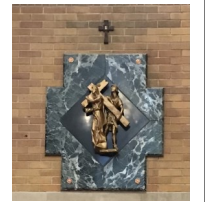


THE FIRST STATION-JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DIE

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.

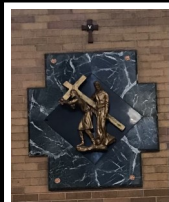
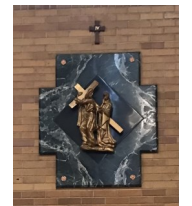


THE THIRD STATION-JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME

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.

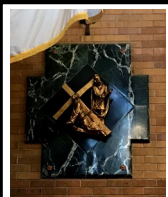
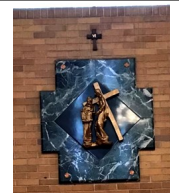


THE FIFTH STATION-SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS CARRY HIS CROSS

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

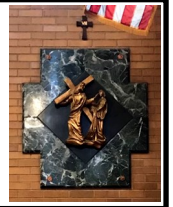
In spite of my best intentions, I am so weak and fall again. I try to do the right thing, but temptations are so strong. I know, when Jesus stumbles and falls, He is suffering greatly. He knows He must continue in order to save me and lead me on the path to God. He loves me so much that He just keeps 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

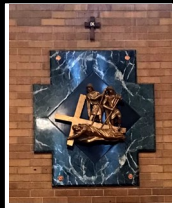
THE EIGHTH STATION-JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM

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.



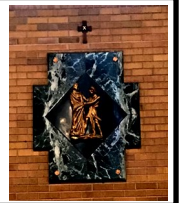
THE NINTH STATION-JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME

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.



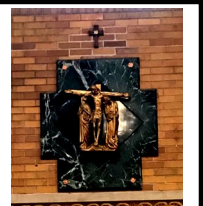
THE ELEVENTH STATION-JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS

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.



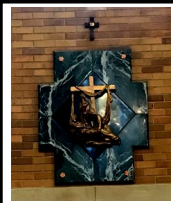
THE TWELFTH STATION-JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

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.



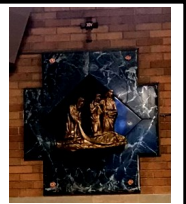
THE THIRTEENTH STATION-JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS

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.



"The Eucharist is the secret of my day. It gives strength and meaning to all my activities of service to the Church and to the whole world... Let Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament speak to your hearts. It is he who is the true answer of life that you seek."

-Saint John Paul II



RENEWED:

AN EVENING OF FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP

PIZZA TO FOLLOW

MARCH 29, 2023

7:00PM

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MARCH 25, 2023

AT 7:00PM

At St. Raymond's School Auditorium

"GREEN ROOM"

TICKETS ARE ONLY \$55 pp

SENIOR DISCOUNT \$50 pp (65+yrs)

Tables of 10 Welcome!

Tom Donza at 593-2521

(tickets on sale now...limited seating)



Pot of Gold 50/50

There will be a special "Pot of Gold 50/50" that will be held on Saturday, March 25th. This "pot" has no lid so the "sky's the limit." The winning ticket will be pulled at the St. Patrick's Celebration, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus on the 25th. The "Pot of Gold" tickets are always available and on sale! They are \$10 each and three for \$25.

Special "Pot of Gold" tickets were included in the March/April regular envelope mailing. Simply return the ticket stubs with payment in the envelope to the rectory, either by mail, in person or in the Sunday collection **before March 25th.**

Tickets are also available for purchase at the rectory during regular office hours. The more tickets sold, the greater **your** winning share and the greater the profit for St. Raymond's. And you don't have to be Irish to win; but a wee bit of leprechaun luck wouldn't hurt now would it!

Remember!
Three for only \$25 or \$10 each and the "Sky's the limit!"





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

*"For You formed my inward parts; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born."
(Psalm 139:13-16)*

In celebration of the birth of your spiritually adopted baby, we are conducting a mini-baby shower for those mothers who have brought their babies to birth and are in need of assistance. This week-end (March 18th & 19th) volunteers will be stationed in the altar servers' sacristy to accept baby items, gift cards, & monetary donations which will be donated to the local pregnancy care centers who will give the gifts to the mothers. The gifts are always greatly appreciated by the mothers. In addition, your love, caring, and generosity for them and their little ones deeply touches them. May God bless you for your faithfulness in prayer and the gifts for the both mother and baby. Each Thursday, at 3:00 PM, during Adoration, we pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Rosary of Our Lady for the intention of an end to abortion and to the return to the respect, dignity and protection of all God's children from conception until natural death. We invite all to join with us in prayer. The power of prayer is great!

**St. Joseph, protector of the Holy Family,
pray for us.**



Spiritual Adoption Program
Special Collection of
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after all Masses
March 18th & 19th
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Please join us as we celebrate
Deacon Bob Campbell's 90th Birthday!

Sunday March 19, 2023

St Raymond's School Cafeteria at 1 pm

It will be a "Walk Down Memory lane" so bring your memories, But
please **NO PRESENTS!** Your **PRESENCE** is the gift! This will be an
"Open House" (no mailed invitations) so please spread the word!

St. Raymond's Bereavement Ministry



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

Six Sessions beginning Thursday,
April 13th at 7:30 PM

In St. Raymond's School Cafeteria

To Register: Call the Rectory at
516-593-5000 or fill out the form
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Your Name:

Address:

Best Tel. #:

Relationship to the Deceased:

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2023

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-Pope Francis

Catholic Charities Outreach Programs journey with all who come through their doors.

Maria Ryan is the Director of the Parish Social Ministry (PSM) at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Centerport, where she oversees 15 vibrant ministries. She introduced us to Sarah and her daughter, Belle.

“Shortly after we moved into the area, our daughter Belle was diagnosed with cancer. Out of sheer desperation I called our church to ask if Father could anoint her and that’s when I met Maria Ryan. Maria has taken us under her wing in more ways than we could ever imagine. It’s been over a year and she checks in with us just about every day. The church has helped us spiritually, emotionally, and financially. My husband had to quit work to help us with care for Belle. The parish has helped us to stay afloat by helping with medical bills and travel expenses incurred traveling into the city for Belle’s treatment.” shared Sarah



Please make check payable to the **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Name: _____ Parish: _____

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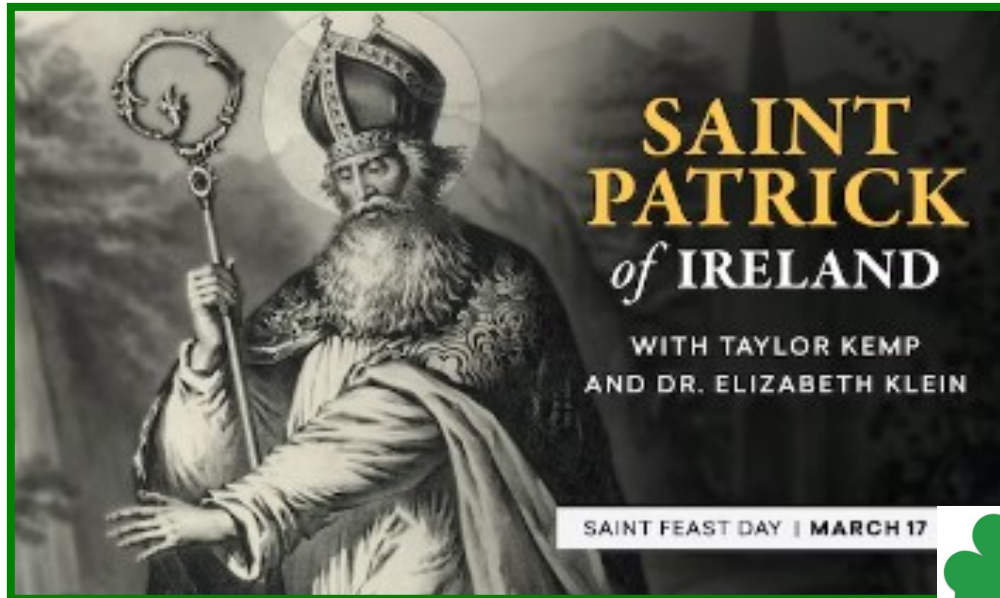
Signature: _____

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

Thank You!

FORMED[®]

This week on **FORMED...**



Dr. Elizabeth Klein and Taylor Kemp discuss the historical life of St. Patrick. Captured multiple times by pirates, St. Patrick escaped slavery and returned to his land of captivity to preach the Gospel to a pagan people. Living during a time of great plagues, St. Patrick preached the good news of a God who embraces suffering. His feast day is March 17.

**GO TO THE ST. RAYMOND
WEBSITE FOLLOW THE
FORMED
LINK TO REGISTER...IT'S FREE!**



Masses for this Week

Monday, March 20th

7:15am Joan Del Giorno
8:45am Francis Gallagher
12:15pm Concetta Gorrasi—6th Anniversary

Tuesday, March 21st

7:15am Eileen Benedict (living)
8:45am Loretta & Patrick Collins
12:15pm Warren Laffredo

Wednesday, March 22nd

7:15am Margaret & Sam Ardezzone
8:45am Michael McCann
12:15pm Costantino Buccino

Thursday, March 23rd

7:15am Roger Cooney
8:45am Josephine Genova
12:15pm Mary Esposito

Friday, March 24th

7:15am John & Veronica Tuzzi
8:45am John McDonnell (living)
12:15pm Emanuel Urzi

Saturday, March 25th *Annunciation of the Lord*

8:45am Sodality of Our Lady
5:00pm Elizabeth McCormack

Sunday, March 26th

7:30am Lorraine Edgar 3rd Anniversary
9:00am Robert Hurray
10:30am Angelo Guadagno
12:00pm Helen Bush, John Stender,
Gerard Ackerina, George Glier
4:30pm St. Raymond Parish

Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 /Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

Tuesday

Ez 47:1-9, 12 /Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday

Is 49:8-15 /Jn 5:17-30

Thursday

Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47

Friday

Wis 2:1a, 12-22 / Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday

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

Sunday

Ez 37:12-14 /Rom 8:8-11 /Jn 11:1-45

Please Pray for Our Sick

James R., Jodi Neckles, Mike L, Dawn,
Baby Faith Madison, Rebekah Lyas,
John Lynch, Nick S, Connie Polik,
Baby Cooper Graham, Diane Minucci,
Michael McPike, Christine I., Joseph Petraro
Baby Daisy Ellen O'Neill, Jennie Gaeta,
Christina McGrory, Jay Witemeyer
Debbie B., Theresa DeCuzzi
Linda D'Agostino, Benay Mugmon

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



Rest in Peace

Joseph Genna

Geraldine Borges

Richard Anthony Edgar



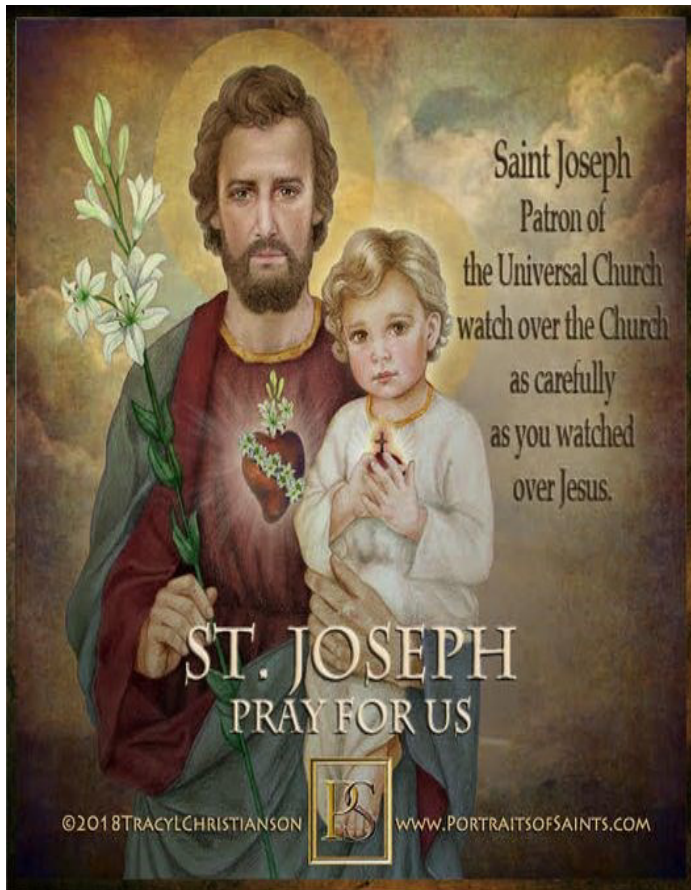
“Christ beside me, Christ
before me, Christ behind me,
Christ within me, Christ
beneath me, Christ above me.”
- St. Patrick



Pastoral Council Members

Jean Chojnacki, Secretary, Linda Daley, Julianne Grennen,
Jeanne LaSala, Vice Chairperson, Patricia McCormack,
Chairperson, Dave Ohlsen, Linda Ohlsen, Stephen Rochford,
Fr. Chuck Romano, Monica Tobin.

Parish Bulletin Board



Communal Prayer Before Mass

Father in heaven, we wish to prepare well for participation in this Mass, in which we enter the Last Supper, Passion, Death and Resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ. He is as present to us today in his Word and in the Eucharist, as he was with his apostles. Holy Spirit please quiet our minds from the busyness and distractions of our day, so that we will have hearts and minds attentive to the words of Jesus and ready to receive his Body and Blood in Holy Communion. Blessed Mother, take our hearts and give us yours, that like you, we may ponder Jesus' words and do whatever he tells us to do. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, Amen.

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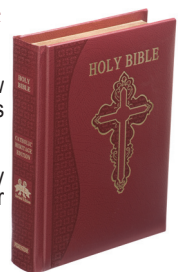
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