

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 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

Business Manager
Christopher Grennen

South Nassau Hospital Chaplain
Father Cornelius Dery

Parish Staff

Music Ministry
Laura Garbitelli

Folk Group
AnnMarie Lynch

Plant Manager
Steve Bennett

Parish Secretary
Doreen Dolan

Bulletin Editor
Linda Ohlsen

The Parish of St. Raymond

*A Eucharistic Community of
Faith, Love and Friendship*

Sunday, February 18, 2024

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

*“The Spirit drove Jesus out into the
desert, and he remained in the desert for
forty days, tempted by Satan.”*

-Mark 1:1



February 18, 2024
First Sunday of Lent

Welcome To Our Parish Family!

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

Rectory

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

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

Religious Education Office.....593-9075
Religious Education Office Fax593-1156
E-Mail: strayfaithformation@aol.com

Pastoral Care Of The Sick

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

Devotions

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

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

Nocturnal Adoration

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

Miraculous Medal Novena

Saturdays following 8:45am Mass.

Confessions

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

Baptisms

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

Bereavement Support Group

Call the rectory office for meeting times.

Marriages

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

Prayer Groups

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



The Rectory office will be closed tomorrow, Monday, February 19th in observance of President's Day. The office will reopen on Tuesday, February 20th.



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

Sunday at 3:30 pm ET



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

LC Alex James Cooper US MARINE CORPS
LC Dean Thomas Cooper US MARINE CORPS
Lt. Col. Mary P. King , M.D., US ARMY
Commander Joseph Garbitelli US NAVY
Staff /Sgt. Matthew R. Hines - US ARMY
LC Connor Thomas McHale US MARINE CORPS
Sgt. Gerard Moran
Lt. Com. Joseph Leahy US NAVY
Sgt. Bryan Petriccione US ARMY –Cavalry Unit
Lt. JG Joseph Woloszyn US NAVY
PFC Hunter Deets, #10 Mountain Division US ARMY
TSGT Curt Abdool US AIRFORCE

Please remember to pray for our wounded soldiers.

Father Chuck's Corner

Greetings and God's blessings be yours on the First Sunday of Lent! We are at a spiritual starting line of sorts, the beginning of another holy season in the life of the Church. There is always a certain uniqueness about Lent because it draws the attention, not just of the Christian faithful who observe it but to those who watch from outside and see us doing things different from our normal routines. Maybe it's about giving something up or starting our day with daily Mass or some kind of devotion. Maybe it's going to fish-fries on Fridays and of course receiving the ashes a couple of days ago. Yes, this season has us doing some different stuff. In the first reading today from Genesis we see God making a covenant with Noah using the rainbow as a sign of his fidelity. **"I set my bow in the clouds to serve as sign of the covenant between me and the earth."** Then in the second reading, Peter talks of the obedient suffering of Jesus which brings life. **"Beloved: Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God."** And finally, Mark's gospel shows Jesus beginning his preaching, telling people to repent and believe in the Gospel. He had undergone his temptation and now was ready to bring the message of the kingdom to all people. **"The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."**

As you know this season is supposed to remind us of the forty days Jesus spent in the desert. It harkens back to the 40 years of exile that the Israelites suffered while wandering in the desert. Having endured that time, they became stronger people with their identity more firmly fixed. The same was true of Jesus after his 40 days in the desert. He came away more focused and ready to begin his mission, knowing his journey would end in Jerusalem after just a few short years. So, as we begin this holy season of Lent, what is our goal, the purpose for our journey? Who are we supposed to be when all is said and done and Easter comes? Well, I would say it all depends on our willingness to enter the journey and stick to it. It's not found just by doing the externals but rather by entering with the heart, mind, and soul. Part of Lent is meant to let God clear out the obstacles we have built up, all our sins so that we can put in the time for reflecting on who we really are and what we should be doing with our lives. Look deep within and allow God to clean up any mess. Lent should be a kind of **"spiritual-do-over"** so we can get ready for what comes next. It's getting our hearts to be open to God's grace so we can be re-created into his life. So, ready, set, go! Use these weeks to travel deep within. Let God embrace you so that Lent 2024 will be a fruitful one.

This journey should not be a joyless one. It's not a season to feel bad about things we have done or to deny oneself things that bring hardships upon us. And it certainly is not some sort of divine contest to see if we can do the things, we say we will do. All that being said, with the right motivation they can all be a good part of our Lenten journey. However, if we put the focus, not on what we are trying to do, but rather on what God wants to do, then we can have a joyful spirit for Lent. What does God want to do? Well, I feel that he wants some space in our lives, within our hearts. Too often we don't have the room for God. And that's why we make more time to pray, to converse with God, and we **"give up things"** so we won't forget how dependent we are on God, and we give to those in need to help us realize that what we have is not really ours in the first place. So, make sure that whatever you do for Lent, you do for the right reasons, the right understanding and to let God in. Open the door to your heart wide open and invite him in. It could be the smartest thing you ever did.

A good place to start would be coming to the first **Lenten Holy Hour** on Tuesday evening, February 20th. Through Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, prayer, reflection, music and Benediction, this is a great way to open your heart to Jesus at the beginning of Lent, while also taking part in the power and presence of the Eucharistic Revival. Come, join us for this special time with Jesus and bring a friend.

Please 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**, news and needs from **Religious Education**, an invitation to the **Lenten Holy Hour**, Tuesday evening, February 20th, the **Sodality of Our Lady** presentation on Monday evening, February 19th, the **Eucharistic Revival Centerfold**, the **Communal Prayer Before Mass** (found on the inside back cover), an invitation to join **FORMED** (your Catholic Faith on demand) and much more. Keep a copy of the bulletin at home each week for quick and easy reference.

Have a great first week of Lent. **Keep that Lenten smile going. Enjoy the holiday for Presidents Day and remember: Pray big and worry small.** God bless always.

-Father Chuck



WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

FEBRUARY 18, 2024-FIRST 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

FEBRUARY 18, 2024-FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST READING

Gn 9:8-15

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

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

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.
Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths, Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior.
R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.
Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your love are from of old. In your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O LORD.
R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.
Good and upright is the LORD, thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, and he teaches the humble his way.
R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

SECOND READING

1 Pt 3:18-22

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4:4b

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless glory!
One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

GOSPEL

Mk 1:12-15

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



Abstinence and Fasting

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



LENT

Pray + Fast + Give



Jesus, dear Savior,
during these days of Lent,
I want to fast,
to repent and to pray.
Above all else I want
to stay in the circle
of Your love.
Walk with me and
surround me with
Your light; lead me and
guide me in Your footsteps.
During this season of Lent
help me to follow You
and imitate Your love.
May this cross remind me today
and throughout Lent of
Your great love for me.

Amen.

LENT 2024

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

Special Holy Hours

Tuesdays, February 20th, March 5th & March 12th

7:00-8:00pm in the church

Exposition-Adoration-Prayer-Reflection-
Music & Benediction

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - FAITH FORMATION

Lucy Ostermann, Director



Faith Formation

There are no Religious Education classes, and the office will be closed President's Week – 2/19/2024-2/22/2024.

Classes will resume and the office will re-open on Monday 2/26/2024.

ATTENTION 2ND GRADE PARENTS

There will be a 2nd Grade Parent meeting on Thursday, 2/29/2024 at 7:30pm in the St. Raymond Auditorium.

Details regarding the First Holy Communion Masses will be discussed, and the First Holy Communion Banner kits will be distributed as well.

ATTENTION 1ST GRADE PARENTS

The 5th First Grade Parent/Student meeting will be held on Sunday 3/3/2024. Parent(s) and their child are asked to come to the auditorium at 11am for their lesson then everyone will go to the 12Noon Mass where the lesson will continue. Please remember to bring your child's workbook, Bible, pencil, and folder.

Sweetheart Valentine Dance 2024





"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



SPECIAL HOLY HOURS

Exposition-Adoration-Prayer-Reflection-Music-Benediction

THE FOLLOWING TUESDAYS:

FEBRUARY 20TH, MARCH 5TH & MARCH 12

7:00PM - 8:00PM ST. RAYMOND CHURCH



SODALITY OF OUR LADY SCHOLARSHIP EXAM 2024



- WHAT:** THREE \$1000 SCHOLARSHIPS SPONSORED BY THE SODALITY OF OUR LADY AT ST. RAYMOND'S CHURCH. THREE \$150 MARIANNE MALONE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS.
- WHO:** ANY EIGHTH GRADE STUDENT IN ST. RAYMOND'S PARISH, WHO HAS BEEN ACCEPTED FOR ADMISSION TO A CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER, 2024
- WHEN:** THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2024. TIME 3:30PM
- WHERE:** ST. RAYMOND SCHOOL CAFETERIA
263 ATLANTIC AVENUE
EAST ROCKAWAY, NY 11518
- EXAM:** 15 MULTIPLE CHOICE AND TWO ESSAYS
- HOW:** TO REGISTER-CALL JULIANNE GRENNEN (516) 593-5000 OR SEND AN EMAIL TO STRAYRCC@OPTONLINE.NET - ATTN. JULIANNE GRENNEN BEFORE FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024. YOUR REGISTRATION WILL BE CONFIRMED. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED A CONFIRMATION, PLEASE CALL AGAIN.

**REGISTRATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER
FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024**

STEP BY STEP WALK THROUGH THE MASS

DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME

FATHER LUKE SPANNAGEL

NATIONAL EUCHARIST REVIVAL BLOG



The Homily

After hearing God's Word to us in the Scriptures and especially the life and words of Jesus in the Gospel, next comes an opportunity to reflect more deeply on those words in the homily. As the Diocese of Peoria teaches, after the Gospel, we move into the "Second Half" of the Liturgy of the Word, which "consists of the homily, the Profession of Faith and the Prayers of the Faithful. These three 'moments' in the liturgy act as a bridge between the Liturgies of the Word and Eucharist."

The Root of the Term



What is the homily exactly? "Homily" comes from a Greek word that means "explanation." The purpose of the "homily is to break open the Scriptures and lead us in a deeper understanding of the mysteries we celebrate." From the glossary of our Catechism, the homily is "[p]reaching by an ordained minister to explain the Scriptures proclaimed in the liturgy and to exhort the people to accept them as the Word of God" (CCC, p. 882). According to the New Catholic Encyclopedia, "a homily is a more or less brief, instructive discourse on a passage of Scripture wherein the spiritual lesson of the Scriptural text is made clear... It is generally to be instructive, informal, and intelligent" (p. 271). Some might say that is a tall order!

Who can give the homily? As the General Instruction of the Roman Missal states (GIRM), "The Homily should ordinarily be given by the Priest Celebrant himself or be entrusted by him to a concelebrating Priest, or from time to time and, if appropriate, to the Deacon, but never to a lay person. In particular cases and for a just cause, the Homily may even be given by a Bishop or a Priest who is present at the celebration but cannot concelebrate" (GIRM, 66). The reason that only a Bishop, priest, or deacon gives the homily in the liturgy is directly tied to the proclamation of the Gospel. One of the gifts a man receives at ordination is a particular grace for the special purpose of preaching and teaching the Gospel. Although the wording is slightly different now, I recall very different now, I recall very clearly the part of the diaconate

ordination rite where the Bishop handed me the Book of the Gospels and said, "Receive the Gospel of Christ, whose herald you now are. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach." Every now and then when preparing the homily, I will think of these words which remind me that I have been chosen for this ministry. I will read through the Scriptures and recall for myself that Jesus has asked me to share these truths with God's people, hopefully to help them understand more fully, grow in faith, and live more consistently in his love.

A Link Between the Liturgies

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal teaches, "The Homily is part of the Liturgy...for it is necessary for the nurturing of the Christian life. It should be an explanation of some aspect of the readings from Sacred Scripture or of another text from the [prayers of the Mass] and should take into account both the mystery being celebrated and the particular needs of the listeners" (GIRM, 65). So, while the homily may most commonly be about the readings used in the Mass, it would be appropriate for the preacher to also reflect on one of the prayers of the Mass. I somewhat regularly will refer to phrases in the Prefaces before the Eucharistic Prayer, especially on special Feast Days when those prayers are specific to the celebration.

Do we always have the homily? As the General Instruction of the Roman Missal says, there should be a homily at every Sunday and Holy Day Mass when there is a congregation. It is recommended on other days, especially on the weekdays of Advent, Lent, and the Easter Season, as well as on other "festive days and occasions" when more people are joining for the celebration (GIRM, 66). Next time, we will look more into the homily and how it helps serve as a link between the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

For Reflection:

· Pray with this guidance to Timothy about preaching: "I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching" (2 Timothy 4:1-2).

Next Week: A Deeper Look at the Homily

St. Raymond Church

Opportunities for a Holy Hour / Adoration and Eucharistic Exposition

The Church is open daily for personal prayer until 5:00
Each Thursday Adoration/Benediction from 1-4:00 PM
Each First Friday Nocturnal Adoration from 7:30-8:30 PM
Lenten Holy Hours
Tuesdays: February 20th, March 5th & 12th
Eucharistic Exposition-Adoration-Prayer-Reflection-
Music-Benediction



Why would Jesus make his Presence so hidden?

By Fr. Peter John Cameron, OP



*Through the Eucharist, hiding
itself has been transformed
from an act of shame into
one of profound mercy.*

Why would something so inconceivably awesome and powerful – the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ – elect to remain hidden, as it were, under the appearance of mere bread in the Eucharist? Something so mighty and majestic in the form of the meager?

Perhaps to help us with a primordial and perennial problem. After Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden eat the fruit of the forbidden Tree of Knowledge, paradise begins to collapse around them. “When they heard the sound of the Lord God moving about in the garden at the breezy time of the day, the man and his wife hid themselves from the Lord God among the trees of the garden” (Gn 3:8). A sound that formerly elated them now plunges them in shame.

In the Eucharist, Jesus calls to us just as God called to his guilty children: Where are you? (Gn 3:9). God never stops seeking for us, and he does so with more than just words – he calls to us with his very self. The hiddenness of Jesus’ Presence in the Eucharist is meant to convince us that God can use our temptation to hide for the purposes of his glory. When something is hidden, we have to look harder in order to find the one hidden. But that finding is a cause of joy! Through the Eucharist, hiding itself has been transformed from an act of shame into one of profound mercy.

Through the Holy Eucharist, Jesus calls us back to Paradise, throwing off our shame. He constantly beckons, Where are you ... but adding now in the Eucharist ... because I want to be with you?” As God searched for Adam and Eve hidden among the trees, we in faith search for God “hidden” in the tabernacle.



Eucharistic Witness
Saint Peter Damian
Priest & Doctor of the
Church (+1072)
Feast: February 21st

St. Peter Damian was a monk, reformer, and fearless teacher of the Faith. There are three aspects of his teaching that help us deepen our own spiritual lives.

Love for the Cross: All followers of Christ are called to follow His self-emptying love, even though it is deeply difficult. A profound love for the Cross opens us up to the depths of God’s love for us. In fact, it is through the Cross that we are able to enter into union with God. We cannot make it to our eternal home without the Cross of Christ and the willingness on our part to accept the crosses given to us in this life for our own sanctification.

Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. In an age when belief in the Real Presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist is low, the many documented Eucharistic miracles reveal the true nature of the Blessed Sacrament. Christ Himself tells us that it is His body, blood, soul, and divinity in the consecrated host and precious blood in the Bread of Life discourse in John 6 and when He institutes the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper. Through Eucharistic miracles –which are gratuitous gifts from God that only serve as a confirmation of what He Himself has revealed to us in Sacred Scripture and His testimony is enough–the veil is lifted.

Communion in the Church: The communion we share with Christ is meant to draw us towards one another in love. In our Fallen state, this is difficult for all of us to achieve, but we are still called to live in this way by doing battle with our own sins, weaknesses, and personality flaws.

Sodality of Our Lady of the Annunciation



February Meeting:

Monday, February 19, 2024

Place: St. Raymond's Cafeteria

Time: 7:30pm

Speaker: NCPD

Topic: Scams and 911

Please join us and bring a friend as we are always looking for and happy to welcome new members.

SAVE THE DATE: Sodality Spring Dinner at Knight of Columbus Hall
Hempstead Avenue, Lynbrook, New York

April 10, 2024 at 6pm

"Sodality is a women's organization devoted to prayer and service to the Blessed Mother. The membership is active in many ways doing what we call "Mary Work," helping those in need in any way we can."

MEN OF ST. ANTHONY

SPIRITUALITY GROUP

MOSA

Our Group will conduct a Lenten Book
and Video Series

Saturday mornings during Lent:

February 17 / February 24

March 9 / March 23

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Knights of Columbus

2984 Kenneth Place, Oceanside

Books will be available at each gathering.

All men are welcome.

Bagels and coffee are served.

For more info contact

mosa.spirituality@gmail.com

WELCOME

**No matter what your present status in
the Catholic Church,**

**No matter what your current family or
marital situation,**

**No matter what your past or present
situation,**

**No matter what your personal history,
age, background or race,**

**No matter what your own self image
or self-esteem.**

**You are invited, welcomed, accepted,
loved and respected at**

St. Raymond Church!

We are so happy to have you here!



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

INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

**Presented by
JUSTICE FOR ALL**

**Creating a Dialogue on Abortion to
Reach Hearts and Minds**

Date: Saturday, March 9th

Place: Sons of Italy Hall

2075 Deer Park Avenue, Deer Park

No entrance fee. Free will donation

**at the event to support LICL Two
Workshops with Different Content:**

**Part 1: 9:00 AM - Noon (check in 8:45
AM) Part 11: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
(check in 12:45 PM)**

**Attend either part or both for the best
experience. Pizza Lunch at Noon - No
Charge for the Participants. The
presenter Steve Wagner, Exec. Dir. of
Justice for All, has been training pro-
life advocates and engaging with
abortion-choice advocates for more
than 20 years. Pro-lifers need to bring
more people to a life-affirming
mindset - that's how the killing of the
unborn babies ends. All are invited
to attend to learn tools that will aid
in having a productive conversation
about abortion and hopefully,
encouraging others to become active
in being a voice for the preborn
babies. Registration is preferred (for
food and materials planning) at:**

LICL: www.prolifeLI.org

info@prolifeLI.org

#631-243-1435

YOU can make the difference!



*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)

*"And if you give even a cup of cold water to one of
these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you,
that person will certainly not lose their reward."*

Matthew 10:42

Food assistance is available for those in need who live
within our Parish boundaries. During the month of
January 2024, our Parish Social Ministry assisted
88 households with food, personal care items,
household items and other services they needed.
Our client number has increased in the last few
months and we truly appreciate all of your
donations that help us provide for these people.
Also, if you are a senior citizen, living within the Parish
boundaries, and depend on your Social Security
benefit as your sole source of income, please call our
office and we can assist you with food.

Pantry items needed this week:

**Rice and Pasta Side Dishes, Instant Mashed
Potatoes, Peanut Butter, Grape Jelly, Cold Cereal,
Pancake Mix, Pancake Syrup, Canned Beets,
Canned Yams, Sugar, Laundry Detergent, Bar
Soap, Toothpaste and Toothbrushes.**

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 as always for helping.

May God's blessings shower upon all of you!



HERE'S YOUR INVITATION TO THE
ST. PATRICK'S
CELEBRATION



FROM THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
COME ENJOY THE RICH IRISH TRADITIONS, COMPLETE DINNER,
IRISH MUSIC (BY THE McSWITCH), IRISH DANCING,
BAGPIPES, GUINNESS, IRISH COFFEE AND SWEETS
ALL INCLUDED, SO GET A TABLE OF FRIENDS TO ENJOY.

MARCH 23, 2024

7:00PM



**AT ST. RAYMOND'S
SCHOOL
AUDITORIUM**



“GREEN ROOM”

TICKETS ARE ONLY \$60PP
SENIOR DISCOUNT \$50PP (65+ YRS)
TABLES OF 10 WELCOME!
CHARLES PEKNIC AT 516-732-0691
(TICKETS ON SALE NOW.... LIMITED SEATING)

Ministry of Consolation

Work one week a month with a team to assist families in preparing and celebrating the Funeral Mass for recently deceased loved ones.



If Interested Call Doreen Dolan 516-593-5000



*The Gospel of Life
is not for believers
alone. it is for
everyone
-St. John Paul II*

Pastoral Council Members

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



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

FOUNDED IN 1833, THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL IS A WORLDWIDE ORGANIZATION OF LAY CATHOLICS, FOLLOWING CHRIST'S CALL TO SERVE THE POOR, THE SUFFERING, AND THE DEPRIVED. OUR FOUNDING ACTIVITY, STILL PRACTICED TODAY, IS THE HOME VISIT. THROUGH THESE VISITS, VINCENTIAN MEMBERS ESTABLISH PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED, NOT ONLY PROVIDING MATERIAL ASSISTANCE SUCH AS RENT, UTILITIES, FOOD, OR CLOTHING, BUT ALSO OFFERING FRIENDSHIP, UNDERSTANDING, AND PRAYER.

ST. RAYMOND PARISH

HAS HAD AN ACTIVE CHAPTER (KNOWN AS A "CONFERENCE") OF THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOR DECADES AND INVITES ALL WHO WISH TO HELP NEIGHBORS IN NEED.

PLEASE CALL ED AT 887-9325

FOR INFORMATION ON WAYS YOU CAN PARTICIPATE.



THE ROSE FOR LIFE

In Thanksgiving
To Our Parishioners
For their Generosity to
The Life Center

For Dedications call
Mary Healy 887-4062



*This Lenten season, dig deeper
into your prayer life. Attend
the Stations of the Cross, go
to confession and pick up a new
prayer habit. Also, during
this Lenten season, you can
read a Catholic spiritual
or apologetics book.*

Associated Vincentian
Charities of Brooklyn

Gives Back!

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

**IRS TAX DEDUCTION FREE TOWING
ANY CONDITION**

If you or someone you know has an old or
neglected vehicle that is not being used,
please call: 718-491-2525

For details: svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org



**Ocean Financial
Federal Credit Union
Supports
St. Raymond!**

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

visit their website at: www.oceanfinancial.org.



Dear Friends:

"... the Lord speaks to us through our brothers and sisters, especially in the faces and the stories of those who are in need." - Pope Francis

The Lenten season is an opportunity to grow closer to the Lord and to prepare ourselves for His Resurrection on Easter. It is a time of true inner conversion of the heart as we seek to faithfully follow Christ's will.

This year's CMA theme, Revitalizing Our Faith – Renewed by the Eucharist, exemplifies this calling as we restore an understanding and fidelity to the great mystery of Jesus Christ really and truly present in the Eucharist.

Jesus selflessly gives himself to us in the Eucharist as spiritual nourishment. Your gift to the Catholic Ministries Appeal truly brings the real presence and spiritual nourishment of Jesus to more than 600,000 people each year.

The Catholic Ministries Appeal assists thousands of individuals on Long Island each year by supporting seminarians through their discernment and formation, evangelization programs to adults and our youth, and through Catholic Charities and parish outreach programs that provide food and shelter to seniors, veterans, the homeless and people with disabilities.

I personally invite you to continue this mission by joining me in making a gift to the 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal. Please do so to the best of your ability-- every gift matters, regardless of the size. Please remember that 100% of every dollar raised is restricted to fund the objectives, programs, and mission supported by the Catholic Ministries Appeal.

Finally, let me remind you, that if you are unable to make a gift at this time due to circumstances in your life—please reach out to the parish at any time, so that we may help you in any way that we can. You are never alone.

May God bless you, your loved ones and our parish as we begin our Lenten journey.

Sincerely yours in Christ

Do you like to sing?
Do you play piano, flute or guitar?
Check out...

St. Raymond Folk Group!
We are back...

We rehearse Wednesday nights from
7pm-8pm & Sunday at 11am
in the Rectory Lower Level
and sing at the 12 Noon
Sunday Mass

If interested please
call AnnMarie Lynch at 599-6836
7th Grade and higher are Welcome!

St. Raymond's Choir
Can you sing?

Come be part of the
St. Raymond's Choir family!

Practice Wednesday Evenings
7:30pm in the Church

Mass with the Choir is @10:30am on Sunday
Please call Laura Garbitelli at 516-593-7345

AT THIS TIME, WE ARE SETTING UP THROUGH OUR PARISH ROSTER A WAY TO SEND EMAILS FROM ST. RAYMOND CHURCH STRAIGHT TO ALL REGISTERED PARISHIONERS OR EVEN SELECTED GROUPINGS OF PEOPLE IN THE PARISH. IT IS A FEATURE THAT OUR PDS PROGRAM OFFERS, AND WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ITS CAPABILITIES GOING FORWARD. WE CAN SEND OUR REMINDERS, SCHEDULES, EMERGENCY NEWS AND OTHER TIMELY BITS OF INFORMATION. BUT, IN ORDER TO REACH THE LARGEST GROUP OF PARISHIONERS AS POSSIBLE, WE NEED TO GROW OUR PARISHIONER E-MAIL LIST. CURRENTLY WE HAVE ONLY ABOUT 500 EMAILS OUT OF 3800 REGISTERED PARISHIONER FAMILIES. SO, IN ORDER TO REACH AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE WITH THESE MESSAGES WE NEED MORE EMAILS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ON THIS LISTING FOR PARISH MESSAGES, PLEASE EITHER CALL THE RECTORY TO GIVE US YOUR EMAIL, SEND IT IN TO THE PARISH EMAIL (STRAYRCC@OPTONLINE.NET), OR FILL OUT THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TO THE RECTORY. YOUR EMAIL INFORMATION GOES NO FURTHER THAN BEING A PART OF YOUR REGISTRATION PROFILE FOR THE PURPOSE STATED ABOVE.

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

PARISH (ON YOUR ENVELOPES) # _____

**Please update our
Parish Email List**



FORMED

This week on **FORMED...**



Ash Wednesday is the beginning of Lent and a great day to make a plan for this holy and grace-filled season. Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Dr. Elizabeth Klein, Professor at the Augustine Institute Graduate School, to discuss the purpose of the season of Lent, how to prepare for it, and why it is such a fruitful season in our life of faith.

Go to formed.org/lent to sign up for Daily Lenten Reflections with Dr. Tim Gray as he opens up the Scriptures throughout this holy season.



**GO TO THE ST. RAYMOND
WEBSITE FOLLOW THE**

FORMED

LINK TO REGISTER...IT'S FREE!

Masses for this week

Monday, February 19th

7:15am Madeline Gallipoli
 8:45am Emanuele Prisciandaro
 12:15pm St. Raymond Parish

Tuesday, February 20th

7:15am Holy Souls in Purgatory
 8:45am James G. Ruane
 12:15pm Holy Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, February 21st

7:15am James & Kathleen Ryder
 8:45am Adrienne Dolder
 12:15pm Terese L. Campbell

Thursday, February 22nd Chair of St. Peter

7:15am Holy Souls in Purgatory
 8:45am Teddy Ramos, Sr.
 12:15pm Loretta & Patrick Collins

Friday, February 23rd

7:15am Danielle Kirrane
 8:45am Anthony & Rosemarie Simeti
 12:15pm Janet Hillier

Saturday, February 24th

8:45am St. Raymond Parish
 5:00pm Christopher Connolly

Sunday, February 25th

7:30am Eugene E. Cooke (20th Anniversary)
 9:00am Jane Gelson
 10:30am Anne Marie McInerney Scully
 12:00pm Daisy Helen O'Neill, Beppe Desiderio,
 John McCauley, Steven Albergo,
 Josephine Digilio, J.R. Armstrong
 4:30pm St. Raymond

Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

Thursday

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

Friday

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

Saturday

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

Sunday

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



Please Pray for Our Sick

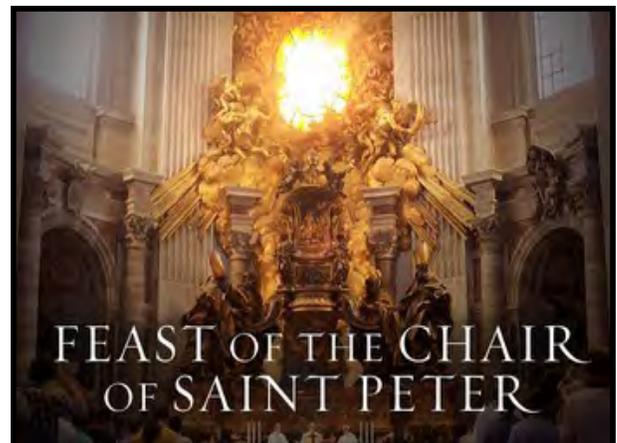
James R., Baby Brady, Mike L.,
 Jodi Neckles, Baby Faith Madison,
 Baby Cooper Graham, Michael McPike,
 Christine L., Samir. Leo B., Maureen
 Condiss, Bennett William Chevalier,
 Mary Lynch, Maureen McCarthy,
 Fr. Don Hansen, Nick S., Dawn,
 Jay Witemeyer, Christine Gillidan,
 Linda Dagostino, Joseph DelGiorno,
 Rory Romano, Timothy Murphy

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



Rest in Peace

Joseph McCarthy
 Helen Marie DelPezzo



FEAST OF THE CHAIR
 OF SAINT PETER

Parish Bulletin Board

Dear Lord,

Please help me to accept myself for who I am. Help me to see and appreciate the wonderful person You have created. Let me recognize the importance of my birthright as Your child and realize my significance in the universe. Help me to understand that the opportunities I possess are limitless...

For You have given me the chance to achieve all things for my own good and that of the whole world.

Make my life, starting today, starting now, a worthy testament of Your wondrous glory and infinite love. For with You all things are possible.

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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PATIENT

EVERY
MOMENT

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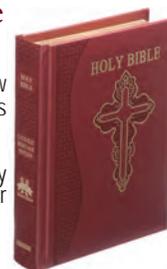
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