

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 Benedict Kim
Father Joseph Rwamwenge

Deacons

Deacon Robert C. Campbell, OFS
Deacon Thomas Wm. Connolly, T.O Carm
Deacon Guy Donza, S.F.D.
Deacon Robert H. Drummond
Deacon Richard W. LaRossa, S.F.D.
Deacon Thomas J. Malone Jr., T.S.A.

Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Lucy Ostermann

Business Manager

Christopher Grennen

Parish Staff

Music Ministry

Laura Garbitelli

Folk Group

Nadine Robinson

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, December 28, 2025

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

“He rose, took the child and his mother and went
to the land of Israel.”

-Matthew 2:21



December 28, 2025

Feast of The Holy Family

January 1, 2026

Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God

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

Men's Prayer Group: Every Monday at 10:00am in the Rectory Basement.

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 Sunday at 11:00 in the Rectory Basement

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 Thursday,
January 1st.
and will reopen
Friday, January 2nd
at 9:00am.



Wishing everyone
A Happy and Healthy
New Year!



Please Pray for Our Sick

Baby Faith Madison

Julianne Grennen

Mary Lynch

Herb McIntyre

Linda Dagostino

Anthony Campanile

Karen Pagnotta

Baby Cooper Graham

Jodi Neckles

Maureen Condiss

Jim Marasco

Timothy Murphy

Christine I.

Lauren Greco

Jeanne Swanson

Eileen Roberts

Nick S.

Betty McHale

Gerry Peknic

Fran Halas

Rosemarie Lombardo

Eileen Appel

Elaine & Eddie

Dianna Viglieta

Corrado

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

Father Chuck's Corner

Greetings and God's continued Christmas blessings be yours on the Feast of the Holy Family! We celebrate this feast in order to honor and seek to follow the example of Saint Joseph, the Blessed Mother and Jesus Christ. They offer our families an example of what it means to live in holiness and faith. In the first reading from the Book of Sirach, the author lays out the duties of children to their parents. **"God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons."** Then in the second reading from the Letter to the Colossians, Paul admonishes his followers about the variety of virtues they should live by, while also touching on the relations between family members. The virtues of kindness, gentleness, humility, patience, forgiveness and love are all spoken about by Paul. And then he caps them off by saying: **"And whatever you do, in word and in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."** And finally, Matthew's gospel reports what the Holy Family had to do to survive early on by fleeing to Egypt until it was safe to go back to the land of Israel. That is when they settled in Nazareth which fulfilled an ancient prophecy. **"He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, 'He shall be called a Nazorean.'**"

What would you do for Jesus? Easy question? Anything? That may be easy to say but is it an honest answer? Is my current way of living a witness to doing anything for Jesus? I'm not so sure. Today's gospel is the story of The Flight to Egypt. It is a pretty dramatic and unusual story, full of all sorts of things—an angry king, a dangerous journey in the night, uncertain time in an uncertain place, another long journey, two dreams. A lot of stuff happens here. And at its core this story is about two parents being willing to do anything to protect their child, anything to keep him safe. Put this way, the story becomes a bit more understandable and familiar. Why? Because nearly every parent in this church today would probably do the same. Doing anything for your son or daughter is probably closer to the truth.



But what would you do for Jesus? Mary and Joseph were just people trying to make their way in life, trying to make it through each day and do right by their son. Yes, he was unlike any other son, but he was also very much like any child, needing the same care and safety and comfort and guidance and love that every child needs. And Mary and Joseph were there to provide it, there to provide the very things that families need to be happy, healthy and holy. Of course, they know their son was special and that God had special plans for him. Mary and Joseph loved each other because that's what faithful families do. And for them, loving God and loving each other were one and the same. It's what made their day-to-day tasks and lives holy. Yet I am sure they constantly wondered if they were doing the right thing. Did they hear correctly, know exactly what God wanted them to hear? What was their future? What was coming next? Actually, Mary and Joseph were concerned with the same things as all parents. So, if they could be holy, maybe we can be also, if we open ourselves to God's grace in such a way that he becomes as much a part of our families as any other member.

The winning **Christmas Cash 50/50** ticket was pulled last Sunday, and the winning number was **#5921** with the winning share being **\$4025.00**. Thanks to all who participated in this important fund-raiser for our Parish.

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** (Faith Formation), an invitation to a special **Holy Hour** on Tuesday, January 6th, in honor of our patron St. Raymond, the **Come and See 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. To keep informed, keep a copy of the bulletin at home each week for quick and easy reference.

Have a great last week of 2025. **Keep the Christmas spirit going as you strive for holiness in your family. Plus remember: Jesus is a stable baby in an unstable world.** Merry Christmas—Happy New Year and God bless always.

-Father Chuck

READINGS FOR TODAY'S MASS

DECEMBER 28, 2025—FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

FIRST READING

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them. When he prays, he is heard; he stores up riches who reveres his mother. Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and, when he prays, is heard. Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother. My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives. Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him; revile him not all the days of his life; kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins —a house raised in justice to you.

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, be subordinate to your husbands, as is proper in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and avoid any bitterness toward them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, so they may not become discouraged.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Blessed is everyone who fears the LORD, who walks in his ways! For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; blessed shall you be, and favored.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home; your children like olive plants around your table.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD. The LORD bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

GOSPEL

Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

When the magi had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him." Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled, *Out of Egypt I called my son*. When Herod had died, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." He rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go back there. And because he had been warned in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee. He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, *He shall be called a Nazorean*.

READINGS FOR TODAY'S MASS

JANUARY 1, 2026—SOLEMNITY OF MARY

FIRST READING

Numbers 6:22-27

The LORD said to Moses: "Speak to Aaron and his sons and tell them: This is how you shall bless the Israelites. Say to them: The LORD bless you and keep you! The LORD let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace! So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8

R. May God bless us in his mercy.

May God have pity on us and bless us; may he let his face shine upon us. So may your way be known upon earth; among all nations, your salvation.

R. May God bless us in his mercy.

May the nations be glad and exult because you rule the peoples in equity; the nations on the earth you guide.

R. May God bless us in his mercy.

May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you! May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear him!

R. May God bless us in his mercy.

SECOND READING

Galatians 4:4-7

Brothers and sisters: When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to ransom those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. As proof that you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then also an heir, through God.

ALLELUIA

Hebrews 1:1-2

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.



GOSPEL

Luke 2:16-21

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them. When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Special One year Memorial Candle

It's not too late!

Bring in the attached form to the rectory



Once again we will be having special one year devotional candles at the St. Joseph Statue in the front. These candles surround the base of the statue. There are a few candles available at the St. Joseph statue. The cost is \$300.00 for an entire year of having a candle lit for your intention. A small name plate will be placed at each candle that has been taken for the year. Only the name of the person you are remembering will be on each name plate. These candles will be lit for the entire Church Liturgical Year. If you are interested in one of these candles, simply fill out the following information, include your donation and bring it to the rectory. This also includes existing candles for this past year that have been lit. They need to be renewed.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Name for the candle name plate (please print) _____



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FAITH FORMATION

Lucy Ostermann, Director



THERE ARE NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES AND THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THE WEEK 12/29/2025.

CLASSES WILL RESUME AND THE OFFICE WILL RE-OPEN ON MONDAY 1/5/2026

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

Please mark your calendars and join us at the 12 Noon Mass on Epiphany Sunday 1/4/2026. Some of our students will participate in a procession of the Three Kings as they visit Jesus in his manger with their gifts of homage. Children in the congregation will be given a 'star' to help guide the Magi as they make their way to the newborn King! All are welcome!

ATTENTION 8TH GRADE PARENTS AND STUDENTS

Early planning – there will be an 8th grade parent/ student meeting on Tuesday 1/13/2026 at 7:30pm in the auditorium. At this meeting the following are to be handed in: Confirmation Information sheet, Confirmation Name report, Confirmation Sponsor report (Kellenberg students as well).

SOCIAL MINISTRY - THANK YOU

Throughout the year our students are asked to help stock the shelves for our Social Ministry clients.

The students and their families do an amazing job of helping others in their very own community.

Here is a thank you note from the Social Ministry staff that should be shared:

Dear Lucy, Staff and Students,

Thank you so much for the very generous collection of food from the food drive you organized with your students and which they donated to the St. Raymond's Food Pantry. Your students are learning firsthand what giving back to their community is all about and hopefully this training will continue throughout their lives.

Please tell the students how much we at the Social Ministry, on behalf of our clients, truly appreciate all their work in collecting and donating the food. May God continue to bless all of you.



Sincerely,

*Kathy Brandon, Holly Bilello, Jeanne LaSala
St. Raymond's Parish Social Ministry Staff*



"May your New Year be filled with the glory of God's presence and the comfort of His unceasing love."

Happy and Healthy New Year to you and your families!

Lucy, Nancy, Colleen and Mary Ann





CHRISTMAS CAROLS





FIRST GRADE MASS



The parish will hold a Holy Hour on Tuesday, January 6, in honor of St. Raymond, whose feast is celebrated on January 7. We will gather before the Blessed Sacrament to ask for his intercession and protection for our parish.

All are warmly invited to attend.



HOLY HOUR

Tuesday,
January 6, 2026
7:00pm - 8:00pm
ST. RAYMOND
CHURCH

Exposition-Reflection Music-Benediction

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Mr. Ronald Hansen

Antoinetta Hansen

Hoeffner Family

Anthony Hoeffner Jr.

Kate Conlin

Anthony Santino

Salvador Medina

Christine Wertz Patane

M/M Donald Maloy

The Maloy Family

The Garguido Family

The Gimmler Family

Mrs. C. McDougal

Dennis McDougal

Larry & Eileen Meyers

M/M August Michela

Michela Family

Vulpis Family

Massimo Family

Farinacci Family

M/M M. Palumbo

Betty Jacobs

Rich Jacobs

Parinello Family

Vita Parinello

M/M Joseph

Serafino

Catherine & Donald

Serafino

Angelina & Thomas

CuCuzza

Irnelia C. Hurttoe

M/M Paul Sirianni

Sirianni Family

Walsh Family

Lentowsky Family

M/M M. Sloan

The Sloan Family

The Boyle Family

Mr. Timothy Tolan

Lucille Tolan

Joan Tolan

Thomas Tolan

Mrs. K. Tomasello

McKenna Family

The Dec. Members of
The Tomasello Family

Ms. Lisa Trento

Anne & Leslie Hecht

Dominick Trento

Gustave

M/N Richard Treglia

Berhman Castanon

Lydia Buffinton

Janice Treglia

Anna & Jua Castanon

Martha Quijano

Mrs. Jean Ventrello

Ventrello & Lafalce

Families

M/M Gerard

Ventuleth

Mary Rabbitt

Mrs. Susanna Vito

Joseph A. Vito

Mrs. David Webster

Dave Webster

Mrs. Virginia Weis

Ed Weis

Anne & Bob Donoghue

Ms. Susan West

George McDougal

Dennis McDougal

Mary Jane & Al West

Mrs. Patricia

Tauckus

Dec. Members of

The Tauckus Family

Dec. Members of

The Mahoney Family



ST. RAYMOND'S HUMAN LIFE COMMITTEE

Restorative Reproductive Medicine

The most common known medical procedure to help couples experiencing infertility is "in vitro fertilization" (IVF). There is another treatment, not widely known or promoted, available to couples called "restorative reproductive medicine" (RRM). This treatment seeks to heal the root causes of a couple's infertility rather than ignoring or bypassing the causes like IVF does. The RRM treatment is less costly and is often more successful than IVF treatment. In addition, during the IVF treatment many of the embryos that are created are destroyed or frozen indefinitely. The Catholic Church supports the Restorative Reproductive Medicine treatment. For any couple experiencing infertility, there are two facilities on L.I and one in NYC to address this medical problem.

The Gianna Center for

Women's Health and Fertility

661 Deer Park Avenue, Babylon, NY 11702

#631-376-3232

The Gianna Center for

Women's Health and Fertility

2000 North Village Avenue, Suite 204,

Rockville Centre, NY 11570

#516-705-1148

The Gianna Center for

Women's Health and Fertility

15 East 40th St., Room 101, NY, NY 10016

#212-481-1219 FAX: 212-481-1423

*We wish our parish family a very
Blessed and Joyous New Year!*

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH WEEKLY GUIDE FOR PERSONAL PRAYER



SUMMARY OF THE READINGS FOR THE WEEK



For Feast of the Holy Family, the Gospel from Matthew recounts Joseph's protective obedience in taking Mary and the child Jesus into Egypt and then back to Nazareth, fulfilling prophecy and showing how God guides and guards His family amid threat and uncertainty.

This week, Monday is the Memorial Saint Thomas Becket, the Archbishop of Canterbury who gave his life defending the freedom of the Church. Wednesday is the Optional Memorial of Saint Pope Sylvester I, who guided the Church during the time of Emperor Constantine and the early peace of Christianity.

Friday is the First Friday of the month in which we honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is also the Memorial of Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen (bishops) who were Doctors of the Church. Saturday is First Saturday of the month and is the Optional Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus.

Thursday, January 1st is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God with its own special readings. Mary is honored as the "Mother of God," a title defined by the Council of Ephesus in 431 AD to affirm that Jesus is both divine and human, not just a man. Additionally, it commemorates the role of Mary as a model of faith and obedience to God's will in this mystery of salvation. In 1969, the Church moved the observance this Solemnity from October (when it was previously celebrated) to January 1st, integrating it with the Christmas season and the naming of Jesus.



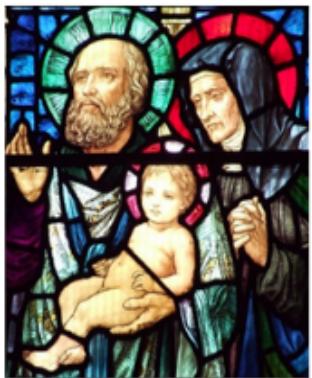
man. Additionally, it commemorates the role of Mary as a model of faith and obedience to God's will in this mystery of salvation. In 1969, the Church moved the observance this Solemnity from October (when it was previously celebrated) to January 1st, integrating it with the Christmas season and the naming of Jesus.

Come & See

Until you do, you will never know

For the weekdays from Monday through Saturday, the First Readings are taken primarily from the First Letter of Saint John, with one reading from Sirach earlier in the Christmas Octave, as the Church reflects on the mystery of the Incarnation and life in Christ. the First Letter of Saint John was written to strengthen early Christian communities and emphasizes true communion with God through faith, love, and fidelity to Christ made flesh.

During the early days of this week, the Gospel readings from Luke 2 present Simeon and Anna in the temple, faithful witnesses who recognize God's salvation in the child Jesus after a lifetime of patient hope. Simeon proclaims that Jesus is "a light for revelation



to the Gentiles," while also foretelling the cost of discipleship and the piercing sorrow that will touch Mary's heart. These passages reveal that Christ enters history quietly, within family life and worship, teaching us that faithful waiting, prayer, and attentiveness prepare the heart to receive God's promises.

As the week continues, the Gospel shifts to John 1, drawing us into the profound mystery of the Incarnation and the public witness of John the Baptist. The eternal Word who "became flesh and made his dwelling among us" is revealed as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and John humbly testifies, "I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God." Together these readings call us to move from contemplation to witness, welcoming Christ's light personally and then pointing others toward Him through lives shaped by truth, humility, and faith.

For the Epiphany of the Lord, the Gospel from Matthew depicts the Magi journeying to worship the newborn King, guided by a star, declaring, "We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage," and reminding us that Christ is revealed not only to Israel but to all peoples.



“And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.”
-Colossians 3:14



St. Raymond Church

🔥 Kindle The Fire Within
Each Day, the Church is open for personal prayer until 5:00pm
Each Thursday - Eucharistic Exposition from 1-4:00pm
Each First Friday
Nocturnal Adoration
7:30pm-8:30pm

Daily Prayer This Week

Lord Jesus, Word made flesh, we praise you for entering our world in humility and love, dwelling among us and sanctifying our human lives. During this Octave of Christmas, draw our hearts closer to you so that your light may shape our thoughts, our words, and our actions in family life and daily work.

Faithful Family

“Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt.” (Matthew 2:14)

The Feast of the Holy Family reveals that God chooses ordinary family life as the place where holiness is formed, as Joseph and Mary faithfully protect and nurture the child Jesus amid uncertainty and danger. In my own family and work responsibilities, I am called to trust that God is present in daily routines and to lead with patience, sacrifice, and quiet fidelity.

My Prayer: Lord, bless our family with trust, perseverance, and love, and help us place you at the center of our home.

Hopeful Waiting

“For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.” (Luke 2:30-31)

Through Simeon and Anna, the Gospels show that a lifetime of prayer and faithfulness is never wasted, for “my eyes have seen your salvation.” When I grow weary of waiting for answers, healing, or direction, I am invited to remain steadfast in hope, trusting that God fulfills His promises in His perfect time.

My Prayer: Faithful God, strengthen our hope when waiting feels difficult and help us recognize your presence in every season.

Light Revealed

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” (John 1:5)

The Gospel of John proclaims that the eternal Word has come into the world as light, and “the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” In the pressures of work and family life, I am called to live as a bearer of Christ’s light through honesty, kindness, and faithfulness, especially when circumstances feel challenging.

My Prayer: Jesus, Light of the world, shine through our words and actions so that others may encounter your truth and peace.

Humble Witness

“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.” (John 1:29)

John the Baptist teaches that true discipleship is rooted in humility, pointing away from oneself and toward Christ, declaring, “Behold, the Lamb of God.” I am reminded that my daily witness—through integrity, forgiveness, and love—can quietly draw others to Christ without the need for recognition or control.

My Prayer: Lord, give us humble hearts that reflect your love and help us always point others to you.

Living Communion

“But to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God.” (John 1:12)

As the Christmas season continues, the Gospels invite me to remain in relationship with Christ, allowing His presence to shape every aspect of my life. By welcoming the Word made flesh into my prayer, family life, and work, I learn that true peace flows from abiding in Him and living as a child of God.

My Prayer: Emmanuel, dwell with us and guide our family in love, unity, and faith each day.

Santa visited our CYO Basketball clinic and brought wonderful gifts for all the children!



ST. RAYMOND'S
CYO



JOIN THE FOLK GROUP!

A MINISTRY OF MUSIC, FAITH & COMMUNITY

Do you love music and want to be part of something joyful and meaningful?

The Folk Group offers a fun, modern take on traditional church music,

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU WITH US!

We're a welcoming group of people who come together to share music, faith, and friendship. While some of us play instruments or have formal training, it's not required. What connects us is our shared love of music, community, and worship. Whether you sing, play, or just want to be part of a faith-filled musical group,

YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN!

Open to anyone from 7th grade and up—no upper age limit!

 **Rehearsals:** Sundays at 11:00 AM

 **Location:** Rectory Lower Level

 **We sing at the 12 Noon Sunday Mass**

Interested? We'd love to hear from you!

 **Call Nadine Robinson at 516-784-6775**

 **Or email: straymondsfolkgroup@gmail.com**

Come make a joyful noise with us!





**Feast of Mary the
Mother of God
New Year's Eve
Tuesday, December 31st
5:00pm
New Year's Day
Wednesday, January 1, 2026
9:00am, 10:30am and 12 noon
and 1:30pm**



As we look towards the new year, think of ways you can be at service to others next year. Perhaps you can get involved in some parish ministries.

Associated Vincentian
Charities of Brooklyn

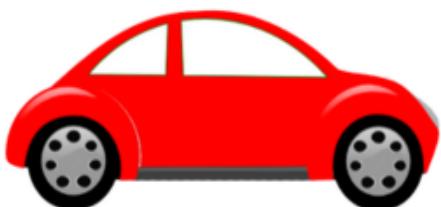
Gives Back!

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

**IRS TAX DEDUCTION FREE TOWING
ANY CONDITION**

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

For details: svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org



**THE ROSE
FOR LIFE**

**In Loving Memory of
The Preborn Babies
Who Die Through
Abortion**

For Dedications call
Mary Caffrey 516-887-2458

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 THROUGH
WEDNESDAY
FROM 10AM TO 3PM
(Suggested to call for an appointment)

"But love your enemies and do good and lend, expecting nothing in return and your reward will be great." Luke 6:35

The Parish Social Ministry staff hopes that you and your families had blessed Christmas that filled your hearts and homes with joy, peace and love. We would like to sincerely thank all of our parishioners who participated in the Giving Tree. Your tremendous generosity is greatly appreciated and, because of your kindness, we were able to provide Christmas gifts to 65 families. Thank you for making someone's Christmas a little brighter.

We have been busy making Christmas special for our clients but now our shelves are a little bare of certain items...

Pantry items needed to help restock the shelves are: Pancake Mix, Maple Syrup, Mayonnaise, Cooking Oil, Grape Jelly, Rice Side Dishes, Chef Boyardee Pasta, Canned Tomatoes, Canned Fruit, Shampoo, Conditioner and Laundry Detergent.

Food donations can be brought to the Ryan House during its open hours or non-perishable food can be left in the bin on the Ryan House porch or in the Altar Server's Sacristy.

*Thank you all for always helping the Parish Social Ministry serve the people in need in our community.
May the light of God's love shine upon you this Christmas and guide you and your loved ones to a new year filled with peace, love and prosperity.*

BEST WISHES FOR A HEALTHY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR!!



"O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you."

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (December 8th)

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**



Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

They were close, lifelong friends, brilliant 4th-century theologians, bishops, and Doctors of the Church, known as pillars of orthodoxy who defended Christian faith against Arianism (denying Christ's divinity). They are the patron saints of monks, hospital administrators, reformers, and Russia.



Nocturnal Adoration

The Nocturnal Adoration Society will meet Friday, January 2nd from 7:30-8:30pm in the Church for its monthly hour of Adoration. Nocturnal Adoration is fashioned after the Liturgy of Hours, this time of prayer is a blessed way to intensify our walk with Jesus.

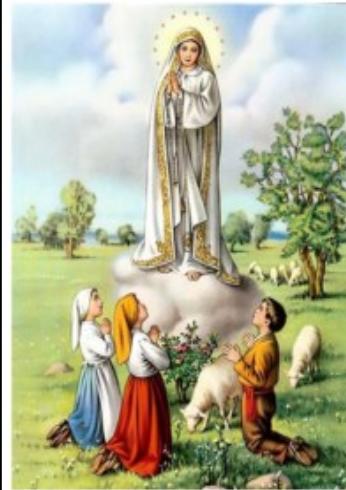
Come spend some time with Jesus!



Altar Bread & Wine

In Loving Memory of
Richard LeGrady

With Love, Prayers & Friendship
Dorothy & Michael Bock



First Saturday Novena Our Lady of Fatima Rosary

January 3, 2026

8:10am

St. Raymond Church
Near the Blessed Mother Statue
Make Reparation for sins against
The Immaculate Heart of Mary

SANCTUARY

LIGHT

In Memory of
The Raia Family
Love & Prayers
Dianne Minucci





New York State Catholic Conference

NYS Bishops' Statement on Gov. Hochul's Plan to Sign Assisted Suicide Bill

December 17, 2025

Following is a joint statement by Timothy Cardinal Dolan and the Bishops of New York State on Governor Hochul's announcement that she will sign the physician-assisted suicide bill passed earlier this year by the legislature:

"We are extraordinarily troubled by Governor Hochul's announcement that she will sign the egregious bill passed by the legislature earlier this year sanctioning physician-assisted suicide in New York State. This new law signals our government's abandonment of its most vulnerable citizens, telling people who are sick or disabled that suicide in their case is not only acceptable, but is encouraged by our elected leaders.

Tragically, this new law will seriously undermine all of the anti-suicide and mental health care investments Governor Hochul has made through her tenure. How can any society have credibility to tell young people or people with depression that suicide is never the answer, while at the same time telling elderly and sick people that it is a compassionate choice to be celebrated?

"While physician-assisted suicide will soon be legal here in New York, we must clearly reiterate that it is in direct conflict with Catholic teaching on the sacredness and dignity of all human life from conception until natural death and is a grave moral evil on par with other direct attacks on human life. We call on Catholics and all New Yorkers to reject physician-assisted suicide for themselves, their loved ones, and those in their care. And we pray that our state turn away from its promotion of a Culture of Death and invest instead in life-affirming, compassionate hospice and palliative care, which is seriously underutilized."

Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York
Most Reverend Edward B. Scharfenberger, Bishop of Albany
Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan, Bishop of Brooklyn
Most Reverend Michael W. Fisher, Bishop of Buffalo
Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley, Bishop of Ogdensburg
Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano, Bishop of Rochester
Most Reverend John Q. Barres, Bishop of Rockville Centre
Most Reverend Douglas J. Lucia, Bishop of Syracuse
And the Most Reverend Auxiliary and Emeritus Bishops of New York State



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.



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. Where resources allow we can provide assistance to our neighbors in need and or lead them to other resources where they may be able to obtain the help they require.

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

St. Joseph, Defender of Life Prayer

Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child. We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God's most precious gift of life. Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life –especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things. Amen.

We ask Catholics to offer this prayer daily, from now until October 1, the beginning of Respect Life Month. Free online and print versions of the prayer can be found at www.respectlife.org/prayer-to-st-joseph. Thank you for responding to this invitation to pray and for your support in protecting innocent children and their vulnerable mothers from the evil of abortion.

St. Joseph, Defender of Life, pray for us!

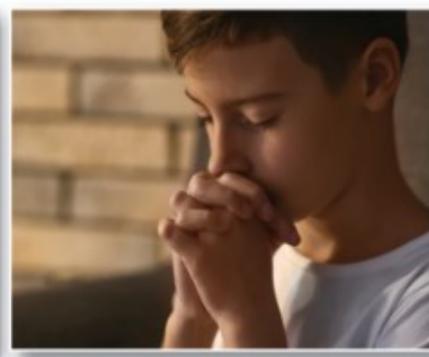
2025

Catholic Ministries Appeal
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*Renewed by the Eucharist
Sent on Mission*



The Eucharistic Revival has enkindled a missionary fire in the hearts of the American faithful. Going out on Mission - for the life of the World is the most important phase, where we go out and share the love of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist to transform the world. Faith is alive in our parishes and schools, soup kitchens and housing programs, on street corners and in churches. It is lived through people of all backgrounds, from every neighborhood. People everywhere come together to support one another. It is in this spirit that the Catholic Ministries Appeal exists: to bring support and build strong communities through faith and your generosity. Every year, the annual Catholic Appeal provides us an opportunity to realize the difference we can make when we act together in God's love. Please consider joining us again this year by making a gift to the 2025 Catholic Ministries Appeal.



100% of every dollar raised is restricted to fund the objectives, programs, and mission supported by the Catholic Ministries Appeal.

Please make check payable to the Catholic Ministries Appeal

Name: _____

Parish: _____

Address: _____

City, State _____

Zip Code: _____

Telephone number: _____

Home _____

Cell: _____

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...**



The story of the birth of Jesus is often misunderstood. But this fast-paced, thought-provoking look at the true story of the Nativity clears away widespread misunderstandings of Jesus' origin. Explore the true story of Mary and Joseph, Jesus's miraculous conception, the birth of John the Baptist, the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the Star of Bethlehem, and the birth of Jesus. This is an invaluable tool for believer and unbeliever alike to learn more about Jesus of Nazareth and about the truth of Christmas.



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

FORMED

LINK TO REGISTER... IT'S FREE!

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, December 29th

7:15am St. Raymond Parish

8:45am Peggy Motherway

Tuesday, December 30th

7:15am James McHale

8:45am Michael S. Sloan

Wednesday, December 31st

7:15am Holy Souls in Purgatory

8:45am Edward Gallagher

5:00pm Robert Cea

Thursday, January 1st

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

9:00am Irnelia Hartter

10:30am Dec. members of Cassese Family

12:00pm Edward DelGiorno, Kenneth P.

Hettler, Jacqueline D'Agostino,

Anne Gallagher, Tina Bodacchino

1:30pm John Walz

Friday, January 2nd

Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

7:15am John Connolly

8:45am Noel Rinaldi

Saturday, January 3rd

8:45am Violet McHale

5:00pm Charlie Henshaw

Sunday, January 4th

The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30am Peter Swanson

9:00am Genova & Simeti Families

10:30am Marie Gallagher

12:00pm Ann & Ray Harrington

Vincent Saldutti, Joseph Saldutti,

John St. Amand, Maureen Ohlsen,

Anthony J. Santino, Robert Murray

Pedro Morales-Martinez

4:30pm St. Raymond Parish



**REST IN
PEACE**

Robert Leo Sympson

Mary "Dolly" Becker

Patricia A. Schwagerl

Paul Byrnes

*May the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace. Amen*



Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

1 John 2:3-11/Luke 2:22-35

Tuesday

1 John 2:12-17/Luke 2:36-40

Wednesday

1 John 2:18-21/John 1:1-18

Thursday

Numbers 6:22-27/Luke 2:16-21

Friday

1 John 2:22-28/John 1:19-28

Saturday

1 John 2:29-3:6/John 1:29-34

Sunday

Isaiah 60:1-6/Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Matthew 2:1-12

Parish Bulletin Board



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE STRUGGLING WITH ALCOHOL OR SUBSTANCE USE?

DON'T DO IT ALONE. HELP IS HERE!

ADDICTION TREATMENT SERVICES
30-C CARLOUGH ROAD BOHEMIA, NY 11716
631-589-4144
WWW.CATHOLICCHARITIES.CC

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.

IF YOU LIVE ALONE YOU NEED A MEDICAL ALERT At HOME or AWAY

• GPS • Fall Alert • 24/7 • 365 Monitoring
Ambulance • Police • Fire • Family/Friends

 **MDMedAlert™**

As Low As **\$19.95** /month*



No Contract • No Fees • E-Z Setup • md-medicalert.com **CALL 800 867-7250**

Advanced health care,
personalized for all

To schedule an appointment,
call **(866) MY-LI-DOC**

catholichealthli.org



Tax Savings That Will Shock You!



MAIDENBAUM

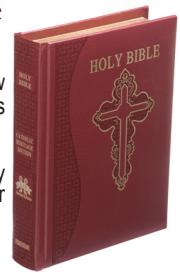
THE LEADER IN PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION

Apply online at mptrg.com/bulletins
or call 516.715.1223
Hablamos Español

Maidenbaum Property Tax Reduction Group, LLC - 483 Chestnut Street, Cedarhurst, NY 11516

Fireside Catholic Heritage Edition Bible

The Catholic Heritage Edition in the New American Bible Revised Edition translation is the ideal Catholic Family Bible.



Features: Our Catholic Family, Family Record section and Burgundy padded cover with gold-gilded page edges.

Only \$79.99 post paid

C/O The Church Bulletin, Inc.

200 Dale Street • W. Babylon, NY 11704

Enclosed please find check/money order for \$ _____ to cover the cost of _____ (quantity) copies of the Fireside Family Bible, to be shipped post paid to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

At Ocean Financial, our members' financial well-being is at the heart of everything we do!

 **Ocean Financial**
Federal Credit Union
Catholic Values You Can Bank On®

Speak with a Member Contact Representative today to learn more about how we can help you.
516.620.8100 • OceanFinancial.org
Oceanside Branch Seaford Branch
45 Atlantic Avenue 4050 Merrick Road
Oceanside, NY 11572 Seaford, NY 11783





Perry Funeral Home, Inc.

Kenneth Lysak Jr., Philip M. Taglia

- Family Owned & Operated
- Newly Renovated
- Area's Largest Chapel
- Preplanning
- Prepayment



Since 1825

118 Union Avenue, Lynbrook

516.593.1111

www.perryfh.com

- Handicap Accessible
- Monuments & Inscriptions
- Children's Playroom
- Competitive Pricing
- Ample Parking

**BIRTHRIGHT
OF
NASSAU/SUFFOLK**
(516) 785-4070
**Confidential
Assistance**

Edwin C. Gerry Agency

All your Insurance needs
25D Main St., East Rockaway, NY 11518
Serving the Community over 50 years

(516) 593-4242

Celebrity Chase Collision
191 Earle Ave., Lynbrook, NY 11563
516 593-0920
Ask about your parish discount



BIANCA CAMARDA, DDS
PEDIATRIC DENTIST

133 BROADWAY, LYNBROOK
516-561-3333

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

little smiles on broadway
pediatric dentistry and orthodontics

CAREFREE

AIR CONDITIONING GAS HEATING
AIR FILTRATION WATER FILTRATION
516-599-2848

Assisi Veterinary Hospital

Internal Medicine, Surgery & Emergency Medicine
Pet Grooming and Boarding Available

250 Hempstead Ave., Malverne
516-256-0022
www.assisivh.com



Guy Donza, Thomas Donza & Christine Donza
Funeral Directors & Pre-Arrangement Counselors

90 years
1926-2016
Warm and Personal Service - A Family Tradition Since 1926

Donza

FUNERAL HOME, INC.

- Solely Owned & Operated by The Donza Family
- Newly Expanded and Decorated Chapels
- Ample Parking

333 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, N.Y. 11518
Tel: (516) 593-2521 / Fax: (516) 825-6380
email: donzafuneralhome@aol.com



“Long Island’s Most Trusted Name in Real Estate”
HILARY H. BECKER, C.P.M.
(516) 887-0677

Hewlett Point Yacht Club, Inc.
“The most desirable place to dock your boat in East Rockaway”

- Boating and non boating Memberships
- Air Conditioned Party Room for rent
- Social Events throughout the year
- Activities and events for children • Free Wi-Fi
- Beautiful views of Hewlett Bay
- Private Beach • Skeet Shooting • Deep water access • Slips with updated water and electric

Call Ed for Details 516-359-2676

HILTON HOSPITAL
FOR ANIMALS
120 Merrick Rd.
Lynbrook
516-887-2914
www.hiltonanimalhospital.net
Preventive Care, Internal Medicine, Surgery & Dentistry, Bathing & Boarding Available

Final Touch
Auto Collision
All Insurance Accepted
Collision Specialist
24 Hour Towing
3586 Merrick Rd., Seaford • 516.221.7611
169 Herricks Rd., Garden City Park • 516.741.7950
info@finaltouchli.com • www.finaltouchli.com

Da Nicola
Restaurant • Bar • Catering
Private Party Room Available
• APPETIZERS • SOUPS & SALADS • PASTAS • ENTREES
• CLASSIC ITALIAN DISHES • STEAKS • CHOPS • SEAFOOD & MORE
LET US CATER AN EVENT!
1203 Broadway, Hewlett, NY • 516.812.5155
www.DaNicolaHewlett.com

Flinch & Bruns Funeral Home Inc.
CREMATION SERVICES - BURIAL - FUNERAL
Serving the entire South Shore Since 1932
34 Hempstead Avenue. Corner Peninsula Blvd. Lynbrook
516-599-3600 www.flinchandbruns.com

James
Tech Electric
Your East Rockaway
Licensed & Insured
Electrical Contractor
Jamestechelectric.com
536-6900 647-0960

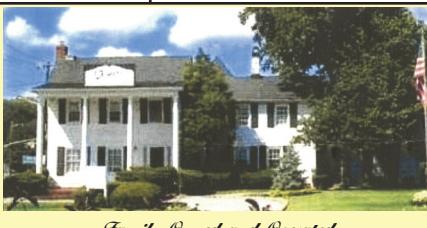
Towers

Est.
1933

FUNERAL HOME INC.

2681 Long Beach Rd Oceanside
(516) 766-0425

www.towersfuneralhomeny.com



Family Owned and Operated

LYNBOOK
PLUMBING AND HEATING, INC.

www.lynbrookplumbing.com

307 Sunrise Hwy.
Lynbrook

516-593-4000

Plumbing Service & Repairs
Water Heater Installation & Repairs
Boiler Installation & Repair
Oil to Gas Conversions
Backflow Testing
Leak & Pipe Repairs
Water Filtration Systems
Gas to Gas Boiler Installations
Gas Appliance Installation
Baseboard Radiation Service
Oil Tank Abandonment
Drain & Pipe Cleaning
Gas Barbecues & Fire Pits
Gas Fireplace Logs
Water Mains
Cast Iron Radiator Service