

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 25, 2024

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

“Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them;
from the cloud came a voice, This is my
beloved Son. Listen to him.”

-Mark 9:8



February 25, 2024
Second 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 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.

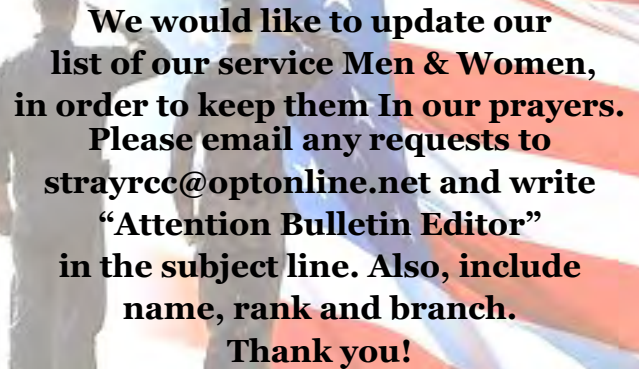
Music Ministries

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



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!



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 Second Sunday of Lent! Today we are being invited by God to listen more closely to his Son, Jesus. It all starts in the first reading from Genesis when Abraham listened to God and is ready to sacrifice his son Isaac as God had instructed him. As harsh a request as it seemed, Abraham was ready to do God's will. But in the end, he was stopped. **"Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son."** Then in the second reading from Romans, Paul encourages the people to remain steadfast in their faith, trusting that God will provide all we need. **"He who did not spare his own son, but handed him over for us, how will he not also give us everything else along with him.?"** Finally, we have Mark's gospel account of the **"Transfiguration"** when the divinity of Jesus is revealed to Peter, James, and John on the mountain top. They were awestruck at the sight of Jesus and then a voice came from the heavens: **"This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."**

Wouldn't it be incredible if God would do this same thing in our time and place, say right here in St. Raymond Church. I imagine our first reaction would be one of fear. We probably wouldn't even know what was happening. But then we might be awestruck like the apostles were, and even excited. And maybe even a bit humbled. What an experience this would be. I'm sure we would change because of it. How would be different for each one of us. But the one common effect would probably be that each of us would believe more than before. We would believe more strongly in God's existence and in Jesus, and that our lives do have some sort of meaning. Yes, we probably would leave church believing more. But would we have more faith? **"This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."** I think God is saying don't just believe in Jesus but have faith in him too. What's the difference? I would say it is in the words: **"Listen to him."** Faith is not simply acknowledging that God is real, but accepting what he is asking of us. And that's the most difficult part of faith because it means surrendering our own will and desires to the will and desires of our God. The question really becomes, **"What would you do for God, not just, What do you think about God."** If you affirm that your desire is to have faith, not just believe, then ask yourself if you are truly listening to Jesus or still just listening to yourself. **"What would you do for God?"** Look at how Abraham answered that question.

This Tuesday evening, February 27th, we will have our second special **Holy Hour** for Lent in our church from 7-8pm. In the spirit of the Eucharistic Revival this is a great way to spend some quality time in the presence of Jesus. If you are going to open your heart to Jesus more this Lent and try to grow closer to him, then Eucharistic Adoration is for you and for all of us. This is where our belief becomes faith, and our lives take on a whole deeper purpose. The hour will consist of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, scripture, time for quiet prayer, a reflection, music and ending with Benediction. So, if you can, come join us for this hour with Jesus. And bring a friend.

Once again, I would like to call your attention to a request I made last week. It has to do with the concern that many of our elderly parishioners, when trying to park in the back parking lot, are unable to find a space. Many times, a person with a walker, cane or in a wheelchair can't find a parking space in the lot. I would urge those who are more physically capable to please consider using the street or another lot for parking. It means walking a bit to the church, but it would be a very considerate gesture for those who truly need to park close to the rear entrance. Thank you for your consideration to this request.

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** (Faith Formation), an invitation to the upcoming **St. Patrick's Celebration** in March, the ongoing **Lenten Schedule**, 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. To keep informed, keep a copy of the bulletin at home each week for quick and easy reference.

Have a great Second Week of Lent. **Keep that Lenten smile going and remember: Life doesn't get better by chance; it gets better by change.** God bless always.
-Father Chuck



WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

FEBRUARY 25, 2024-SECOND 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 25, 2024-SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST READING

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am!" he replied. Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you." When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am!" he answered. "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son. Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing—all this because you obeyed my command."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

I believed, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted." Precious in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your handmaid; you have loosed my bonds. To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the LORD.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

My vows to the LORD I will pay in the presence of all his people, In the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

SECOND READING

Rom 8:31b-34

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died—or, rather, was raised—who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 17:5

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless glory!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

GOSPEL

Mk 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.



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 27th & March 5th
7:00-8:00pm in the church
Exposition-Adoration-Prayer-Reflection-
Music & Benediction

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - FAITH FORMATION

Lucy Ostermann, Director



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.

Wednesday's 5th grade classes joining in a Holy Hour Trivia Game.
Teachers - Noreen Leahy, Kelly Khan and Jane Breuer.



"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 27TH & MARCH 5TH

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



The Sodality of Our Lady

invites women of faith to our

6th Annual Women's Day Retreat

Saturday, March 23, 2024

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. Marie Mackey, CSJ

Topic: Paschal Mysteries and personal growth

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**



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



A Deeper Look at the Homily

The homily “serves as an integral link between the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Before the apostles recognized Jesus in the ‘breaking of the bread,’ he explained the Scriptures to them, ‘filling their hearts with a burning desire.’ The homily strives to kindle a fire of love for God and His Church. As a ‘bridge’ it draws us deeper into the mysteries we celebrate—most especially the mystery of the most Holy Eucharist” (Diocese of Peoria: A Study of the Mass, p. 9). So, as you can begin to see, the homily is really packed with a number of important goals!”

Inspiration from the Church Fathers



One of the earliest written descriptions of the Mass is from St. Justin Martyr, who was writing a little earlier than 165 AD. As he describes the prayers and meaning of the Mass, I am always struck by how similar they are to our celebrations today. It is a great testament to the guiding work of the Holy Spirit and continuity of our Catholic faith and liturgy. When St. Justin describes the homily, he talks about how the leader exhorts the people to imitate the good things they have just heard. All these centuries later, preachers are still following this same pattern. The priest may use different kinds of homilies for different circumstances, taking into account what the people are like, what they know already, what kinds of involvement they have, what types of concerns are currently happening on the local level, etc.

All of these elements will affect both what the faithful need to hear and how well they will understand it and live it out each day. No matter what the circumstances, and no matter what the background of the people is like, all homilies really have one thing in common: Jesus Christ who died and rose for us and our life in him. A wise old seminary professor once said, “If you never say anything else in the pulpit except Jesus loves you and wants you to be with him, the main essentials will always be in every homily.”



A Bridge Between the Two Halves

So, our focus should always be on Christ, his love for us, and what that means in our lives. We focus on Christ's four-fold presence to us at every Mass: he is present in the Word of God, in the priest, in his assembled people, and especially in his Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist in a most unique way. We focus on Jesus through the Scriptures and God's loving Word to his people. We focus on Jesus dwelling among us, offering himself for our sins, rising in triumph, and continuing to be with us through the Holy Eucharist.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1346, states: “The liturgy of the Word and liturgy of the Eucharist together form ‘one single act of worship’; the Eucharistic table set for us is the table both of the Word of God and of the Body of the Lord.” It is important to remember that the Mass is not just a sequence of unrelated events: it is a perfect unity in Christ. The first half helps us get to know God (and ourselves), nourishing our faith in God; the second half helps us unite with him in body and soul. The hope of the homily, then, is to help bring these two halves together so that the faithful can go out into the world and really live the life of Christ.

For Reflection:

1. Read about St. Peter's first “homily” and its impact in the account from Acts 2:14–41. Commit to more attentive listening to the homily the next time you participate in Mass, and ask for the grace to put the lessons of the homily into action in your own life.
2. 2. On the journey to Emmaus, two disciples experience their hearts burning within when the Risen Lord Jesus interprets the Scriptures for them (see Lk 24:13–35). A Gospel acclamation preceding this Gospel passage implores, “Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us; / make our hearts burn while you speak to us.” Make this prayer your own as you prepare to participate actively in the Liturgy of the Word, including the homily.

Next Week:

How to Engage With 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: March 5th & 12th

Eucharistic Exposition-Adoration-Prayer-Reflection-
Music-Benediction



The very core of Christ-life is "Host-life"

By Fr. Peter John
Cameron, OP

The Host is light as a petal of rose, colorless, supremely fragile. Don't we ourselves often feel like that? Fragmented, insignificant ...

The Catholic mystical writer Caryl Houselander (+1954), in her profound reflections on the Holy Eucharist, focuses on the mystery of the Eucharistic Host by way of a captivating expression: the "Host-life."

Houselander makes the point that the Host-life "is not something new or different from the Christ-life that we know already." Rather, "it is the very core of it, and it was given to us at the Last Supper when Christ gave himself to us in the Blessed Sacrament." The notion of Host-life is meant to be for us a tremendous encouragement and bolstering of hope. For, as Houselander observes, at Mass:

"the offering to be changed into Jesus' Flesh is the most fragile wafer of unleavened bread, light as the petal of a rose; flexible, colorless, only just substance at all. It is made out of tiny separate grains. It is this that Christ chooses for his supreme miracle of love."

Don't we ourselves often feel like that ... fragile, insignificant, fragmented? That is why the Host-life is our Savior's deliberate "choice of how to live his life among us today."

"In the Host, Christ gives himself to live the ordinary life as it is today, to live it fully in all its essentials, and to take into himself, into his own living of the Host-life, the most ordinary, the most numerous, seemingly the most mediocre lives, bestowing upon them his own power to bring down the Spirit of love."

With what renewed confidence, joy, and freedom can we approach Holy Communion: We are asked to offer only what we have, what we are today. That it is so little means nothing: it is our wafer of unleavened bread. **And then, by our faith and trust, we can be the Host-life for others.**



Eucharistic Witness Saint Gregory of Narek Abbot & Doctor of the Church Feast: February 27th

St. Gregory of Narek was an Armenian priest, mystic, composer, astronomer, and, theologian. He was declared a saint in 2015 on the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide in the Ottoman Empire. In his Book of Lamentations, or "book of prayer," he offers us encouragement during Lent to prepare for Easter.

Trust in God's Gracious Mercy:

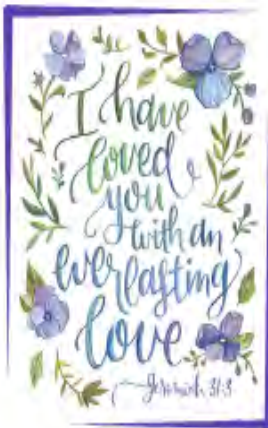
St. Gregory's father taught him to remain in a state of continuous dialogue with God, ever attentive to His divine presence. Gregory's prayers express the deepest love of God by a soul that seems troubled, and even tormented at times. However, he urged that we should never despair in our brokenness, but acknowledge our sin, and reach out to our God who constantly seeks us and very much wants to extend His mercy.

God Awaits Us in Reconciliation and the Eucharist:

According to St. Gregory, the goal in life is to achieve union God. This union cannot take place at the level of the intellect, but only at the level of the heart and feelings through the experience of God in the sacraments, especially in Reconciliation and the Eucharist.

Devotion to the Blessed Mother:

The loss of his mother early in life led Gregory to a deep devotion to our Blessed Mother, particularly in her role as mediator between God and humanity. He would later write, "This spiritual, heavenly mother of light cared for me as a son more than an earthly, breathing, physical mother could."



✠ Congratulations goes out to...

Bridget Green & Connor Dorney

Married at
St. Raymond's Church
in March 2024



God Bless
Our Newly
Baptized

Joseph Rocco Anastasio
Leonardo Michael Sadowsky
Miles Marcel Murray
Quinn Joseph Donnellan
Teagan Rae Groff
Emilio Frank Ippoliti

Nocturnal Adoration



THE NOCTURNAL ADORATION SOCIETY WILL MEET
FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST 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!



First Saturday
Novena
Our Lady of
Fatima
Rosary

March 2, 2024

8:10am

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



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

Eight Month of Development

Your spiritually adopted baby is increasing in size and strength. Because of his larger size he is not able to move as freely about in his mother's womb. He is receiving from his mother precious immunities to a number of diseases that will last until he is about six months old and able to begin building up his own immunities. His mother is patiently waiting for the last weeks of pregnancy to pass. She depends on your prayerful support.

Please join with us in prayer each Thursday at Adoration from 3:00 pm - 3:30 pm to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Rosary of Our Lady for the intention of an end to abortion and the return to the respect, dignity and protection of all God's children from conception until natural death.



*St. Raymond's Parish Social Ministry
The Ryan House*

"The Heart of the Parish"

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

**NEW FOOD PANTRY HOURS OF OPERATION
EFFECTIVE MARCH 4, 2024**

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY from 10am to 3pm
(Suggested to call for an appointment)

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Hebrews 13:16

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:

Cold Cereal, Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Mustard, Canned Beets, Mac and Cheese, Coffee, Peanut Butter, Grape Jelly, Ramen Noodles, Juice, Pancake Mix, Pancake Syrup, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes and Laundry Detergent.

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.

May God's blessings shower upon all of you!



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MARCH 23, 2024

7:00PM



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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 For Our Pastor Father Chuck

For Dedications call
Mary Healy 887-4062



We, too, are called to be at service to God- we can practice that by being at service to our neighbor. Is there anyone around you (family, friends, neighbors) who can use your assistance in something? Perhaps you can offer to take an elderly friend to Mass or to the grocery store (or even do their shopping for them). Perhaps you can just be an ear for someone who needs to talk.

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.

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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...**



Lent

FORMED is excited to present curated content to help the Church journey through this Lenten season. In this collection are resources to help the faithful deepen their understanding of various Lenten days, practices, and devotions. You can find resources on prayer, the mystery of Christ's Passion, the roots of Holy Week found in Judaism, and many things to help guide the faithful through the holiest days in our liturgical year—the Triduum. We pray that all of these resources draw us deeper into the mystery of Lent, Holy Week, and the Triduum as we look forward to the joy of the Resurrection.



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

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LINK TO REGISTER...IT'S FREE!

Masses for this week

Monday, February 26th

7:15am Joseph McCarthy
8:45am James Arthur Glenisten, Jr.
12:15pm St. Raymond Parish

Tuesday, February 27th

7:15am Brian Fahey
8:45am Betty Jacobs
12:15pm George Martorana

Wednesday, February 28th

7:15am David Ohlsen, Sr.
8:45am Anna Palmer
12:15pm Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, February 29th

7:15am Debra Mancini
8:45am Donald Laux
12:15pm Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, March 1st

7:15am Joan Veneziano
8:45am Agnes Fox
12:15pm Joseph Ninivaggi

Saturday, March 2nd

8:45am Deceased members of Falcone Family
Joseph Ross, Donald Laux
5:00pm Rosemary Panicali

Sunday, March 3rd

7:30am Alba Garavitto
9:00am Carmela Zizzo
10:30am Mary Lou Hart
12:00pm Grace Ligarzewski, James Ruane,
Charles E. Hill, Luigi Macri,
Louise Coscia, Benay Mugmon
4:30pm St. Raymond Parish

Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday

Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday

Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28

Thursday

Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31

Friday

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday

Ex 17:3-7/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42



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
Donna Ann Pascale
Nicholas Pierro



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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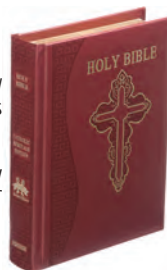
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