

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, August 30, 2026

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.’” -Matthew 16:25



August 30, 2026

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome To Our Parish Family!

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

Rectory

Office Hours are Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm;
Saturdays from 10 am-5pm. 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-3pm.

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

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



Please Pray for Our Sick

Baby Faith Madison

Jodi Neckles

Jim Marasco

Christine I.

Rosemarie Lombardo

Nick S.

Rosemarie Salabini

Connie Montesino

Brian McGreevy

Mary Caffrey

Kinley S.

Logan Kaplan

Julianne Grennen

Anthony Campanile

Baby Cooper Graham

Maureen Condiss

Lauren Greco

Eileen Roberts

Caroline Saporito

Michael Conconan

Piper Clements-

Coogan

Sabina Chiacchio

Focarino

Rita Boden

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



Cpl. Alex James Cooper US MARINE CORPS

Cpl. Dean Thomas Cooper US MARINE CORPS

Lt. Col. Mary P. King, M.D., US ARMY

Commander Joseph Garbitelli US NAVY

Sgt. Thomas Stanley Golebiewski USMC

Staff Sgt. Emily Golebiewski US AIRFORCE

Staff /Sgt. Matthew R. Hines - US ARMY

Cpl. Connor Thomas McHale US MARINE CORPS

Commander Joseph Leahy US NAVY

Sgt. Bryan Petriccione US ARMY –Cavalry Unit

Lt. Joseph Woloszyn US NAVY

TSgt Curt Abdool US AIRFORCE

2nd Lt. Nicholas J. Carinci US AIRFORCE

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR OUR
WOUNDED SOLDIERS.



Greetings and God's blessings be yours on the Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time! The focus of this Sunday's readings is to understand that to think like God means to live beyond human understanding. God's word in the Bible can be difficult, both for those who heard it when he spoke to them and for us who hear his Word today. In the first reading from the prophet Jeremiah, we hear the prophet talking strongly to God and complaining that his calling is too overwhelming. He keeps getting into trouble, yet he cannot stop speaking God's Word to others. ***"I say to myself, I will not mention him, I will speak in his name no more. But then it becomes like fires burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones: I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it."*** Then in the second reading to the Romans, Paul focuses on the idea of sacrifice, or self-gift. All Christians are called to give of themselves to God in love, and in a way that resembles God's love for all humanity. ***"Do not conform yourself to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect."*** And finally in Matthew's gospel we see Jesus explain to his disciples that if they wish to follow him, they must live in ways that are difficult. ***"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."***

We all know that it is much easier being in the majority than the minority about some issues. It's easier to believe what most people believe than being ***"out there on your own."*** In today's second reading we hear Paul tell the Romans (and by extension us), not to be swayed by the current age, but be transformed by renewing one's mind. He's basically telling the Romans not to go along with what they see all around them. Don't adopt the attitudes and behaviors of those who don't follow Jesus. He encourages them to live holy lives that are transformed by what they believe. Being Christian demands living in a certain way, seeing a certain way, thinking a certain way, no matter how others around them refuse what God calls them to value. Jesus says something similar in the gospel when he rebukes Peter by stressing that a follower should think as God thinks which is definitely difficult. And not knowing with absolute certainty is not an excuse for not imitating Jesus.

We may not always know with certainty, so keep wondering what to do, even without a clear picture. That's the way morality often works. Sometimes we must struggle with difficult decisions. But in faith we know the kind of person we are called to be. One who forgives, who shows mercy and is compassionate. One who accepts the God-given dignity of every person. One who doesn't seek revenge. One who gives generously, is humble and put simply; loves all the time, no matter what. God calls us to much more than just going along with the status quo. God calls us to live as transformed people, who are channels of his grace. Living this way is not easy, but it is what we signed up for. And it's what will change the world for the better.

This Sunday is the 2026 Backwards Money Drawing starting at 10:30 am in the school cafeteria. The Sodality of Our Lady will be hosting a special ***"Hospitality Sunday"*** during the drawing. All are welcome to come and spend some time watching \$20,000 being won by 20 individual prizes with the Grand Prize of \$10,000 awarded to the last ticket drawn. You can still get in on the special raffle for the ***#500 ticket*** that is not sold with all the rest. Chances are ***\$10 each*** for this raffle. When there are nine tickets left to draw, the #500 ticket will be awarded to someone, filled out and put in the drum. It is then an automatic winner anywhere from \$300 to \$10,000. So, stop by the cafeteria and get some chances for the #500 ticket. You never know!

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), 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.

Have a great first week of September. ***Enjoy the last days of summer, by smiling, sharing and getting to know Jesus better. Plus remember: Be an upstander, not a bystander.*** God bless always.
-Father Chuck

A graphic with the words "Ordinary Time" in a green, cursive script font, set against a background of green and yellow wavy lines.

WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

AUGUST 30, 2026— 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

THE GLORIA

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

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

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

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the
Father, You take away the sin of the
world, have mercy on us;
You take away the sin of the world,
receive our prayer; You are seated
at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

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

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

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial
with the Father; through him all things
were made. For us men and for our
Salvation he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate
of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father. He will come again in
Glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the
Son, who with the Father and the Son is
adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church. I confess one
Baptism for the forgiveness of
Sins and I look forward to the
resurrection of the dead and the
life of the world to come.
Amen.

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.

WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

AUGUST 30, 2026—22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 20:7-9

You duped me, O LORD, and I let myself be duped; you were too strong for me, and you triumphed. All the day I am an object of laughter; everyone mocks me. Whenever I speak, I must cry out, violence and outrage is my message; the word of the LORD has brought me derision and reproach all the day. I say to myself, I will not mention him, I will speak in his name no more. But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones; I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.
O God, you are my God whom I seek; for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.
Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary to see your power and your glory, for your kindness is a greater good than life; my lips shall glorify you.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.
Thus will I bless you while I live; lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name. As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied, and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.
You are my help, and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy. My soul clings fast to you; your right hand upholds me.

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-2

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship. Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

ALLELUIA

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you." He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay all according to his conduct."



ST. RAYMOND PARISH

250 HOURS OF LOVE IN ACTION

As a parish family, let us come together
in prayer and in service to our neighbors in need.



250 HOURS OF ADORATION

Be with Him.

Spend time in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Attend a monthly special Holy Hour or our regular weekly adoration.



OUR GOAL: 250 COLLECTIVE HOURS



250 HOURS OF CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

Be His hands.

Serve those in need through acts of charity such as donating food, tutoring children, sponsoring a family, visiting the homebound, and more.



OUR GOAL: 250 COLLECTIVE HOURS

TOGETHER BETWEEN
**JULY 4TH AND
LABOR DAY!**

As we celebrate the
250th Anniversary
of the United States of America,
let us thank God for our
freedom by giving Him our
time in prayer and service.

★ ★ ★
250
1776-2026



TOGETHER IN
FAITH AND LOVE



Pray. Serve. Transform.

MY PROMISE TO ST. RAYMOND PARISH

I will help our parish reach our goal of 250 hours of Adoration and 250 hours of Corporal Works of Mercy.

Name (Please Print): _____

I commit to:

☐

ADORATION

☐

CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

I will contribute approximately: _____ hour(s) (per month / per week / one-time)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

FORMED

This week on **FORMED...**



We passionately believe that the most urgent task is the compelling proclamation of the gospel, one that not only shares it in an attractive – and concentrated – way, but that also offers people a way of seeing reality, and of making sense of the world, history, and life that is vastly different from the story our modern culture tells.



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



This week, think how
you could help someone to
carry their cross.



Drawn to Carmelite spirituality?
Inspired by Theresa of Avila, John of the
Cross, and Therese of Lisieux?
Do you desire to say yes to Our Lady to
follow her son Jesus in Community with
others?



We invite you to consider the Lay Carmelite
Community at St. Christopher's in Baldwin.

More information can be found at
www.laycarmelite.com

If interested, call Andrea Waldron TOC, Director
at 516-965-0970.



The Rose For Life

In Memory and Love to
Dear Charles Cuthbert
Happiness in Heaven.

Donated by Judy Fiorelli & Family

For Dedications call
Mary Caffrey 516-887-2458



*"In the end, my
Immaculate Heart
will triumph."*

Blessed Mother at Fatima
July 13, 1917.

Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major-August 5
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary-August 15
Queenship of Mary-August 22

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



ALTAR Bread and Wine

For our dearest friend

Fred Weiss



Love, prayers & friendship,
Michael & Dorothy Bock & Family



The 2026 Paschal Candle

In Loving
Memory of

Helen & Theodore Rehm

From the Rehm-Shapiro
Family



TWENTY-SECOND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME GUIDE FOR PERSONAL PRAYER



Come & See

Until you do, you will
never know

SUMMARY OF THE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the Gospel for the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Matthew 16:21-27), Jesus reveals that following Him requires self-denial, sacrifice, and trust: ***"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."***

Thursday is the Memorial of Saint Gregory the Great, Pope, Benedictine monk, and Doctor of the Church.



Friday is the **First Friday** of September. In His apparitions to Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, between December 1673 and June 1675, Jesus asked that the faithful receive Holy Communion on the First Friday of nine consecutive months as an act of reparation to His Sacred

Heart and for the insults and negligence shown to the Blessed Sacrament. Jesus also asked her to spend one hour praying on Thursday nights to share in His agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. **St. Raymond's offers Eucharistic Exposition every Thursday afternoon from 1:00-4:00 PM and Nocturnal Adoration each First Friday from 7:30-8:30 PM**

Saturday is the **First Saturday** of the month, honoring the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On December 10, 1925, Mary revealed: "I promise to assist at the hour of death, with the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the first Saturday of five consecutive months, shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the rosary, and keep me company for 15 minutes while meditating on the 15 mysteries of the rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me."



The First Readings this week are taken from 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; 2:10b-16; 3:1-9; 3:18-23; 4:1-5; and 4:6b-15. Saint Paul calls us away from worldly wisdom,

pride, and self-reliance toward faith rooted in God's power, openness to the Holy Spirit, humble cooperation in His work, and faithful stewardship of everything we have received.

Throughout this week's Gospels, Jesus invites us to hear His Word with open hearts, trust His authority, respond courageously to His call, and allow His grace to make our lives new.

Monday's Gospel (Luke 4:16-30) brings Jesus to the synagogue in Nazareth, where He reveals the fulfillment of God's promise: ***"Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing."*** His rejection by those who knew Him challenges us to remain open to the ways God may speak through the familiar and unexpected. Tuesday (Luke 4:31-37) reveals Christ's authority over evil as He commands the unclean spirit, ***"Be quiet! Come out of him!"*** Jesus reminds us that no darkness is stronger than His saving power.

Wednesday (Luke 4:38-44) shows Jesus healing the sick before continuing His mission, declaring, ***"I must proclaim the good news of the Kingdom of God."*** His example joins compassionate service with an unwavering commitment to the Father's work. Thursday (Luke 5:1-11) leads Simon Peter from discouragement into discipleship as Jesus tells him, ***"Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch."*** Christ likewise calls us beyond fear and disappointment toward deeper trust.

Friday (Luke 5:33-39) invites us to allow Christ to renew our hearts: ***"Rather, new wine must be poured into fresh wineskins."*** Following Jesus requires openness to the transforming work of His grace. Saturday (Luke 6:1-5) reveals that Christ Himself is at the center of our worship and obedience: ***"The Son of Man is lord of the sabbath."*** Jesus teaches us to see God's law through the eyes of mercy and love.

In the Gospel for the Twenty-Third Sunday (Matthew 18:15-20), Jesus calls us toward reconciliation and unity, promising, ***"Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."***



“...whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”

Matthew 16:25



St. Raymond Church

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

As we journey with Christ throughout this week, the Gospels invite us to listen more attentively to His Word and trust where He leads. Whether Jesus is rejected in Nazareth, freeing those oppressed by evil, healing the sick, calling Peter into deeper waters, or challenging old ways of thinking, He continually asks us to open our hearts and follow Him with greater faith.

MONDAY – OPEN TO HIS WORD

“Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.” (Luke 4:21). The people of Nazareth thought they knew Jesus, yet their familiarity prevented them from recognizing what God was doing in their midst. I am reminded to approach Christ each day with an open heart, ready to hear His Word anew and follow where He leads.

My Prayer: Lord Jesus, open my heart to recognize Your presence and receive Your Word with humble faith.

TUESDAY – CHRIST'S AUTHORITY

“Be quiet! Come out of him!” (Luke 4:35). Jesus speaks with an authority greater than every power that seeks to enslave or diminish us. When fear, temptation, anxiety, or discouragement troubles my heart, I can turn confidently to Christ and trust that His grace is stronger.

My Prayer: Jesus, free my heart from whatever keeps me from following You with faith and peace.

WEDNESDAY – SENT TO SERVE

“I must proclaim the good news of the Kingdom of God, because for this purpose I have been sent.” (Luke 4:43). Jesus compassionately heals those brought before Him, yet He never loses sight of the mission entrusted to Him by the Father. His example invites me to discover opportunities within my ordinary responsibilities to serve others and quietly share His love.

My Prayer: Lord, help me faithfully serve those You place before me and bring Your love into my daily life.

THURSDAY – INTO THE DEEP

MEMORIAL OF SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT

“Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.” (Luke 5:4). After a fruitless night, Peter allows Jesus to lead him beyond disappointment, and his obedience opens the way to an abundance he could never have produced himself. Christ likewise asks me to trust Him when I cannot yet see where my obedience will lead.

My Prayer: Lord Jesus, give me the courage to trust Your Word and follow wherever You lead.

FRIDAY – MADE NEW

FIRST FRIDAY

“Rather, new wine must be poured into fresh wineskins.” (Luke 5:38). Jesus does not simply ask me to make small improvements around the edges of my life; He desires to renew my heart from within. I am invited to surrender old attitudes, habits, and attachments so His grace can shape me more completely.

My Prayer: Jesus, renew my heart and make me more faithful to the life You call me to live.

SATURDAY – FAITHFUL HEART

FIRST SATURDAY

“The Son of Man is lord of the sabbath.” (Luke 6:5). Jesus reminds me that true devotion to God is rooted in a heart of faithful love rather than merely outward observance. On this First Saturday, the Blessed Virgin Mary's unwavering faith encourages me to remain close to her Son, trust Him completely, and allow my worship of God to shape the way I live each day.

My Prayer: Blessed Mother, lead me ever closer to your Son and help me follow Him with steadfast faith, trust, and love.

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)

"Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy, honors Him."
Proverbs 14:31

The Parish Social Ministry Staff would like to say "thank you" to all those who have dropped brown paper shopping bags at the Ryan House these last few weeks. These bags are helping us pack groceries for our clients so it is easier for them to carry their groceries home. We would greatly appreciate your continued support in this matter.

Food assistance is available for those in need who live within our Parish boundaries. Also, if you are a senior citizen, living with our Parish boundaries, and depend on your Social Security benefit as your sole source of income, please contact the Parish Social Ministry and we can help you with food.

Pantry items needed this week: Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Chef Boyardee Pasta, Canned Tomatoes, Pasta and Rice Side Dishes, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Chick Peas, Pinto, Kidney, White and Black Beans, Canned White Potatoes, Yams, Canned Mixed Vegetables, Carrots, Beets and Peas, Peanut Butter, Grape Jelly, Soup, Hot Cereal and Cold Cereal, Pancake Mix and Pancake Syrup.

Donations of food 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.

*Thanks to all of you for always helping us serve the people in need in our community.
You are all in our prayers and may God's blessings shower upon all of you!*

Celebration of the
250TH
BIRTHDAY OF AMERICA
— PRAYER SERVICE —
WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 9, 2026
★ 7:00 – 8:30PM ★
ST. RAYMOND CHURCH

Come join us in
praying the
Patriotic Rosary
for our country before
the Blessed Sacrament.

Stronger Communities Start with Compassion

TOGETHER, WE WALK. TOGETHER, WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

100% of the donations received are used in the St. Raymond Parish to help our neighbors in need. We have no overhead and all members are volunteers.

For more information call Anthony - President of the St. Raymond Conference of the St. Vincent dePaul at **516-220-2521**

Every Step. Every Neighbor. Every Day.

REGISTER OR DONATE NOW. Scan QR code to visit the SVDP Long Island 2026 Walk Home Page

Friends OF THE POOR WALK

Join Us! Saturday September 26, 2026 Heckscher State Park East Islip

CHECK IN: 9 AM WALK START: 10 AM

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR LOCAL FAMILIES FACING HARDSHIP.

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

By joining the Friends of the Poor Walk, you help support neighbors in our own communities with food, clothing, housing assistance, and hope.

FOOD CLOTHING HOUSING ASSISTANCE HOPE

WALK TOGETHER. HELP TOGETHER. CHANGE LIVES TOGETHER.

**IN CELEBRATION OF THE SPECIAL JUBILEE YEAR OF
SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI DECLARED BY POPE LEO XIV:**

An Instrument of Peace

St. Francis in Italian Pre/Renaissance Art



St. Francis of Assisi with Angels, Sandro Botticelli, 1475-1480
Egg tempera with oil on wood - The National Gallery, London
This was originally thought to be by Florentine artist, Filippino Lippi (son of Fra Filippo Lippi), but cleaning and restoration in 2002 revealed that it was probably an early work by his teacher, Sandro Botticelli

About the artist: Alessandro di Mariano di Vanni Filipepi or simply Sandro Botticelli (c.1445-1510), was an Italian painter of the Early Renaissance. He was born in Florence and spent most of his life there. In addition to the mythological subjects for which he is best known today (e.g. Primavera), Botticelli painted a wide range of religious subjects including three frescoes in the Sistine Chapel.



**Saint Raymond
CYO Swim
registration will be
open online on
July 31st -
September 15th**

<http://www.straymondscyo.com>

**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



Ministry SPOTLIGHT

PRE-CANA

The Pre-Cana Ministry takes its name and inspiration from the Gospel of John, where Jesus performs His first public miracle at the wedding feast at Cana, turning water into wine. In this joyful moment, Our Lord reveals the beauty and sacredness of marriage, showing that the love shared between husband and wife reflects Christ's faithful love for His Church.

At St. Raymond's, the Pre-Cana Ministry is blessed to be supported by several faithful married couples, many of whom have served for more than 30 years. Their witness, wisdom and generosity have helped guide engaged couples as they prepare to enter into the Sacrament of Matrimony. We would warmly welcome additional married couples who feel called to share their faith and experience in this meaningful ministry.

Like many parish ministries, Pre-Cana has adapted in recent years, but it continues to be a vital and fruitful part of parish life. Typically, sessions are offered twice each year. The program begins with an opening presentation by Father Chuck in the rectory basement on the Sacraments and the vocation of marriage. Afterward, engaged couples meet in small groups with one or two married couples once a week for two hours over five weeks. The experience concludes with a closing Mass celebrating their completion of Pre-Cana and the beginning of their journey toward a Catholic marriage.

Throughout the sessions, couples reflect on important topics including the Sacraments, communication, family of origin, preparation for marriage, God and decision-making, finances, and obstacles they may encounter in married life. There is also time to discuss questions related to planning the wedding liturgy and preparing for the vocation of marriage.

Serving in Pre-Cana is not only a wonderful way to accompany engaged couples as they prepare for this sacred vocation, but also a blessing for the married couples in the ministry themselves. Many find that sharing their experiences and reflecting on the grace of the Sacrament of Matrimony strengthens and enriches their own marriages. It is also a ministry that does not require an extensive time commitment, making it a meaningful and manageable way to serve the parish.

If you believe in the sanctity of marriage and would like to help support couples as they prepare for a Christ-centered married life, please prayerfully consider joining this important ministry.



“Therefore what God has joined together,
let no one separate.”

MARK 10:9



St. Raymond's Human Life Committee

SPOTLIGHT ON BEING A VOICE FOR LIFE

What can one person do to help protect mothers and their unborn children from chemical abortion? More than we may think. Chemical abortions now account for nearly two-thirds of abortions in the United States, making the abortion pill one of the most urgent life issues facing our nation.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops supports the Safeguarding Women from Chemical Abortion Act (S. 4066/H.R. 7902). This federal legislation was introduced in March 2026 during the 119th Congress. In both houses of congress, the identical bills remain at the initial legislative stage after being referred to committee and have not received floor votes. The legislation would withdraw FDA approval of mifepristone for abortion and prohibit labeling the drug for that purpose. The bishops emphasize that women facing an unexpected pregnancy deserve compassionate accompaniment and meaningful support—not an abortion that leaves them to face the experience, often at home, alone.

We can make a difference. Human Life Action, a project of the National Committee for a Human Life Amendment, helps ordinary Catholics bring the Gospel of Life into the public square. Through its website, we can learn about current pro-life legislation, sign up for legislative alerts, and quickly contact our Senators and Representatives to respectfully urge them to protect mothers and unborn children.

Our voices matter. We can pray, become informed, contact our elected representatives, encourage family and friends to do the same, and support pregnancy resource centers that accompany women in need. As Catholics, defending life is not reserved for legislators or activists—it is part of our call to love our neighbor.

Take a few minutes today to become a voice for life. Visit Human Life Action website (HumanLifeAction.org), sign up for alerts, and respond when action is needed. One message may seem small, but thousands of faithful voices speaking together can make a difference.

“Respect, protect, love and serve life, every human life!”

Saint John Paul II

Evangelium Vitae (“The Gospel of Life”), March 25, 1995.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FAITH FORMATION

Lucy Ostermann, Director



**OUR 2026/2027 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM IS IN NEED OF TWO MORE CATECHISTS FOR
THE FOLLOWING GRADES AND DAYS:**

5TH GRADE - 1 CATECHIST NEEDED – WEDNESDAYS 3:30PM-4:30PM

7TH GRADE - 1 CATECHIST NEEDED – MONDAYS 7PM-8PM

The Religious Education school year goes from September 28th, 2026 - April 21st, 2027. Please consider teaching one of these classes. An option to think about is team teaching - two teachers can split the year, alternate weeks or alternate months.

Whatever you decide to do so that the commitment is not overbearing. There is no Registration fee for Catechists. The teacher manuals are very user friendly and geared to adults who are not professional teachers. Please let us know if you are able to help us - our Ministry is one of extreme importance because it keeps our faith strong and alive for years to come.

Please contact the Religious Education office if you have any questions to help you with your decision.

Registration forms can be found on the Parish website. Please fill them out in their entirety and mail to the Religious Education office with full payment. Our address is: 263 Atlantic Ave., East Rockaway, NY 11518. Registration forms can be found on the Parish website. The forms can also be dropped off at the Rectory – simply put your paperwork in an envelope marked "Religious Education" along with payment and drop it in the mail slot. The mail slot goes into a locked box so payment will be secure. The registration process is ongoing throughout the summer. Registration fee for paperwork received after July 31st, 2026 goes to \$275.00.

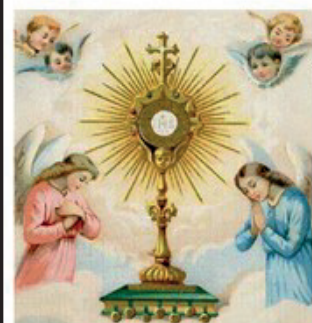
LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR 2026/2027 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES IS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2026.



**First Saturday
Novena
Our Lady of Fatima
Rosary
September 5, 2026**

8:10am

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



Nocturnal Adoration

The Nocturnal Adoration Society will meet Friday, September 4th 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!

ST. RAYMOND THREE DAY HOME VOTIVE CANDLE SALE \$10 EACH



**IMMACULATE
HEART
OF MARY**



**SACRET
HEART
OF JESUS**

*Please Come Into The Rectory
And Support Our Parish*

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, August 31st

7:15am Holy Souls in Purgatory

8:45am Mary Simeti

Tuesday, September 1st

7:15am Holy Souls in Purgatory

8:45am Frederick W. Weiss, Jr.

Wednesday, September 2nd

7:15am Holy Souls in Purgatory

8:45am Rosie Mae Whitfield

Thursday, September 3rd

St. Gregory the Great

7:15am Holy Souls in Purgatory

8:45am Mary Simeti

Friday, September 4th

7:15am Mary Caffrey (L)

8:45am Stephen Genova

Saturday, September 5th

8:45am Thomas Sheehy

John "Sean" Donnelly

5:00pm Kathleen Venis

Sunday, September 6th

7:30am Barbara Logan

9:00am Gerard Malone

10:30am Arturo Machin Flores

12:00pm Bob Lindgren

Paul Dengel

Frederik W Weiss, Jr.

Mary Simeti

Patricia Nelson

Tom O'Brien

4:30pm St. Raymond Parish

REST IN PEACE



Nunzio Cardone

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



Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

1 Corinthians 2:1-5/Luke 4:16-30

Tuesday

1 Corinthians 2:10b-16/Luke 4:31-37

Wednesday

1 Corinthians 3:1-9/Luke 4:38-44

Thursday

1 Corinthians 3:18-23/Luke 5:1-11

Friday

1 Corinthians 4:1-5/Luke 5:33-39

Saturday

1 Corinthians 4:6b-15/Luke 6:1-5

Sunday

Ezekiel 33:7-9/Romans 13:8-10

Matthew 18:15-20

ST. RAYMOND CHURCH

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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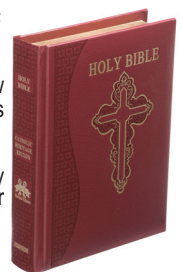
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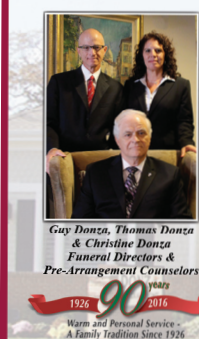
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