

## 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

**Saint Raymond Convent**  
Sr. Ruthanne Gypalo, I.H.M.  
Sr. Lorraine Studley, I.H.M

**South Nassau Hospital Chaplain**  
Father Cornelius Dery

## Parish Staff

**Music Ministry**  
Laura Garbitelli

**Folk Group**  
AnnMarie Lynch

**Plant Manager**  
Steve Bennett

**Parish Secretary**  
Doreen Dolan

**Bulletin Editor**  
Linda Ohlsen

# The Parish of St. Raymond

*A Eucharistic Community of  
Faith, Love and Friendship*

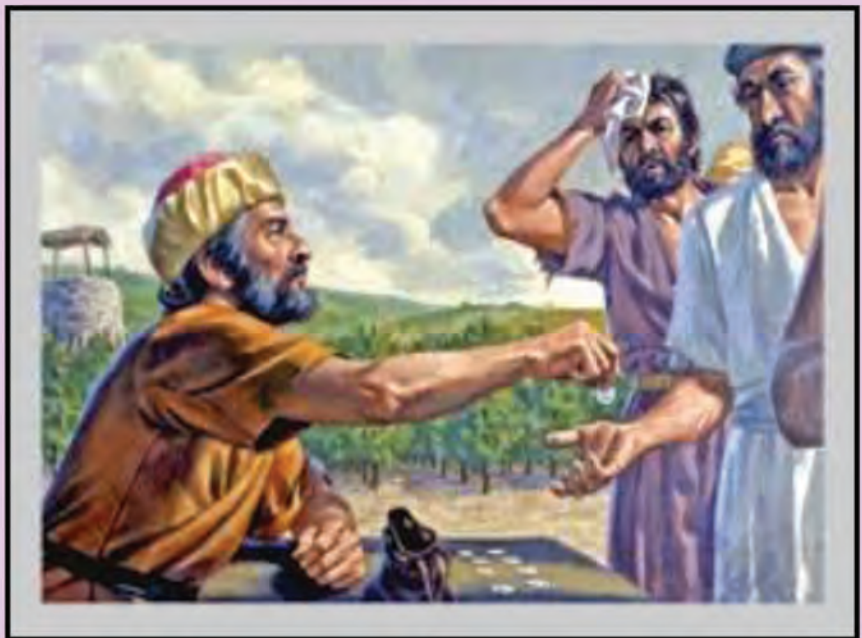
Sunday, September 24, 2023

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

*"Are you envious because I am generous? Thus,  
the last will be first and the first will be last."*

*-Matthew 20:16*



September 24, 2023

Twenty-Fifth 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 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 Fax .....593-1156  
**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.

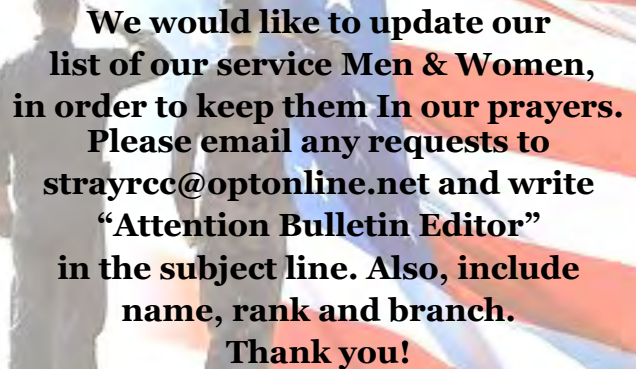
### Music Ministries

**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](mailto: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  
Spec. Bryan Petriccione US ARMY –Cavalry Unit  
Lt. JG Joseph Woloszyn US NAVY  
**Please remember to pray for our wounded soldiers.**

## Father Chuck's Corner

**Greetings and God's blessings be yours on the Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time!** One given in being a person of faith, and especially a Christian, is that God's ways are different from ours. Once again, our readings are about the mercy and forgiveness of God. Even though we are made in the image and likeness of God, we are not God-which is good. Remember that his ways are not ours, nor his thoughts our thoughts. In the first reading from the prophet, Isaiah we see the people more willing to listen to God as a result of being in exile for many years. They are made aware that God has always remained near to them, even when they have shattered the bond made with God. Isaiah encourages the people to take advantage of the enduring love and forgiveness that God is offering them. **"Seek the Lord while he may be found, call him while he is near."** Then in the second reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians, while looking forward to eternal life, Paul recognizes that he must continue to work in God's vineyard. Others still need his preaching and teaching to bring them closer to Christ. **"I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more necessary for your benefit."** And finally, in Matthew's gospel we have the parable of the workers in the vineyard. A careful reading seems to point to the primary theme of God's extraordinary generosity contrasted with the exploitation practices of many landowners. In response to the complaints of some of the workers about their pay Jesus responds: **"Are you envious because I am generous? Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."**

Any time is a good time to turn from our sinful ways and ask for God's mercy and forgiveness. We can find God no matter where we look. He is within us, in the world in which we live and in the people whom we encounter. We may have times when we don't feel that God is near. Simply listening may not be enough. It is the habits of our lives that can bring us closer to God or keep us at a distance from his presence. When we truly open our minds and hearts to know God, we realize that his justice is beyond our human understanding. What God sees as acceptable is not the way our society would respond. While we may see payment and reward as something merited proportionately, God's plan has everyone sharing equally. It's hard to imagine any of us being as generous as the gospel's vineyard owner and yet this attitude is at the heart of equity for the poor and disenfranchised. We can be assured that God's gifts are given freely and without limits. Our job is to be grateful recipients of his love and mercy.

As you know this is **IHM Weekend at St. Raymond Parish.** After a rousing **"Nuns on the Run Bingo"** night on Saturday we will be honoring Sister Ruthanne and Sister Lorraine at the 12 o'clock Mass followed by a parish reception in the school cafeteria. All are most welcome to come to show your own personal thanks and best wishes for the Sisters. While it is a sad parting after all these years, both Sister Ruthanne and Sister Lorraine are starting a new ministry for the IHM Congregation in Scranton, PA. On behalf of the entire St. Raymond Parish Family, I extend warmest appreciation and best wishes to Sister Ruthanne and Sister Lorraine as they begin a new phase in their life's mission to serve God's people. May God bless you both and may Our Blessed Lady keep you close to her heart and though her to her son, Jesus Christ. **Ad Multos Annos!**

The annual St. Vincent de Paul **"Friends of the Poor Walk"** is next Saturday, September 30th. Check the bulletin ad for more details. Our parish St. Vincent de Paul Society has a table set-up in the altar server sacristy after all the Masses this weekend to give more information and accept donations. All proceeds will go to help neighbors in our local community.

**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 additional note is news and needs from **Parish Social Ministry**, info from **Religious Education** (Faith Formation), an ad for the upcoming **Parish Blood Drive** on Sunday, October 8th, 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 last week of September. **Enjoy the beginning of autumn. Smile, share, be generous and remember: When it comes to giving, some people stop at nothing.** God bless always.

**-Father Chuck**



# WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023-25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## 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

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023-25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## FIRST READING

Is 55:6-9

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked his thoughts; let him turn to the LORD for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.

## ALLELUIA

Cf. Acts 16:14b

R. Alleluia, alleluia.  
Open our hearts, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son.  
R. Alleluia, alleluia.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him. Every day will I bless you, and I will praise your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD and highly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him. The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness. The LORD is good to all and compassionate toward all his works.

R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him. The LORD is just in all his ways and holy in all his works. The LORD is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth.

R. The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

## GOSPEL

Mt 20:1-16a

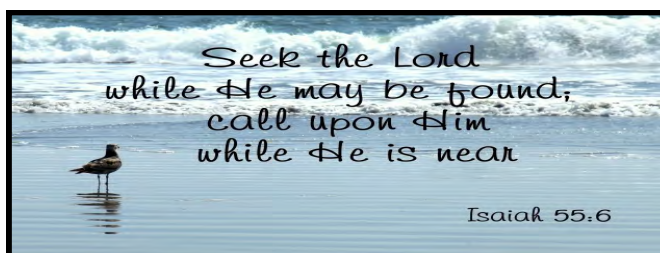
Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. Going out about nine o'clock, the landowner saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just.' So they went off. And he went out again around noon, and around three o'clock, and did likewise. Going out about five o'clock, the landowner found others standing around, and said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.' When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.' When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage. So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden and the heat.' He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?' Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

## SECOND READING

Phil 1:20c-24, 27a

Brothers and sisters:

Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me life is Christ, and death is gain. If I go on living in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. And I do not know which I shall choose. I am caught between the two. I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more necessary for your benefit. Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ.



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - FAITH FORMATION

*Lucy Ostermann, Director*

The following are the 2023/2024 Religious Education school year start dates:

- Grades 2 Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023 3:30pm-4:30pm
- Grades 3-6 week of October 2nd, 2023 3:30pm-4:30pm
- Grades 7 & 8 Monday/Tuesday October 2nd & October 3rd, 2023 7pm-8pm
- Grade 1 is an at-home program.

Registration forms can be found on the parish website – [www.saintraymonds.org](http://www.saintraymonds.org). Please fill them out in their entirety and return to the Religious Education office with full payment. The Registration fee is now \$225.00.

### ATTENTION 9TH GRADE PARENTS

The following is important information regarding your child's upcoming Confirmation scheduled for Wednesday, October 25th, 2023. Please make note of these dates.

### YOUR CHILD'S GROUP IS BASED ON THE TEACHER HE/SHE HAD FOR 8TH GRADE RELIGION CLASS:

#### Group 1 – 11:00am Ceremony

- 8-1 Mrs. Patricia Canepa/Mrs. Gina Manos
- 8-2 Mr. Damien Becker
- 8-5 Mrs. Denise Rivenburgh
- 8-6 Mrs. Mary Murphy

#### Group 2 – 2:30pm Ceremony

- 8-3 Mrs. Jennifer Ruggiero
- 8-4 Mrs. Diana Gannascoli
- 8-7 Mrs. Julianne Grennen  
Kellenberg Holy Family

### ATTEND MANDATORY RETREAT @ ST. RAYMOND SCHOOL AUDITORIUM SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1ST, 2023.

#### GROUP 1 ATTEND 10AM-12:30PM SESSION AND GROUP 2 ATTEND 1:30PM-4PM SESSION

### SPONSOR AND CANDIDATE REHEARSAL/SEATING ASSIGNMENTS/GOWN DISTRIBUTION

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18TH	GROUP 1 <u>11:00AM CEREMONY</u> -Sponsor & Candidate Rehearsal/Seating Assignment/Gown Distribution	St. Raymond Church 7:30pm
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19TH	GROUP 2 <u>2:30PM CEREMONY</u> -Sponsor & Candidate Rehearsal/Seating Assignment/Gown Distribution	St. Raymond Church 7:30pm
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25TH	GROUP 1 - 11:00AM Confirmation Ceremony GROUP 2 - 2:30PM Confirmation Ceremony	Most Reverend Luis M. Romero Most Reverend Luis M. Romero



## Faith Formation



**St. Raymond's Catechists  
Join together  
to celebrate the start of  
another great year!**





**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Sat. Sept 30, 2023**  
**10AM**  
**Cedar Creek Park,**  
**Seaford**



Please register or donate today at <https://svdpli.org/walk/> or by using the QR code. When you select "St. Raymond Conference – East Rockaway" your donation will go directly toward helping neighbors in our community. For more information, please contact Anthony at (516) 220-2521.



**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.



**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](http://www.oceanfinancial.org).**



**NYS Eucharistic Congress**

October 20-22, 2023  
 Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine, Auriesville, NY



*Held at the sacred spot where the North American Martyrs gave their lives for Christ and where St. Kateri Tekakwitha was born.*

**EVENTS INCLUDE:**

- Great Speakers!
- Mass with Cardinal Dolan and NY Bishops
- Confessions
- Eucharistic Adoration and Procession

*Worship with 10,000 other Catholics in the Shrine's Colosseum, the largest church in North America!*



To register and find out more, visit [nyseucharisticcongress.org](http://nyseucharisticcongress.org).





## ST. RAYMOND'S HUMAN LIFE COMMITTEE

### BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER

Women's First Pregnancy Care Center

(Formerly known as The Life Center of L.I.)

Begins: The week-end of Sept. 30th and October 1st

Concludes: The week-end of November 4th & 5th

Next week-end we will be conducting the Baby Bottle Fundraiser which is Women's First's biggest fundraiser that enables the volunteers to counsel women/girls and men who are experiencing an unplanned pregnancy. All assistance is free and confidential. We are asking our parishioners to pick up a baby bottle, which will be located at each of the Church's vestibules, next week-end, fill it with your change or check, and return the filled bottle the week-end of November 4th and 5th after the Mass you attend. In addition, attached to the baby bottle is a prayer which the volunteers have asked us to pray as they believe these prayers help abortion-minded women/girls to contact the pregnancy care center for assistance and enables the volunteers to say the right words a mother or father needs to hear. Your participation in this fundraiser will provide the means to help mothers to bring their little ones to a live birth.

*"Truly, I tell you, whatever you did for  
the least of these brothers and sisters  
of mine, you did for Me."  
(Matthew 25:40)*



*St. Raymond's Parish Social Ministry*

*The Ryan House*

*"The Heart of the Parish"*

12 Roosevelt Avenue, Lynbrook, NY 11563

516-887-9197

Food Pantry Hours of Operation

Monday - Wednesday from 10am to 2pm

(Suggested to call for an appointment)

*"For I was hungry and you gave me to eat, I was  
thirsty and you gave me to drink, I was a foreigner  
and you invited me in." Matthew 25:35*

Food assistance is available for those in need who live within our Parish boundaries. During the month of August, our Parish Social Ministry assisted 78 households with food, personal care and household items. We also welcomed 2 new clients into the Outreach Program and helped them with food and other services they needed. If you are a senior citizen, living within Parish boundaries, and depend on your Social Security benefit as your sole source of income, please call the Parish Social Ministry and we can assist you with food.

**Pantry items needed this week: Canned Carrots, Canned Mixed Vegetables, Canned Tomatoes, Instant Potatoes, Jarred Pasta Sauce, Instant Potatoes, Peanut Butter, Grape Jelly, Mac and Cheese, Baked Beans, Mayonnaise, Non-Creamed Soups, Canned Meat, Dish Washing Detergent and Shaving Cream**

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

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



## THE TWELVE STATIONS OF THE MOST HOLY EUCHARIST STATION SEVEN



### STATION SEVEN

**THE WEDDING FEAST AT CANA: WATER TO WINE, WINE TO BLOOD "JESUS SAID TO THEM, 'FILL THE JARS WITH WATER.' AND THEY FILLED THEM UP TO THE BRIM. ...[T]HE STEWARD OF THE FEAST TASTED THE WATER NOW BECOME WINE...AND SAID TO HIM, 'EVERY MAN SERVES THE GOOD WINE FIRST ... BUT YOU HAVE KEPT THE GOOD WINE UNTIL NOW.' "JOHN 2:7,9,10**

Little is known about the first thirty years of Jesus' life. He comes bursting onto the scene when He performs His first miracle:

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." Jesus told them, "Fill the jars with water." So, they filled them to the brim.

Then he told them, 'Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter.' So, they took it. And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from (although the servers who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the

bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now" (Jn. 1-5, 7-10).

### *What is the connection to Jesus?*

He once in Cana of Galilee, turned the water into wine, akin to blood, and is it incredible that He should have turned wine into blood? When called to a bodily marriage, He miraculously wrought that wonderful work; and on the children of the bride chamber, shall He not much rather be acknowledged to have bestowed the fruition of His Body and Blood?

The sign of water turned into wine at Cana already announces the Hour of Jesus' glorification. It makes manifest the fulfillment of the wedding feast in the Father's kingdom, where the faithful will drink the new wine that has become the Blood of Christ.

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Each week, we will present another of the twelve stations for your meditation for the week.

Week 7 Thought: Just before Jesus turned the water to wine, Mary told the wedding attendants, "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5). Do I follow Mary's advice and do whatever Jesus tells me?

## St. Raymond Church

Opportunities for a Holy Hour / Adoration  
and Eucharistic Exposition

Each day the Church is open 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

### Step By Step Walk Through the Mass

Do This in Remembrance of Me

By Father Luke Spannagel

National Eucharist Revival Blog

Genuflection

As we arrive at the church to join with Christ in his perfect offering to the Father, our first gesture at the church door is to bless ourselves with holy water. After we have recalled our Baptism by making the Sign of the Cross with water from the font, the next thing we do is look for a place to sit. Before we slide into the pew, however, if the Blessed Sacrament is present in the sanctuary of the church, we genuflect.

You will see the priest and servers genuflect at times during the Mass. When the tabernacle with the Most Blessed Sacrament is present in the sanctuary of the church, the priest and servers genuflect when they approach the altar at the beginning of Mass and when they depart from it after the final blessing (General Instruction for the Roman Missal, no. 274; Ceremonies of the Modern Roman Rite, no. 199). The priest also genuflects at the altar after the elevation of the consecrated host, after the elevation of the chalice, and before receiving Holy Communion (GIRM, no. 274). The priest's genuflection at these points in the Mass helps us recall the incredible gift of Jesus present in the Most Holy Eucharist. Since during Mass, the focus is on the altar, you will notice that at other times during the Mass, the ministers bow as they cross the sanctuary.

What is a genuflection, and why do we genuflect? The simple answer is that when we genuflect, we touch our right knee to the floor to honor Jesus, who is really present in the tabernacle! The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines genuflection as "a reverence made by bending the knee, especially to express adoration of the Blessed Sacrament" (CCC, Glossary). By genuflecting or bowing deeply in a spirit of prayer and as a sign of adoration of the Lord, "we express our faith in the real presence of Christ under the species of bread and wine" (CCC, no. 1378).

**Next week: Silence Before Mass**

**"DO NOT BE AFRAID OF SILENCE OR STILLNESS,  
LISTEN TO GOD, ADORE HIM IN THE EUCHARIST.  
LET HIS WORD SHAPE YOUR JOURNEY AS AN  
UNFOLDING OF HOLINESS"**

**Pope Benedict XVI**

Saints Who Promoted Eucharistic Devotion

Saint Pius Pietrelcina ("Padre Pio")

Priest, Mystic & Stigmatist († 1968)

Feast: September 23

*"A thousand years of enjoying human glory is not worth even an hour spent in sweetly communing with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament."*

Francesco Forgione was born on May 25, 1887, in Pietrelcina, a town in the Southern Italian region of Campania. In 1897, he was drawn to the life of a friar after listening to a young Capuchin who was in the countryside seeking donations. At the age of 15, Francesco entered the novitiate of the Capuchin friars at Morcone and took the name of Fra (Friar) Pio (Italian for 'Pius'), in honor of Pope Pius I, whose relic is preserved in the Santa Anna Chapel in Pietrelcina. In August 1910, he was ordained and served as a teacher at a seminary as well as a spiritual director.

In September 1918, Padre Pio began to display the wounds of Christ on his hands and feet, known as stigmata. His reputation of holiness grew rapidly, attracting hundreds of believers daily to the monastery. To penitents who went to him for confession, Padre Pio shared his five rules for spiritual growth: weekly confession, daily Communion, spiritual reading, meditation, and examination of conscience. His advice on the practical application of theology he often summed up in his now famous quote: "pray, hope, and don't worry". He directed Christians to recognize God in all things and to desire above all things to do the will of God.

Padre Pio loved the celebration of Mass and the reception of Holy Communion. He fully believed that Jesus was truly present, body, blood, soul and divinity during the celebration of Mass. This great gift inflamed in his own heart a deep and abiding love of God. He said, "At times during the Mass I am consumed by the fire of Divine Love. My face seems to burn."

Encouraging the practice of Eucharistic Adoration, Padre Pio counseled "Kneel down and render the tribute of your presence and devotion to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Confide all your needs to him, along with those of others. Speak to him with filial abandonment, give free rein to your heart, and give him complete freedom to work in you as he thinks best."

"It would be easier for the world to exist without the sun than without the Holy Mass."

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS TRAINING

The Diocese of Rockville Center will offer training for those who wish to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. No walk ins permitted, all participants must be registered in advance with a letter from Father Chuck.



Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion Part A-This training is required for all those who are beginning as Ministers. The "BASIC" training is required for all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Those who wish to minister in hospitals, nursing homes and to the homebound are required to attend Part B training in addition in BASIC training. One must attend Part A training prior to Part B training.

### EM of Holy Communion - Part A

Nassau: Wednesday, Nov.29-St. Paul the Apostle/Brookville-Lowes Hall; 7-10pm

Suffolk: Tuesday, Oct. 10-St. Elizabeth/Melville-Msgr. Kane Hall; 7-10pm

### EM of Holy Communion - Part B

Tuesday, Oct. 24-St. Elizabeth/Melville-Msgr. Kane Hall; 6:30-9:30pm

To request registration for any of these sessions, please contact the rectory, 516-593-5000  
For questions regarding the training please call Suzanne Lynn at 516-744-6850



## IHM WEEKEND AT ST. RAYMOND PARISH

As everyone knows, it is a sad time for our parish with both Sister Ruthane and Sister Lorraine leaving us and moving to Scranton, PA to assume a special Ministry for the IHM Community. While we will miss the Sisters, we also wish them all the best as they begin a new service to the Church. Now we can't just say goodbye, so we have a special weekend planned for Sisters Ruthane and Lorraine on Saturday/ Sunday, September 23-24. On Saturday evening we will have a last Nuns on the Run Bingo starting at 6pm in the school cafeteria. Then on Sunday, the 24th, we will honor both Sister Ruthane and Sister Lorraine at the 12noon Mass which will be followed by a parish reception in the school cafeteria. All are most welcome to join in these events to wish your own personal thanks and best wishes to the Sisters.



It is never too late to grow closer to the Lord. Take time this week to dive deeper into the Faith by reading your Bible more or listening to a trusted Catholic podcast or TV channel.



"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love."  
-Mother Teresa

### 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,



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**Catholic in origin, couples of all faiths, or no faith background, are welcome to attend. We are a Christian Peer Ministry offering tens of thousands of marriages hope in over 160 communities world-wide.**

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**



Breast Cancer Awareness Month

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**Every Gift Counts!**

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**A gift of \$50 from an emergency fund may help pay the electric bill in a cold winter month**

**for a family in need.**

**A gift of \$100 may help care for a new Mom get the guidance she needs through Regina Maternity Management Services.**

**A gift of \$250 may help subsidize a home for an adult who is developmentally disabled.**

**A gift of \$1,000 may help support a Seminarian's education.**

Because of you, every year we serve more than 600,000 people in our Long Island Community. This support enables our children to continue to receive the gift of spiritual formation, sacramental preparation, and quality education. It allows seminarians and lay leaders to fulfill their calling to serve the community. With your support, Catholic Charities can maintain its services for the poor and disadvantaged, and we can continue to reach out to our young people and others to find the best ways to guide and pass on our faith from generation to generation.

For more information about the Catholic Ministries Appeal, please visit <https://www.drvc.org/donate/cma/> or call 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

*PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A GIFT TO THE 2023 Catholic Ministries Appeal! Every Gift Makes a Difference in the Lives of Others.*

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## This week on **FORMED**...



*Opening Your Heart: The Starting Point* will take you on an exciting journey to form a personal relationship with Christ and help you find answers to life's biggest questions through the context of the Catholic faith. Author Lisa Brenninkmeyer designed this Bible study to inspire thoughtful consideration of the fundamental questions of faith—from why and how to pray, to the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives, to the purpose of suffering. Use the participant guide for each of the six videos that accompany the 22-lesson Bible study to explore the transforming power of God's unconditional love. Most women experience *Walking with Purpose* Bible studies in small group communities through parish-based programs, virtual groups, or home groups.

**GO TO THE ST. RAYMOND  
WEBSITE FOLLOW THE  
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# Masses for this week

## Monday, September 25th

7:15am Holy Souls in Purgatory

8:45am Joseph Ferrara

## Tuesday, September 26th

7:15am St. Raymond's Parish

8:45am Dennis Keane

## Wednesday, September 27th

*St. Vincent de Paul*

7:15am John Keanna, Jr.

8:45am Joan Casey

## Thursday, September 28th

7:15am Juanita Calinawan

8:45am Bridie Gallagher

## Friday, September 29th

*Sts Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael*

7:15am Joanne Spadafora

8:45am Anthony P. Genovese

## Saturday, September 30th *St. Jerome*

8:45am Holy Souls in Purgatory

5:00pm Nocturnal Adoration

## Sunday, October 1st

7:30am Thomas Byrnes

9:00am Kathleen Huchinson (L)

10:30am Elizabeth McCormack

12:00pm Deceased members of the Ammirati and Iovino Families, Robert Reichenbach, Deceased members Taucus Family, Joseph DelGiorno (L), John Gagliardo, Christine Fish, Michaelangelo Sapienza

4:30pm St. Raymond's Parish

### Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

Ezr 1:1-6/Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday

Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday

Ezr 9:5-9/Lk 9:1-6

Thursday

Hg 1:1-8/Lk 9:7-9

Friday

Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Jn 1:47-51

Saturday

Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday

Ez 18:25-28/Phil 2:1-11/Mt 21:28-32

## Please Pray for Our Sick

James R., Baby Brady, Jodi Neckles, Mike L, Dawn, Baby Faith Madison, Rebekah Lyas, Baby Cooper Graham, Kevin O'Sullivan Michael McPike, Christine I., John Lynch Baby Daisy Ellen O'Neill, Jay Witemeyer, Bennett William Chevalier, Mary Perri, Samir Leo B., Caroline Saporito, Linda D'Agostino Mary Lou Hart, Marie Gay Oddo, Michael Sarro, Barbara, Nick S., Joseph Petrarro, Nicole Brack  
*(Names are printed for 3 weeks unless the rectory is notified otherwise.)*



### ST. MICHAEL ARCHANGEL

MEANS "WHO IS AS GOD?"

He is one of the main angels. His name is a battle cry; both shield and weapon in the struggle against the enemy.



### ST. RAPHAEL ARCHANGEL

MEANS "DIVINE HEALER"

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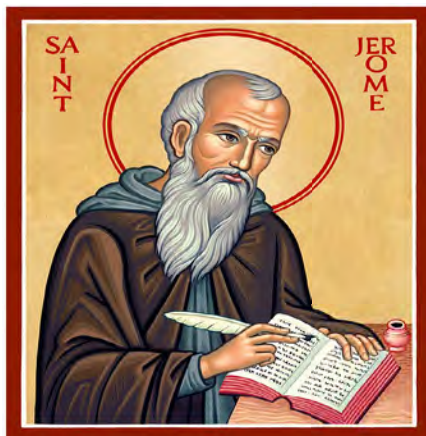
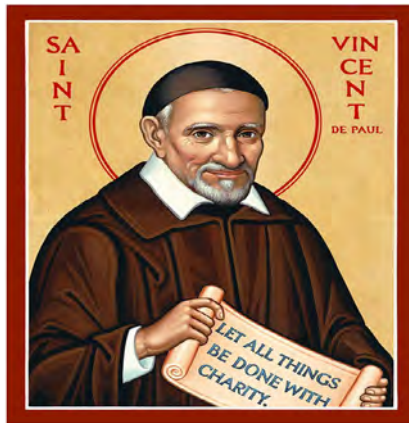


### ST. GABRIEL ARCHANGEL

MEANS "STRENGTH OF GOD"

He had one of the most important missions: announcing Virgin Mary that she would be the Mother of the Messiah.

# Parish Bulletin Board



## Communal Prayer Before Mass

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

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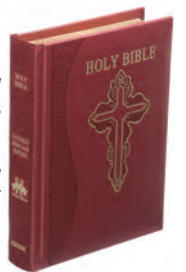
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