

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, April 28, 2024

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

“Remain in me, as I remain in you.”

-John 15:5



April 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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.

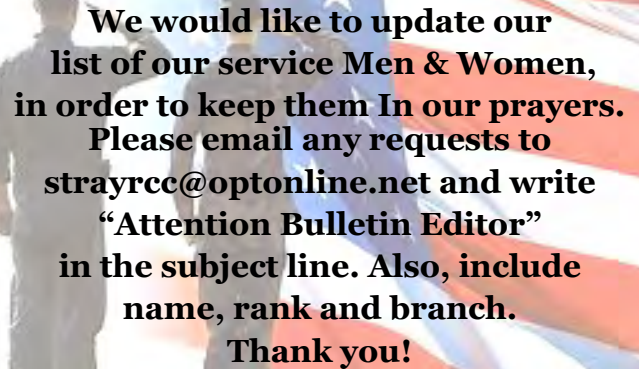
Music Ministries

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
Sgt. Hunter Deets, 10th Mountain Division, US ARMY
TSGT Curt Abdool US AIRFORCE

Please remember to pray for our wounded soldiers.

Greetings and God's continued Easter blessings be yours on the Fifth Sunday of Easter! Today's gospel message is all about the sacred connection we have with Jesus. In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we see how Paul, newly converted, had to show the apostles that he was now connected to Jesus. **"He moved about freely with them in Jerusalem and spoke boldly in the name of the Lord."** Then in the second reading from 1 John, the disciple is emphasizing that a person of faith remains in Jesus by keeping his commandments. **"And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another as he commands us."** And finally in John's gospel, Jesus uses a beautiful metaphor for connection with him. He describes himself as the vine and his followers as the branches. This example was very clear to the people of Jesus' time and reflects the most important relationship we will ever be part of. That's why Jesus says: **"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing."**

Being connected to Jesus is not automatic. Just like trying to stay connected to a TV back before cable was usually a challenge with the constant fussing with an antenna, and now with cable and Wi-Fi, there still can be connection problems. We always have to decide what and with whom we want to be connected to, and then figure out the best way to establish that connection. Yes, being connected requires effort. Now, Jesus says by staying connected to him we will bear lasting fruit. But how do we establish this connection with Jesus and make sure that it stays strong, cared for and secure. As Catholics we have all sorts of ways to establish and maintain our sacred relationship with Jesus. It starts with baptism when we are welcomed into a family with Jesus as the center. We become bonded with Jesus and the Church. But then we need ways to strengthen this relationship that started with baptism. First off it requires our attention, our effort, our humility, and deep desire to want our relationship with Jesus to be more than it was yesterday. The Church provides us with holy moments to open ourselves up to our God who wants nothing less than to be close to us and dwell within us. The Holy Spirit comes to guide us in God's word. And the Church gives us countless devotions and prayers to lift our spirits and quiet our hearts so that we can be inspired to do good in this world. There are also our brothers and sisters in the Church who walk the journey with us

But most of all we have the Body and Blood of Jesus in the Eucharist who comes to make a home in us that is the best way to stay connected. If you want to remain with Jesus and through him the Father, it is the Eucharist which will graft us securely to the vine of Jesus. If we do this, then the fruit we produce will feed and enrich and transform a world in need of every single thing our God wants to provide.

This is the last weekend that our friend, **Father Theo** will be with us at St. Raymond Parish. Father Theo came to us almost 5 years ago from Nigeria. He is a friend of Father Lawrence who recommended him for ministry in our diocese and as a replacement when Father Lawrence was transferred. We have all enjoyed and benefited from Father Theo's priestly service to our parish and will miss him. This Sunday, Father Theo celebrates his last parish Mass at 12noon followed by a parish reception in the school cafeteria. Both are opportunities to express personal thanks and best wishes to Father Theo who will be returning to his native diocese in Nigeria. We thank you Father Theo and wish you the very best in your new assignment. **Ad Multon Annos!**

On Tuesday, May 7th there will be a special **Holy Hour** from 7-8pm in the church. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, prayer, scripture, music and Benediction. All are invited to spend this special time in the presence of the Real Presence as we continue to observe the Eucharistic Revival here at St. Raymond's. So come and bring a friend. Jesus would love to see you.

Please remember to take home a copy of the bulletin when you leave Mass today. Besides the aforementioned there are many other 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 **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 Fifth Week of Easter. **Smile, share, keep connected and remember: When all is said and done, did you say more or do more?** God bless always.

-Father Chuck

WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

APRIL 28, 2024-FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

APRIL 28, 2024-FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

FIRST READING

Acts 9:26-31

When Saul arrived in Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple. Then Barnabas took charge of him and brought him to the apostles, and he reported to them how he had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus. He moved about freely with them in Jerusalem, and spoke out boldly in the name of the Lord. He also spoke and debated with the Hellenists, but they tried to kill him. And when the brothers learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him on his way to Tarsus. The church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria was at peace. It was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord, and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers.

SECOND READING

1 Jn 3:18-24

Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. Now this is how we shall know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts before him in whatever our hearts condemn, for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God and receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us. Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32

R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

I will fulfill my vows before those who fear the LORD. The lowly shall eat their fill; they who seek the LORD shall praise him: "May your hearts live forever!"

R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of the nations shall bow down before him.

R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

To him alone shall bow down all who sleep in the earth; before him shall bend all who go down into the dust.

R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

And to him my soul shall live; my descendants shall serve him. Let the coming generation be told of the LORD that they may proclaim to a people yet to be born the justice he has shown.

R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

ALLELUIA

Jn 15:4a, 5b

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me will bear much fruit.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

Jn 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples:

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you. Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION -FAITH FORMATION

Lucy Ostermann, Director

We are in need of Catechists for the 2024/2025 school year. Please consider joining this most important ministry. Our books are user friendly, we have videos to help with training our catechists and we will have a New Teacher session early in September. There is no Registration Fee for parents with children in the program. Catechists can set up a co-teacher situation so that the commitment is not too overwhelming. If you are interested, please contact the Religious Education office at 516-593-9075.

Here is where we need teachers:

Grade 1 – 8 teachers needed – Five scheduled Sundays 10:30am-11:30am – then attend 12Noon Mass after class.

Grade 2 – 1 teacher needed - Tuesdays 3:30pm-4:30pm

Grade 3 – 1 teacher needed Mondays & 1 teacher needed Thursdays – 3:30pm-4:30pm for both days.

Grade 6 – 2 teachers needed Thursdays 3:30pm-4:30pm

Grade 7 – 1 teachers needed Tuesdays 7pm-8pm

Attention 1st Grade Parents:

Our next meeting is Sunday 5/5/2024 at the 9am Mass. Then we will all go to the cafeteria for a celebratory pancake breakfast (hosted by the Knights of Columbus). After the students and their families enjoy the breakfast, the students will have their little 'graduation' ceremony. The children will be called up one by one to give us their completed workbooks (all pages 1-180 must be complete - all written exercises, drawings, etc.). As the child hands us their book, we will present them with their Certificate of Completion for First Grade Religion. That week we will go through the books to ensure that the children have completed the books in their entirety. Once we have all of that information, the children will then be promoted to 2nd grade.

2024/2025 Registration forms will be e-mailed this month to parents and also found on the parish website.



Faith Formation





MRS. GRENNAN'S 5TH GRADE CLASS MADE "GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"



MS. KELLY KHAN'S 5TH GRADE CLASS PLAYING "RELIGIOUS JEOPARDY"



How are we like M&M's?

We can learn about our faith even while eating M&M's!

- #1 - M&M's are marked with an "M". Christians are marked or sealed with the Holy Spirit of God. We are also marked for a purpose and focus. We're marked for "M" for glory!
- #2 - M&M's come in a variety of colors. God has created each of us unique in many ways too. Although we are all called to ministry, we each are unique gifts, have different backgrounds, different personalities, etc. We vary from our color too!
- God has his way of blending our background, personality, and spiritual gifts into unique, individual ministers for His Kingdom.
- #3 - M&M's are filled with chocolate - the best part! Christians are filled with God's love like an M&M, although we may all look different, we are all created to be filled. M&M's are filled with chocolate - yours! We are made to be filled with God's love - even before! Without the chocolate, an M&M is just a fragile shell with really no taste. Without God's love, we are fragile and empty too.

The way M&M's are made, make it easy to be shared with others. God's love is also made to be shared through sharing the Gospel - the Good News of Jesus Christ!

Mrs. Khan • 5th Grade Class • 2023-2024





ST. RAYMOND'S HUMAN LIFE COMMITTEE

The Supreme Court's *Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Org.* Decision, sadly, did not end abortion. Simply stated, the Supreme Court held that the U.S. Constitution makes no such reference to abortion, and no right is implicitly protected by any constitutional provision, including the one on which the defenders of *Roe* chiefly relied on, namely, the Due Process Clause of the 14th Amendment. Therefore, the power to regulate any aspect of abortion not protected by federal statutory law was returned to each state. Immediately, following the announcement of the *Dobbs* Decision, Planned Parenthood and other pro-abortion organizations predicted dire consequences for women. And with the help of the media, succeeded in promulgating fear. It was, as if, women would no longer be able to receive medical help. The truth is that since the *Dobbs* Decision, the killing of the preborn babies by abortion has increased, not decreased, with the use of the chemical abortion pills. There is now a concerted effort, by the present Administration in D.C., Planned Parenthood and the abortion lobby, to have an abortion referendum put on the November ballot in as many states as possible, our own N.Y. State being among the 11 states targeted. If the referendum passes and the killing of the preborn babies by abortion is codified into the State's Constitution, it will be almost impossible to protect any preborn baby for the entire nine months of pregnancy. Remember, abortion is not health care. It is the intentional, barbaric killing of an innocent human being. Please pray and work to protect God's little ones and for the guidance of all those involved in the decision-making process. Thanks to those who recently donated strollers, baby food, pack and play and an abundance of baby formula. These items were brought to the Hempstead Women's First pregnancy center and were greatly needed and appreciated. This center is in need of blankets, strollers and infant car seats (must be no older than 6 years).

If you would like to donate any of these items, please contact Mary Caffrey- #516-887-2458.



First Saturday Novena Our Lady of Fatima Rosary

**May 4, 2024
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, MAY 3RD 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!



Prayer Vigil: Our Lady of Fatima

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & THE ROSARY

Please Join Us in Praying For:
The United States of America & World Peace

107th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FATIMA APPARITIONS

Date: Friday, May 10th

Time: 7:00-8:30pm

Location: St. Raymond Church
263 Atlantic Ave., East Rockaway, NY 11518

"I am the Lady of the Rosary...
Pray the Rosary every day."

The Message of Fatima

The message of Fatima consists of a number of precise predictions, requests, warnings and promises concerning the faith and the world, which were conveyed by the Blessed Virgin Mary to three shepherd children: Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco in a series of apparitions at Fatima, Portugal from May through October 1917.

Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn

Gives Back!

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

**IRS TAX DEDUCTION FREE TOWING
ANY CONDITION**

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

For details: svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org



Ocean Financial Federal Credit Union Supports St. Raymond!

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

visit their website at: www.oceanfinancial.org.

STEP BY STEP WALK THROUGH THE MASS

DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME

FATHER LUKE SPANNAGEL

NATIONAL EUCHARIST REVIVAL BLOG



Collection and Procession

It's time to pass the basket for the Offertory. For many people, the word offertory might make us think simply of the money offerings we place in the collection basket. While that certainly is part of the typical Sunday offertory, this is also an important spiritual moment for uniting ourselves to the offering on the altar.



The Collection in the Early Church

The practical details of this part of the Mass have looked different at various points in history. In earlier times, the gifts would typically be things that people brought from their homes. People would bring all sorts of food, along with bread and wine, and gifts for the poor (money or otherwise). These gifts would all be brought up and then sorted. The bread and wine were used for the Mass, some food and money were given to the priest to provide for him, and the remainder of the food and money were divided up and given to the poor. So, one can see that even in the earliest times, this part of the Mass was about offering and giving. In our modern day, to simplify the offertory, the ushers collect money. This money still symbolizes our gift: what we give to God for the Mass (bread, wine, candles, etc., are purchased for the Mass), what we give to provide for the needs of the priest and the upkeep of the church, and what we give to provide for the needs of the poor and those less fortunate. As the ushers prepare to collect the offerings, we can take a look at our lives, all that we have, all that the Lord has provided for us. We can show our gratitude and thank the Lord by offering a portion of what we have back to him for the good of the Church and others.

Along with the collection, the bread and wine (and water in some places) are brought forward, just as in the days of the early Church. Around the year 150 A.D., St. Justin Martyr describes this part of the Mass by saying simply: "bread, water, and wine are brought". The gifts are brought forward by members of the faithful. Whether it is the ushers, family members who requested the Mass intention, or other parishioners, whoever brings the gifts

forward represents the whole congregation, bringing forth our offerings to God.

An Offering of Spiritual Gifts

As we think about our practical or material gifts during this part of the Mass, we should not overlook the opportunity to also offer spiritual gifts. Mother Teresa of Calcutta was known for asking priests to leave room on the paten for her intentions. One priest also recalled her saying that she would place her heart on the paten so that it would be near Jesus in the Mass. If we think about this part of the Mass, offering the gifts we have in thanksgiving to God and in union with Jesus, it is true that one of the best offerings we can make is ourselves! Along these lines, the author Charles Belmonte teaches, "Together with Christ, we offer everything that we are and all that we possess, all that we have done or try to do. We offer our memory, intelligence, and will; our family, profession, hobbies, success, sufferings, failures, and worries; and our aspirations, [joys and hopes], and spiritual communions. Likewise, we offer our small and big mortifications: all those acts of love we performed yesterday and as many as we plan to perform today" (Understanding the Mass, p. 110).

If you haven't thought about the offertory in this way before, I encourage you to think about including your personal spiritual offering along with whatever you drop in the basket. It certainly is a great way to join to the prayers the priest offers at the altar spiritually and a great way to deepen our unity with the perfect offering of Jesus!

For Reflection:

- Consider what spiritual offering(s) you will offer at the next Mass in which you participate.
- Ask Jesus to help you identify what you can generously give. In addition to your financial offering, consider how Jesus may be inviting you to give of yourself to parish life in other ways.

Next Week: Collection and Procession

ST. RAYMOND CHURCH

Opportunities for a Holy Hour / Adoration and Eucharistic Exposition

The Church is open for personal prayer until 5:00PM
Each Thursday - Eucharistic Exposition from 1-4:00 PM
Each First Friday - Nocturnal Adoration 7:30-8:30 PM
Upcoming Evening Holy Hours: May 7th and May 16th



***"I have made you a light
to the Gentiles, that you
may be an instrument of
salvation to the ends of
the earth." -Acts 13:47***

Because of Jesus

Imprint Magazine, Sisters of Life

- † **Because of Jesus**, sin and evil no longer have the last say
- † **Because of Jesus**, suffering has lost its meaninglessness
- † **Because of Jesus**, every cross has an incalculable value
- † **Because of Jesus**, pain is not the end of my story
- † **Because of Jesus**, what once separated me, now unites me intimately with Him
- † **Because of Jesus**, I experience nothing on my own
- † **Because of Jesus**, there is no darkness that cannot be conquered
- † **Because of Jesus**, every wound can become a place of new life
 - † **Because of Jesus**, I am known, understood, and never forgotten in my suffering
 - † **Because of Jesus**, my life has inestimable value
 - † **Because of Jesus**, I have found the measure of my worth
- † **Because of Jesus**, love has the last word
 - † **Because Love** is the last word.
And His name is Jesus.
 - † **Jesus, I thank You.** †

Eucharistic Witness

"Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses." St. Paul VI

Venerable Bruno Lanteri

Priest & Founder (†1830)

Fr. Bruno Lanteri was the founder of the religious congregation of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary in northwestern Italy in the early 19th century. His spiritual life and work centered on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola and he was known for his devotion to the Holy Mass. What can we learn from his Eucharistic witness?

Belief Intensifies Love: Fr. Lanteri intentionally prepared for each part of the Mass by choosing biblical characters as models and thinking about what was in their heart. For example, going to Church with the heart of Simeon, the repentant tax collector at the Penitential Rite, a disciple for the Gospel, the martyrs at the Creed, Jesus from the cross at the Consecration, a beggar at the Our Father, and a person in love at Communion. Starting with even just one part of the Mass will slowly change your mindset about the Mass.

Feeding and Being Fed by Love: Fr. Lanteri was very devoted to the Blessed Sacrament, and to adore the Blessed Sacrament more frequently, he had a small window made from his room looking onto the altar of the chapel. Adoration was key to his day: "This will be then the remedy for all your feelings of sadness and of fearfulness of heart: the thought that, with the grace of God... you can do anything."

Made for Love: For Fr. Lanteri, one must be an active agent within the Sacred Heart of Christ. This means experiencing oneself as a loved and redeemed sinner who participates dependently but freely and actively in the mission of Christ. He can discern within himself the effect of Christ's love for him.

"If I should fall even a thousand times a day, a thousand times, with peaceful repentance, I will say immediately, Nunc Coepi [Now I begin]!"



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 THRU WEDNESDAY FROM 10AM TO 3PM

(Suggested to call for an appointment)

*"If you can't feed a hundred people,
then feed just one."*

- Saint Teresa of Calcutta

The Parish Social Ministry would like to sincerely thank the Boy Scouts of Troop 332, and their leaders, for the food collection they organized and delivered on April 19th for the benefit of the parish food pantry. Their generosity is greatly appreciated by our clients and staff. We will pray for your continued success in scouting.

Food assistance is available to those in need who live within our Parish boundaries, including seniors who depend on their Social Security benefit as their only source of income and need help with food assistance.

Pantry items needed this week: Jarred Pasta Sauce, Chick Peas, Tea, Juice, Pancake Syrup, Cold Cereal, Ketchup, Mustard, Mayonnaise, Grape Jelly, Baked Beans, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Conditioner 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. Also, donations can be left in the bin on the porch or in the Altar Servers Sacristy.

*May God's blessings shower
upon all of you!*



**As Catholics, let us spread
love and compassion
wherever we go. Let us
allow the Spirit to guide
us to be hospitable to all
we come across.**



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-Saint John Paul II



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MAY 7, 2024

7:30PM

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“... he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.”
 Luke 24:35

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Sigrid Undset's Catherine of Siena is critically acclaimed as one of the best biographies of this well-known and amazing fourteenth-century saint. Known for her historical fiction, which won her the Nobel Prize for literature in 1928, Undset based this factual work on primary sources, her own experiences living in Italy, and her profound understanding of the human heart



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The Growing Danger of Physician-Assisted Suicide in New York State

April 19, 2024

A Pastoral Statement
to the People of God of the Diocese of Rockville Centre
Most Reverend John O. Barres, Bishop of Rockville Centre



My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Long Island is blessed to be home to several of the nation's most renowned healthcare systems. These systems consist of a vast network of physicians, nurses, technicians, and medical professionals of all kinds who live and work in our communities. In my weekly travels across the Diocese of Rockville Centre, I meet so many of these health professionals and I never fail to be inspired by their commitment to accompanying their patients throughout the courses of their lives. This includes the end of life.

However, legislation pending in Albany seeks to upend the doctor-patient relationship at its most vulnerable moment via physician-assisted suicide. The bill, which seems to be gaining momentum, authorizes doctors (whose careers are dedicated to healing and preserving life) to dispense pills that literally poison patients who have been given terminal diagnoses. Such a practice flies in the face of human dignity.

In fact, a groundbreaking new Vatican document approved in April by Pope Francis, titled— appropriately – *Dignitas Infinita* (Infinite Dignity), specifically singles out euthanasia and assisted suicide as grave assaults on human dignity which utilize “a mistaken understanding of human dignity to turn the concept of dignity against itself.”

This comment refers directly to the euphemism “death with dignity” that promoters of assisted suicide favor. *Dignitas Infinita* notes that, even in serious infirmity, “human life carries a dignity that must always be upheld, that can never be lost, and that calls for unconditional respect. Indeed, there are no circumstances under which human life would cease from being dignified and could, as a result, be put to an end.”

Clearly, Pope Francis views euthanasia and assisted suicide as symptoms of what he repeatedly has called a “throwaway culture” that has taken hold in the West. The pope, in his wisdom, sees what many supporters of this practice do not.

By virtue of their very humanity, people who are ill or who lack self-sufficiency never cease being infinitely valuable, even if society sends them a message to the contrary by urging them to “get out of the way” and end their lives.

What is being peddled by advocates as a last resort for those suffering from interminable pain will very quickly be expanded to resemble the dystopian nightmare we are seeing play out in Canada, which passed a law very similar to the New York bill in 2016 but which already has been expanded to allow people with non-terminal diagnoses to end their lives. In March, an Ottawa judge approved assisted suicide for a young woman whose only diagnoses are autism and ADHD, over her parents’ pleading objection. The Canadian law is set to expand again in 2027 – incredibly – to allow people with mental illnesses like depression, anorexia, or bipolar disorder to access suicide pills as prescribed by a medical professional.



Sadly, Canada is not an isolated case. The situation is similar in the Netherlands, the first nation to approve euthanasia, where people living with autism and intellectual disabilities reportedly are being euthanized.

I know that these scenarios are not what people have in mind when they answer a survey question asking if they support “medical aid in dying” or “death with dignity.” But we must not fool ourselves. What I’m describing is not fiction or fear mongering; these abuses are really happening today in jurisdictions that have legalized assisted suicide.

The medical professionals whom I speak with in our parishes and at Catholic Health medical facilities understand clearly that assisted suicide is a terrible, untenable policy. They know that when the end-of-life approaches, the answer is not to actively kill patients or to help them to kill themselves. Instead, true dignity is upheld by providing compassionate palliative care which manages patients’ pain and other symptoms, keeps them clean, tends to their bodily needs, and spiritually prepares them for their journey home.

As Pope Francis has said, “We must accompany people towards death, but not provoke death or facilitate any form of suicide...Life is a right, not death, which must be welcomed, not administered.”

During this time when we celebrate a National Eucharistic Revival, we pray that our reverence for the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ may inspire our witness in New York State’s public square to the reverence for the sanctity of human life at every stage of life.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre

Masses for this week

Monday, April 29th St. Catherine

7:15am Alice Donnelly

8:45am Eileen Gonyon

Tuesday, April 30th

7:15am St. Raymond Parish

8:45am Costantino Buccino

Wednesday, May 1st

7:15am Paul J. Dzielak

8:45am Rosalie Monaco

Thursday, May 2nd St. Athanasius

7:15am Sami Oakleh

8:45pm Joseph Ninivaggi

Friday, May 3rd Sts. Philip and James

7:15am William Schroeder

8:45pm Margaret & Leo Henrichs

Saturday, May 4th

8:45am Doy Herrera, AnneMarie Behrman,
Pola Cifuentez

5:00pm Nocturnal Adoration

Sunday, May 5th

7:30am Charles Hess

9:00am Family Dejak & Petroccione

10:30am Louise Coscia

12:00pm Raymond & Marie Cooley, Daisy &
Frank D'Agnesse, Robert J.
Chojnacki, Dominick Consolazio,
Kathleen Flynn McCarthy, Theresa
Maselli, Joseph Borrello, Fr. Theo,
Ernesto Feliciano, Sr.

4:30pm St. Raymond Parish

Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

Acts 14:5-18/Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday

Acts 14:19-28/Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday

Acts 15:1-6/Jn 15:1-8

Thursday

Acts 15:7-21/Jn 15:9-11

Friday

1 Cor 15:1-8/Jn 14:6-14

Saturday

Acts 16:1-10/Jn 15:18-21

Sunday

Acts 10:25-26/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17



Please Pray for Our Sick

James R., Mike L., Jodi Neckles,
Baby Faith Madison, Michael McPike,
Baby Cooper Graham, Christine L.,
Samir. Leo B., Maureen Condiss,
Marie Dempsey, Mary Lynch,
Maureen McCarthy, Fr. Don Hansen,
Nick S., Dawn, Jay Witemeyer,
Christine Gillidan, Deb Worsdale,
Linda Dagostino, Joseph DelGiorno,
Rory Romano, Timothy Murphy,
Karen Pagnotta, Colleen Popp,
Michael Malone, Elizabeth Lacchini

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



Rest in Peace

June H. Kelly

Elaine Colon

Jeanine Rempe Thorne

Ernesto J. Feliciano

Rosemary McGrane



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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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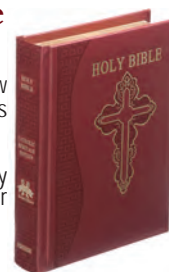


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