



“ I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

-Luke 3:16

December 15, 2024
Third Sunday of Advent
Gaudette Sunday

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

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 10:30 in the Rectory Basement

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Interested in becoming a Catholic or an adult Catholic seeking Eucharist or Confirmation? Call the rectory and ask for Fr. Chuck Romano

THE THIRD CANDLE IS PINK & IS THE

"Candle of Joy."

IT RECALLS THE JOY WE HAVE IN
KNOWING, LOVING, AND FOLLOWING
CHRIST – NO MATERIAL POSSESSION OR
GIFT CAN TAKE THE PLACE OF THE JOY
WE HAVE IN FRIENDSHIP WITH JESUS.

St. Raymond's Bulletin...

As a reminder, in case you forget to pick up your weekly Sunday bulletin, you can view it on our website:

www.saintraymonds.org.

If you would like to advertise an upcoming event for a St. Raymond Ministry or group, please email your article or notice two Fridays before the date of the bulletin to:

strayrcc@optonline.net.

Please write: "Attention Bulletin Editor" in the subject line of you email. All bulletin articles are subject to the Pastor's approval.



***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. Joseph Woloszyn US NAVY
TSGT Curt Abdool US AIRFORCE

***Please remember to pray for our
wounded soldiers.***

Father Chuck's Corner

Greetings and God's continued Advent blessings be yours on the Third Sunday of Advent, also known as "Gaudete Sunday." Today is "**Joyful Sunday**" for today even in the midst of all the challenges we face we can rejoice. Why? Because our Lord, the mighty Savior is coming. The first reading from the prophet Zephaniah speaks at great length about being joyful. "**Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!**" Even in the second reading to the Philippians, Paul exhorts the people: "**Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice.**" Then we get to the gospel, where Luke seems to scare us a bit about chaff burning in unquenchable fire. But it is really about John the Baptist telling the people some basic things about how to live. He spoke about doing the right things. Believing and acting are not separate things. They go hand in hand. Don't be greedy, don't cheat, don't lie. John was all about getting people to recognize their obvious faults and failings, their sins. He wanted people to get back to what they knew was right. John felt the responsibility to help people be ready to encounter someone whose Spirit would change everything, and everyone open to that possibility. "**I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**"

The people of John the Baptist's time were questioning what thing was going to happen. It really wasn't a thing though. It was a person. John described him as "**mighty**" but not as they expected. John knew he would have authority from God and that his judgment was the only kind that really mattered, because it was a moral judgment, judging hearts and minds and attitudes and motives. John wanted to get them ready to recognize Jesus for who he was. But for you and me it is different. We know who Jesus is. For you and me there is a different question. **Who should I be?** And the answer to that question is about to be born in a tiny manger and in every heart who is open to him. If we have the courage and faith to want Jesus to be re-born in us this Christmas, I believe our loving God will bring that miracle about. And then what we should do will come into focus from God living within us.

As we celebrate "**Gaudete Sunday**," a day of joy and rejoicing, our parish gets into the spirit by having a special **Gaudete Hospitality** after all the morning Masses this Sunday in the school cafeteria, hosted by the Sodality of Our Lady. During this time all who ordered **Christmas Plants** should come to pick them up in the cafeteria. Also, at the end of the hospitality around 1:30pm we will pull the winning chance for the **Christmas Cash 50/50**. You can buy chances during hospitality in the cafeteria right up till the drawing. So, stop by our Gaudete Hospitality to share some refreshments, pick up your plants, buy some chances and get into the Christmas spirit with fellow parishioners. Looking forward to seeing you at Mass and afterwards!

A parish wide mailing should be arriving at each parishioner's home this weekend. It contains the Christmas schedule of Masses and opportunities for celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) during these next two weeks. There are also envelopes for the **Christmas Masses of Remembrance, Christmas Flower Memorials** and your donation for Christmas. As I wrote in the accompanying letter, if possible, a donation of **\$100** would be great for Christmas. Of course, anything above that is most welcome too.

Please 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** (please return your Giving Tree presents), info from **Religious Education** (Faith Formation), the **Christmas Schedule**, the **Christmas Masses of Remembrance** envelopes, 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 Third Week of Advent. **Get into the joy of preparing for Christmas through prayer and helping others. And remember: Christmas preparation headquarters is right here in St. Raymond Church!** God bless always.

-Father Chuck



WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

DECEMBER 15, 2024-3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

DECEMBER 15, 2024-3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST READING

Zep 3:14-18a

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has removed the judgment against you he has turned away your enemies; the King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst, you have no further misfortune to fear. On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem: Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged! The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love, he will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6.

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel. God indeed is my savior; I am confident and unafraid. My strength and my courage is the LORD, and he has been my savior. With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation.

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel. Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim his name; among the nations make known his deeds, proclaim how exalted is his name.

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel. Sing praise to the LORD for his glorious achievement; let this be known throughout all the earth. Shout with exultation, O city of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel!

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

SECOND READING

Phil 4:4-7

Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

ALLELUIA

Is 61:1

R. Alleluia, alleluia.
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.
R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

Lk 3:10-18

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed." Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?" He told them, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages." Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.

Christmas Masses of Remembrance

Many people like to request the intention for a Mass on Christmas Day. Since there are a limited number of Masses for Christmas, all requests are not able to be fulfilled. Therefore, there will be a special Novena of Masses for Christmas that will be the Christmas Masses of Remembrance. Those whom you would like will be remembered at all the Masses during the Christmas season.

Special envelopes have been mailed with the regular envelope packet and in the Christmas mailing to all parishioners. They are also available on the front side pews and on the back pews by the doors of the church. Simply fill out the intention you wish to have remembered on the front of the envelope, include your donation and either mail it back, drop it in the Sunday Mass collection or place it in one of the wooden boxes marked "Christmas Masses."

Please do so by Tuesday, December 24th.

Thank you, Father Chuck



TRULY PRESENT



*Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Truly present
in the Holy Eucharist
I place My Trust in You.*

Lord, as Christmas morning approaches quickly, prepare my heart to receive you. I want to believe without any doubts. I want to trust you unconditionally. I want to say YES to your will, but my pride and selfishness get in the way. I desire my will. I want to do things my way. I think I know what will make me ultimately happy, but deep down I know that only you can fulfill my deepest desires. Help me to dedicate time to be with you daily in prayer. Give me the desire to read your holy Word. Help me to make time for the Eucharist and Reconciliation on a regular basis. May I echo Mary's words, "May it be done to me according to your word."



CHRISTMAS 2024

(Note additional Masses and time changes)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

(Confessions)

Saturdays, December 14th & 21st

3:30 till 4:30 in the Church

Tuesday, December 17th

7:30pm Penance Service in the Church

Wednesday & Thursday

December 18th & 19th

Confessions in the Church

5pm-6pm and 7pm-8pm

(other times by request at the rectory)

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th

5:00 pm

8:00 pm (Folk Group)

10:30 pm (Christmas Carols)

11:00 pm (mass ending at Midnight)

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25th

Church at 9:00am, 10:30am and 12 noon

(No Evening Mass on Christmas Day)

Solemnity of Mary

New Year's Eve

Tuesday, December 31st

5:00pm

New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

9 am, 10:30am and 12 noon and 1:30pm



Christmas Cash "Gaudete Sunday"



Sky's the Limit 50/50

ON DECEMBER 15, 2024 AT OUR "GAUDETE SUNDAY" CELEBRATION, THE WINNING "CHRISTMAS CASH" TICKET WILL BE DRAWN. THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE ONE HALF OF THE MONEY RAISED. TICKETS ARE \$10 EACH OR THREE FOR \$25 AND MAY BE PURCHASED AT THE RECTORY DURING REGULAR OFFICE HOURS OR THROUGH THE FOLLOWING TEAR-OFF. SIMPLY FILL OUT THE INFORMATION, INCLUDE YOUR CHECK AND MAIL IT TO THE RECTORY (263 ATLANTIC AVENUE). TICKET(S) WILL BE SENT TO YOU THE SAME DAY. THE DRAWING DATE GETS CLOSER EACH WEEK SO GET YOUR ORDER IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE MORE TICKETS SOLD THE GREATER YOUR WINNING SHARE AND THE GREATER THE PROFIT TO THE PARISH. WOULDN'T IT BE GREAT TO WIN SOME EXTRA "CHRISTMAS CASH" JUST BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS? DON'T MISS OUT. ONLY \$10 EACH OR THREE FOR \$25 AND THE "SKY'S THE LIMIT." WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT!



Christmas Cash "Sky's the Limit" 50/50



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE# _____ #OF TICKETS _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

RETURN THIS TEAR-OFF TO THE RECTORY,
263 ATLANTIC AVE., EAST ROCKAWAY, NY 11518.



Special One year Memorial Candle

It's not too late!

Bring in the attached form to the rectory



Once again we will be having special one year devotional candles at the St. Joseph Statue in the front. These candles surround the base of the statue. There are 4 more candles available at the St. Joseph statue. The cost is \$300.00 for an entire year of having a candle lit for your intention. A small name plate will be placed at each candle that has been taken for the year. Only the name of the person you are remembering will be on each name plate. These candles will be lit for the entire Church Liturgical Year. If you are interested in one of these candles, simply fill out the following information, include your donation and bring it to the rectory. This also includes existing candles for this past year that have been lit. They need to be renewed.



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Name for the candle name plate (please print) _____



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)

"The rich should give to the poor in the spirit of Christ, who became poor for us." 2 Corinthians 8:9

The Advent season reminds us that true giving is purposeful and reflects Christ's love in our world. It is not just about personal reflection but about reaching out in generosity, echoing the selfless love of Christ. Our

Giving Tree is a means of reaching out in generosity and the Parish Social Ministry would like to sincerely thank all those who chose a card ornament from the tree and who will purchase and give a gift to someone who they do not know but who they would like to bring a little cheer into their life at Christmas.

Food assistance is available to those in need who live within our Parish boundaries, including senior citizens who depend on their Social Security benefits as their only source of income. During the month of November, the Parish Social Ministry assisted 99 households with food, personal care and household items and assisted them with other services they needed. Non-Perishable 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 of the Ryan House.

Pantry items still needed: Canned Meat, Grape Jelly, Pancake Mix, Pancake Syrup, Mayonnaise, Cooking Oil (Small Bottles) Laundry Detergent and Dish Detergent.

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

Thank you all for always helping 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!



THE ROSE FOR LIFE

In Loving Memory of

Elizabeth Griffin

Beloved Wife, Mother &

Good Friend

Donated by The Family

For Dedications call

Mary Healy 887-4062



We are again called, in today's readings, to care for our brothers and sisters. As the different groups of people ask St. John the Baptist, "what should we do", let us ask the Lord the same question. How can we serve our neighbors this week?

STEP BY STEP WALK THROUGH THE MASS
DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME
FATHER LUKE SPANNAGEL
NATIONAL EUCHARIST REVIVAL BLOG



**Exchanging
the Sign of
Peace
Part 1**

Continuing with the Rite of Peace, how do we exchange the sign of peace? For a little more background on this part of the Mass, the Diocese of Peoria teaches, "This prayer reaffirms the holiness of the Church as the Mystical Body of Christ. The Church, insofar as She is the Bride of Christ, is holy and without blemish. While the Church remains holy, Her members are prone to sin and error, and so we beseech our Lord to look upon His Church with favor and grant us the peace and unity of the kingdom of heaven. Upon asking our Lord for this peace, the priest extends this peace to the congregation as he says: 'The peace of the Lord be with you always!' [The people reply] 'And with your spirit.' [The Deacon or Priest then says: "Let us offer each other the sign of peace."] According to local custom, we exchange with one another a sign of peace. Typically, in the United States, the normative gesture is a handshake to those around us" (A Study of the Mass, p. 18).

An Expression of Christian Community



For more description of what happens after the words from the sanctuary, the Catholic Encyclopedia states, "It is then that the people of the assembled community turn to their immediate neighbors and exchange a greeting, a shake of the hand, or other sign of peace and friendship. This need not be an elaborate exchange. There are no ritual



words to be said, some preferring to say: 'Peace be with you' or 'the Peace of Christ be with you' or 'God bless you.' The response may be equally simple. This kiss of peace, both as a sign of recognition of fellowship, respect, or friendship is essentially a sign of reconciliation, of expressing the mutual regard of Christian for Christian:

St. Paul recognized this sign of peace as an expression of Christian community (Rom 16:16; 1 Cor 16:20; 2 Cor 13:12). For example, Romans 16:16 says, "Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you." In this verse, Paul encourages his readers in Rome to greet each other with a holy kiss and to pass on his greetings to the church in Rome from other Christian churches.

And St. Peter considered this greeting a sign of union with Christ, or Christ-like togetherness: 1 Peter 5:14 says, "Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ." (Catholic Encyclopedia, p. 465).

For Reflection: Review the New Testament passages which feature a "holy kiss" or "loving kiss" as a greeting within the early Church (Rom 16:16; 1 Cor 16:20; 2 Cor 13:12; 1 Thes 5:26; 1 Pt 5:14). Ask the intercession of those in the Communion of Saints who have shared this gesture throughout Church history for peace within the Church today and the extension of Christ's peace in our mission to the world.

Next Week:
Exchanging the Sign of Peace – Part 2



ST. RAYMOND CHURCH

Opportunities for a Holy Hour
Each Day, the Church is open
for personal prayer until 5pm

Each Thursday - Eucharistic Exposition from 1-4pm
Each First Friday - Nocturnal Adoration 7:30-8:30pm



*“Whoever has two cloaks
should share with the
person who has none. And
whoever has food should
do likewise.” Luke 3:11*

Eucharistic Revival -The Year of Mission
July 21, 2024 - Pentecost 2025

Now that we have introduced the Four Pillars
of Mission, we now offer ideas on how to
apply them to your life.

PILLAR 2 – EUCHARISTIC IDENTITY

Practical Suggestions for Practicing the Corporal
and Spiritual Works of Mercy

The Corporal Works of Mercy are kind acts by which
we help our neighbors with their everyday material
and physical needs. To give alms to the poor is a
fundamental act of charity in Catholic teaching,
which involves offering support to those in need.
Here are suggestions for you to consider to actively
live out the call to serve the poor:

To Give Alms to the Poor:

- **Adopting a Family in Need at Christmas:** Providing gifts, food, and essentials for a family who is struggling during the holiday season.
- **Sending Care Packages:** Assembling care packages filled with food, hygiene products, and other essentials and sending them to those in need.
- **Offering Your Time:** Volunteering at soup kitchens, food pantries, or other charitable programs that serve the poor.
- **Assisting with Utility or Medical Bills:** Helping people pay their utility bills, rent, or medical expenses when they are unable to afford them.
- **Giving Clothes:** Donating gently used clothing to shelters, thrift stores, or directly to people in need.
- **Sharing Excess Resources:** Sharing household items that you no longer need (furniture, appliances, etc.) with people who could use them.
- **Sponsoring a Child or Family:** Sponsoring the education, health care, or basic needs of a child or family in a developing country.

“Christ has no body on earth but ours, no hands, but ours, no feet, but ours. Ours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ looks out upon the world. Ours are the feet with which He goes about doing good. Ours are the hands with which He blesses His people.” St. Teresa of Avila

Pillar 2 - 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*

The Corporal Works of Mercy in Real Life

*“You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give
the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in
heaven; then come, follow me.” Matthew 10:21-22*



Catholic Charities of Long Island: Provides food, housing, and social services to individuals and families in need across Long Island.

Website: www.catholiccharities.cc

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul:

Provides direct aid to individuals and families in need, including food, housing, and emergency assistance.

Website: www.svdp-li.org

The Life Center of Long Island: Offers crisis pregnancy services and assistance to low-income women and families. Website: www.lifecenterli.org

Bethany House (Hempstead): Offers shelter and services for homeless women and children. They accept donations of clothing, blankets, and other essential items to help those in need.

Website: www.bethanyhouseshelter.org

*A Christian who is living the mission of a disciple is one
who believes in Jesus, who knows Jesus, who can't live
without Jesus, and who wants to share with others the love,
peace, and joy that he has experienced as a result of
living in relationship with Jesus.*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - FAITH FORMATION

Lucy Ostermann, Director



Christmas Carols

For the children signed up for Christmas Caroling after the 5pm Mass on Saturday 12/21/2024, rehearsals Tuesdays -12/10, 12/17 5pm-6pm in the Church. Parents please be prompt in dropping off and picking up your child. FYI – sign up is closed



REMINDERS – UPCOMING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EVENTS

Christmas Pajama Mass - Sunday 12/15/2024 - 10:30am Mass Christmas Pajama Mass. All students are invited to attend this Mass dressed in their Christmas pajamas (children only). After Mass, all are invited to the cafeteria for a Gaudete Sunday celebration. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Christmas Carols - Saturday 12/21/2024 - 5pm Mass - Christmas Carols. All students are invited to attend this Mass. After Mass, approximately 35 children from grades 2-6 will sing Christmas Carols in the Church which will be beautifully decorated to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is a wonderful way to get into the spirit of Christmas.



**Christmas Vacation is from Monday 12/23/2024-Thursday 1/2/2025.
Classes will resume and the office will re-open on Monday 1/6/2025.**



Epiphany Sunday – Sunday 1/5/2025 - 12Noon Mass - Epiphany Sunday procession. All students are invited to attend this Mass. Students in grades 2 & 3 will participate in a procession leading the Three Kings to our Lord's Manger.



**Mrs. MacLeish/Mrs. Agnello
4th grade class using Formed
website to learn how to draw
an Advent wreath.**





First Grade Mass



Mrs. Parlato's Third Grade Class "Joy to the World"

Mrs. Ohlsen's Second Grade Class - Make Nativities





*"I am the
Immaculate
Conception."
Our Blessed
Mother to St.
Bernadette Soubirous
at Lourdes*

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**



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.



ST. RAYMOND'S HUMAN LIFE COMMITTEE

Before the chemical abortion pills, abortion procedures were done surgically. Abortion was sold as a "choice", a simple procedure that would solve the problem of an unplanned pregnancy. After having had the abortion, many would regret the "choice" they made but would not share their feelings with anyone. And so, they suffered the loss of their child - alone. Usually, it would take many years (10 - 20 years) for women to reach out for help for post-abortion recovery and healing. Presently the chemical abortion pills account for 67% of all abortions. According to Ester Garcia, a Rachel's Vineyard coordinator and leader of post-abortion retreats, "There has been an abrupt shift in which women are seeking healing within one year of their abortion." Many post-abortion ministries across the country have reported the timeline between the abortion and the reaching out for healing are shrinking. Today, this form of abortion is being sold this way: "With medication abortion, one of the advantages is being able to abort in the comfort of your own home." Oriak Njoku, Exec. Dir. of Nat'l Network of Abortion Funds), a talking point touted by Planned Parenthood. However, the effect on the woman having the abortion in her home, has led more women to seek abortion healing faster. Ester Garcia recalled that one woman who had a home abortion said that her home "feels like it's a cemetery." And still feels that way to her. Planned Parenthood touts the pills as "natural, like a miscarriage." If it's "like a miscarriage", should the woman be doing this in her home, alone, with no medical help? And to be truthful, it is not a miscarriage, it is an abortion, the deliberate taking of an innocent human being's life.

**Next Human Life Committee Meeting:
Thursday, December 19th, 7 pm - 8 pm,
Parish Social Office. All invited & needed.**

Ministry of Consolation



Offer the precious gift of your time, presence and sympathy to those who have lost a loved one.

Work one week a month with a team to assist families in preparing and celebrating the Funeral Mass for recently deceased loved ones.
If Interested Call Doreen Dolan 516-593-5000



**St. Raymond
CYO
Volleyball**



**Registration will be open
from December 1st till
December 30th
Registration is online at the
below website:
www.straymondscyo.com
Girls Grades 5-12**



**SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

FOUNDED IN 1833, THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL IS A WORLDWIDE ORGANIZATION OF LAY CATHOLICS, FOLLOWING CHRIST'S CALL TO SERVE THE POOR, THE SUFFERING, AND THE DEPRIVED. OUR FOUNDING ACTIVITY, STILL PRACTICED TODAY, IS THE HOME VISIT. THROUGH THESE VISITS, VINCENTIAN MEMBERS ESTABLISH PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED. WHERE RESOURCES ALLOW WE CAN PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED AND OR LEAD THEM TO OTHER RESOURCES WHERE THEY MAY BE ABLE TO OBTAIN THE HELP THEY REQUIRE.

ST. RAYMOND PARISH

HAS HAD AN ACTIVE CHAPTER (KNOWN AS A "CONFERENCE") OF THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOR DECADES AND INVITES ALL WHO WISH TO HELP NEIGHBORS IN NEED.

PLEASE CALL ED AT 887-9325

St. Raymond's Choir



Can you sing?

**Come be part of the
St. Raymond's Choir family!
Practice Wednesday Evenings
7:30-9:00pm in the Church
Mass with the Choir is
@10:30am on Sunday**



Do you like to sing?
Do you play piano, flute or guitar?
Check out...

St. Raymond Folk Group! We are back...



We rehearse Sundays at 10:30am

in the Rectory Lower Level

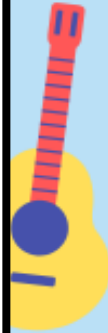
and sing at the 12 Noon

Sunday Mass

If interested please
call Ann Marie Lynch at

516-599-6836

7th Grade and higher
are Welcome!



Knights of Columbus Msgr. Walsh St. Raymond Council #7220

We are a group of Catholic gentlemen striving to be the best husbands, fathers and leaders we can by serving our parish and community. The Knights of Columbus guiding principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism, permeate in all we do. Through our programs, our Knights grow closer to their families, parishes and Christ.

You are called - Join today!
Visit kofc.org/joinus Use promo
code: Blessed McGivney



*Merry Christmas
from the Knights of Columbus*

Grand Knight - Tim Rowland
Email - tjdr360@gmail.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



FORMED

This week on **FORMED...**



Week 3

Explore the seasons of Advent and Christmas with other great videos, audiobooks, and talks by visiting our Advent & Christmas collection: <https://watch.formed.org/advent-and-christmas>



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

FORMED

LINK TO REGISTER... IT'S FREE!

Masses for this week

Monday, December 16th

7:15am Pedro A. Faustino, Jr.

8:45am Jack Butler

Tuesday, December 17th

7:15am Lorretta O'Connell

8:45am Margaret Slover (L)

Wednesday, December 18th

7:15am Mary Duggan

8:45am Albert Danza

Thursday, December 19th

7:15am William Brady

8:45am Arthur Gallagher

Friday, December 20th

7:15am Frank Beggs

8:45am Joseph Ingrao

Saturday, December 21st

8:45am Jeanne Healey, Anthony Scarcella

5:00pm Alice & Herb Mogensen

Sunday, December 22nd

Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30am John Carver

9:00am Joseph McCarthy

10:30am Joan Winiarski

12:00pm Christopher Racioppi, Cory Lindsey
Anthony, Joseph & Roseanne Pisano,
Thomas Haurican & Family,
PJ O'Rourke, Marie & Patricia Finken,
Carmella Stamile, Enrico Cabrera

4:30pm St. Raymond Parish

Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday

Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17

Wednesday

Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25

Thursday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25

Friday

Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday

Sg 2:8-14/Lk 1:39-45

Sunday

Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45



Please Pray for Our Sick

Baby Faith Madison

Mary Lynch

Fr. Don Hansen

Linda Dagostino

Karen Pagnotta

Colleen Popp

Jodi Neckles

Michael L.

Diane Minucci

Patrick Dunning

Philip Barone

Anthony Campanile

Baby Cooper Graham

Maureen Condiss

Timothy Murphy

Elizabeth Lacchini

Michael Malone

Noreen Concannon

Jose Colon

Nick S.

Patrick Malone

Eileen Schreiber

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



Rest in Peace

Anna M. Accomando



The Bread & Wine
For this week is in
loving memory of

Bob Murray

Love,

Cathy & Jim Rooney

Parish Bulletin Board



**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE
STRUGGLING WITH ALCOHOL
OR SUBSTANCE USE?**

DON'T DO IT ALONE. HELP IS HERE!

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

Communal Prayer Before Mass

Father in heaven, we wish to prepare well for participation in this Mass, in which we enter the Last Supper, Passion, Death and Resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ. He is as present to us today in his Word and in the Eucharist, as he was with his apostles. Holy

Spirit please quiet our minds from the busyness and distractions of our day, so that we will have hearts and minds attentive to the words of Jesus and ready to receive his

Body and Blood in Holy Communion.

Blessed Mother, take our hearts and give us yours, that like you, we may ponder Jesus' words and do whatever he tells us to do. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord,

Amen.

Advertising

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