

Masses

Saturday Eve 5:00PM
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 10:30AM,
12Noon and 4:30PM

Daily 7:15, 8:45 AM
Saturday 8:45 AM

Pastoral Team

Pastor

Father Chuck Romano

Associate Pastors

Father Benedict Kim
Father Joseph Rwamwenge

Deacons

Deacon Robert C. Campbell, OFS
Deacon Thomas Wm. Connolly, T.O Carm
Deacon Guy Donza, S.F.D.
Deacon Richard W. LaRossa
Deacon Thomas J. Malone Jr., T.S.A.

Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Lucy Ostermann

Business Manager

Christopher Grennen

Parish Staff

Music Ministry

Laura Garbitelli

Folk Group

AnnMarie Lynch

Plant Manager

Steve Bennett

Parish Secretary

Doreen Dolan

Bulletin Editor

Linda Ohlsen

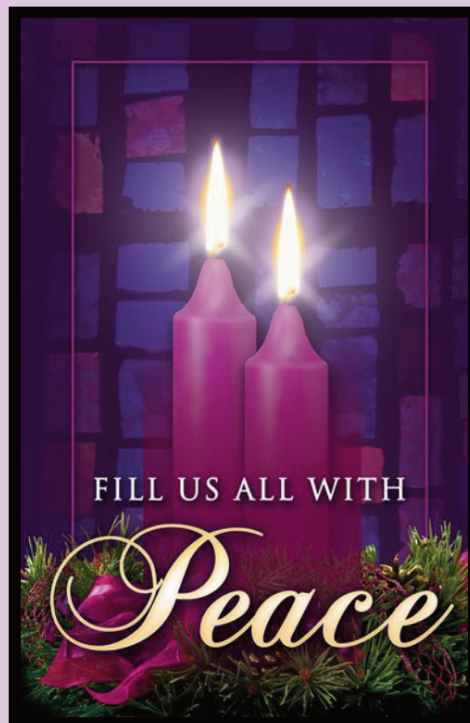
The Parish of St. Raymond

*A Eucharistic Community of
Faith, Love and Friendship*

Sunday, December 8, 2024

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000



“Prepare the
way of the Lord,
make straight
his path.”

-Luke 3:3

December 8, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

December 9, 2024

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

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 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 SECOND PURPLE CANDLE IS THE

"Candle of Peace."

DURING THIS SECOND WEEK OF
ADVENT, WE REFLECT ON OUR LIVES
AND ORIENT OURSELVES TOWARD
CHRIST'S COMING, PREPARING OUR
HEARTS TO RECEIVE HIM ANEW.

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 Second Sunday of Advent. We have a God who is never static, always on the move and Advent gives us a yearly reminder of this truth. We give thanks for this profound movement of God right into our very lives. The first reading from Baruch tells of how much God will be acting on behalf of the Israelites. **"The forest and every kind of tree have overshadowed Israel at God's command: for God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory, with his mercy and justice for company."** Then in the second reading Paul encourages the Philippians to keep growing in their relationship with Jesus. **"I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus."** And finally, Luke's gospel asserts the prophetic role of John the Baptist. He will be the last prophet, telling the people to get ready for the Messiah by repentance: **"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."**

The birth of Jesus is the greatest manifestation of and the proof that God isn't off somewhere far away. He has visited creation in other ways too since the dawn of time. He made himself known to Noah, Abraham and Moses as well as to many prophets down through the centuries. And he even made himself known to two simple people, namely Mary and Joseph, whose cooperation would help steer creation on a new course. We should never just simply remain sort of frozen waiting for God to come to us. Our readings today tell us we have a role to play in God's plan. We are called in faith to seek God in all things, while also removing any obstacles that might make it hard for God to come to us in the complete way he wants. So, while we spend this holy season anticipating our God once again breaking into our world, breaking into our hearts; let's make sure that we are getting rid of whatever might be in the way, whatever might make our encounters with God less than they can be, and certainly less than what God wants them to be. This is what repentance is all about. Get rid of those valleys and mountains, and while our loving God pursues us, let's also rush out to meet him. It might just become the life-changing encounter we've been waiting for.



Monday, December 9th is the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception** for this year. It is a Holy Day of Obligation for attending Mass. Please check the bulletin for the Mass schedule. The Sodality of Our Lady will pray the **Living Rosary** at 7pm before the 7:30pm Mass to which all are welcome. After the Mass there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 9:30pm in solidarity with the **Vigil for Life**. It will conclude with Benediction. All welcome.

Many of our parish Advent activities will be taking place at the end of this week. Next Sunday, December 15th is **Gaudete Sunday** when all the **Christmas Plants** are picked up during the special **Hospitality** hosted by the **Sodality of Our Lady**. If you haven't placed your Christmas Plant order yet, please do so by 5pm today, December 8th. Next Sunday is also when the **Christmas Cash 50/50** winning ticket will be pulled. This too will happen at the end of the Gaudete Sunday Hospitality. As a courtesy, chances will be available for purchase after all the Masses this weekend. Stop by the table either in the Altar Server Sacristy or church vestibule when you leave Mass. You can also use the order form found in the bulletin or simply stop by the rectory during regular office hours. However you do it, you have one week to get in on the chance to win some big money for Christmas. And finally, all the **Giving Tree** gifts should be brought back to the church by next Sunday, the 15th. Please place your wrapped present under the tree.

Please remember to take home a copy of the bulletin when you leave Mass today. It contains many items of interest and invitation, with something for everyone. Of special note is news and needs from **Parish Social Ministry**, info from **Religious Education** (Faith Formation), an order form for the **Special One Year Memorial Candles**, the **Eucharistic Revival Centerfold**, the **Communal Prayer Before Mass**, an invitation to join **FORMED** (your Catholic Faith on demand) and much more. To keep informed keep a copy of the bulletin at home each week for quick and easy reference.

Have a great Second Week of Advent! **Smile, share draw closer to God and remember: Look back and be grateful; look ahead and be hopeful; look around and be helpful.**

God bless always.

-Father Chuck

WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

DECEMBER 8, 2024-2ND 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 8, 2024-2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST READING

Bar 5:1-9

Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever: wrapped in the cloak of justice from God, bear on your head the mitre that displays the glory of the eternal name. For God will show all the earth your splendor: you will be named by God forever the peace of justice, the glory of God's worship. Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights; look to the east and see your children gathered from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God. Led away on foot by their enemies they left you: but God will bring them back to you borne aloft in glory as on royal thrones. For God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low, and that the age-old depths and gorges be filled to level ground, that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God. The forests and every fragrant kind of tree have overshadowed Israel at God's command; for God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory, with his mercy and justice for company.

SECOND READING

Phil 1:4-6, 8-11

Brothers and sisters: I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

ALLELUIA

Lk 3:4, 6

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the LORD brought back the captives of Zion, we were like men dreaming. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with rejoicing.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them." The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad indeed.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the torrents in the southern desert. Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Although they go forth weeping, carrying the seed to be sown, They shall come back rejoicing, carrying their sheaves.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

GOSPEL

Lk 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert. John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: *A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."*



JOY

Christmas Plant Sale

Once again, we are offering beautiful Christmas Plants for sale.

All items ordered will be available for payment & pickup on Sunday December 15th. in the School Cafeteria during our "Gaudete Sunday" celebration which will run from 8:30am till 2:00pm. Below is an order form. Simply fill it out and return to the rectory by Sunday, December 8th. You must have your order form to the rectory by 5pm that day. Remember, payment not required until pickup on Sunday December 15th.

Any questions please call the rectory at 516-593-5000.

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone # _____

<u>Christmas Wreaths</u>	12" - \$20 _____	Quantity		
<u>Grave Blankets</u>	24" - \$30 _____	Quantity	42" - \$40 _____	Quantity
<u>Poinsettias</u>	6" - \$12 _____	Quantity	8" - \$22 _____	Quantity
	Red/White/Pink (circle one)		Red/White/Pink (circle one)	
<u>Decorated Crosses</u>	24" - \$30 _____	Quantity		
<u>Decorated Candy Canes</u>	24" - \$30 _____	Quantity		
<u>Order Total:</u>	Number of Items _____	Total Cost \$	_____	



The Giving Tree

"It's that Wonderful Time of the Year"

The Giving Tree, sponsored by the Parish Social Ministry, will be set up on the weekend after Thanksgiving in St. Raymond's Church. If you would like to share a little Christmas cheer with someone in need, please take a card from the Giving Tree. The card will have a gift request from someone's "wish" list that they would like to receive for Christmas.

When you return your wrapped gift, please be sure to attach the card, which you removed from the tree, securely to the outside of the package.

Please deliver your gift back to the Giving Tree no later than Sunday, December 15th, to allow time for distribution of the gifts.

Thank you for your never-ending generosity and for making someone's Christmas a little brighter!

St. Raymond's Parish Social Ministry

The Ryan House

"The Heart of the Parish"

12 Roosevelt Avenue, Lynbrook, NY 11563

516-887-9197

"Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice."

Psalm 112:5



**FOOD PANTRY HOURS OF OPERATION
MONDAY THRU WEDNESDAY FROM
10AM TO 3PM**

(Suggested to call for an appointment)

'Tis the season for giving and the Parish Social Ministry would like to express their sincere thanks to several other community organizations who have recently held food drives for the benefit of our food pantry. The Waverly Park Elementary School, the Rhame Avenue Elementary School K-KIDS and the Lynbrook Kindergarten Centre all donated substantial collections of food to our pantry. We are very grateful for these donations which will help keep our shelves stocked to assist our clients.

During the month of November, the Parish Social Ministry assisted 99 households with food, personal care and household items and provided them with other services they needed. Also, during the month of November, 1 new client was welcomed into our Outreach Program and the client received food assistance and information on organizations that could assist them with other services, such as DSS, Catholic

Charities and St. Vincent de Paul.

Pantry items still needed: Cold Cereal, Mayonnaise, Sugar, Grape Jelly, Pancake Mix, Pancake Syrup, Pinto Beans, Bags of White Rice and Canned Meat.

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!

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 both the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph Statues in the front. These candles surround the base of each statue. There are 24 candles available for each 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 from the first Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2024 for the entire Church Liturgical Year. If you are interested in one of these candles for one of these statues, 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 if you so wish.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Pick one: Blessed Mother _____ St. Joseph _____

Name for the candle name plate (please print) _____



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.



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

35TH ANNUAL

"NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE"

DATE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

TIME: 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM

**Directly following the 7:30 pm Mass for
the Feast of the Immaculate Conception**

Parishes across the nation will be united in prayer on this evening to pray for an end to abortion and the establishment of a "Culture of Life". Sins against life have inflicted deep wounds upon individual lives and our country as a whole. It is through Our Blessed Mother that this revival will take place. Under the titles of the Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Blessed Virgin Mary must be invoked to shower the necessary graces to protect and to save our country from the "culture of death". In earlier times, the Aztec Nation read pictures (not writings). Our Lady of Guadalupe's picture on Juan Diego's tilma in 1531 told the people to abandon their evil gods, who demanded human sacrifice, and to embrace her Son. Today's culture has abandoned the innocent babies in the womb through abortion on demand. Please join with us in this "National Prayer for Life", asking Our Lady to intervene for us and that we may abandon the evil practice of abortion and lead us to her Son.

**During the second week of Advent,
please pray:**

**"That every Father of a preborn Child may
Lovingly Support the Mother of His Child
in Welcoming New Life."**

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



**The Rite
of Peace
Part 2**

Continuing from last week's bulletin, following the Our Father prayer and the Embolism, "There follows the Rite of Peace, by which the Church entreats peace and unity for herself and for the whole human family, and the faithful express to each other their ecclesial communion and mutual charity before communicating in the Sacrament." (The General Instruction for the Roman Missal, p. 82).

Peace As Preparation for Communion

Fr. Guy Oury, the author of *The Mass*, reflecting on the Rite of Peace in the Mass, says, "Through the sign of peace, we ask for peace and unity within the Church, and beyond its visible boundaries, for the whole human family. And since in our gatherings we are a cell of the Church, we express our mutual love before receiving together the one Bread that makes us one. These are the two components of the rite: a prayer for the peace and unity of the Church and an exchange of the sign of fraternal converse, if not with the whole world, at least with our nearest neighbors" (pp. 111–12). So, we aren't just making sure things are ok with people in our pew; we are also making a symbolic gesture of peace for the whole world! Next week, we'll take a look at some different ways to offer the Sign of Peace, and why this is not the time for "high fives" and making plans for later in the day!

Historical/liturgical note:
For those looking for more historical background on the placement of the Rite of Peace at this point in the Mass, as Fr. Guy Oury indicates, it was historically at various places in the Mass.



In his writings, St. Justin "places it immediately after the Universal Prayer (General Intercessions)... [S]uch also must have been the custom in Rome, from earliest times until about the fifth century. The Sermon on the Mount in St. Matthew says: 'If you bring your gift to the altar, and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift' (Mt 5:23–24). Given these words of Christ, the offertory seemed the perfect moment for the sign of peace. But there was called for a gesture, a rite, a concrete expression. The Sign of Peace was clearly indicated, and transfer was made to its present place. Evidence suggests that this was done in the early fifth century" (*The Mass*, p. 111).

For Reflection: Peace is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit which St. Paul lists in his Letter to the Galatians (5:22): "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness". The verse continues in Galatians 5:23, "gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law." Implore the Holy Spirit for this fruit in your own life and the grace and guidance to share this gift with others.

Next Week:
Exchanging the Sign of Peace



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



*“Prepare the way of the
Lord, make straight his
paths: all flesh shall see
the salvation of God.”*

Luke 3:4,6

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 Spiritual Work of Mercy of forgiving injuries
calls us to demonstrate compassion,
understanding, and forgiveness toward those who
have wronged or hurt us. Here are suggestions for
you to actively live out this mercy:

To Forgive Injuries:

- **Pray for the person who hurt you:** Say a prayer asking God to bless and heal the person who caused you harm, rather than harboring resentment. Ask God for the grace to forgive the person and help you heal from the injury.
- **Seek reconciliation:** When appropriate, make an effort to restore the relationship, either through dialogue or action, as a gesture of forgiveness.
- **Avoid speaking ill of the person:** Refrain from gossiping, slandering, or complaining about the person who has wronged you.
- **Ask for forgiveness for your own sins:** Recognize that your own need for God's mercy encourages you to extend mercy to others. If struggling with forgiveness, speak to a priest in confession about the difficulty in letting go of the offense.
- **Attend Mass and pray for forgiveness:** Participate in the Eucharist, seeking God's healing grace and asking for the strength to forgive.
- **Perform an act of charity:** Show forgiveness in a tangible way by offering help or support to the person who has wronged you.

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 Spiritual Works of Mercy in Real Life

These organizations offer various programs and
services designed to help individuals forgive
injuries and heal emotionally and spiritually. Many
of them offer counseling, retreats, and workshops
to support the Catholic community in living out
this important Spiritual Work of Mercy.

Long Island Metro Retrouvaille: Provides a path
for healing emotional wounds, including the ability
to forgive past hurts. It emphasizes the
importance of forgiveness as a critical element of
the restoration process.

Website: www.helpourmarriage.org

Montfort Spiritual Center (Bay Shore): Hosts
retreats and spiritual guidance to help individuals
work through emotional and spiritual struggles,
including forgiving injuries.

Website: www.montfortspiritualcenter.org

Catholic Charities of Long Island: provides
professional counseling services to families facing
emotional and relational difficulties. These
services focus on healing relationships and
offering practical solutions for families in conflict.

Website: www.catholiccharities.cc

PRAYER FOR THE GRACE TO FORGIVE

*Lord, I ask for Your grace to help me let go of the
bitterness in my heart. Grant me the strength to
forgive those who have wronged me, as You have
forgiven my sins. Help me to see others through
Your eyes, full of compassion and mercy. I pray
this in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to
forgive and to love one another. Amen.*

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.

Attention First Grade Parents/Catechists

The second First Grade Parent/Student meeting is scheduled for Sunday 12/8/2024 at 10:30am in the auditorium. Please remember to bring your child's workbook, folder, pencil and a snack for them to have between the end of class and the 12Noon Mass which all are to attend.

REMINDERS – UPCOMING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EVENTS

Breakfast with Santa - If you signed up to attend either of the Breakfast with Santa sessions (9am or 11:30am) scheduled for Saturday 12/14/2024, we look forward to seeing you there. This event is sold out.



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. Abuin's Thanksgiving Tree



Father Chuck & The Giving Tree



Mrs. Hughes' 3rd Grade



Mrs. Grennen's 2nd Grade

To Honor Our Blessed Mother...



**You are invited to join
the ladies of
The Sodality of Our Lady
For a Candlelight
Procession and
Living Rosary at
St. Raymond's Church
to celebrate the
Feast of the Immaculate
Conception Monday,
December 9, 2024
7:00 PM
Mass will follow at 7:30**

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass Schedule:

**Monday December 9, 2024:
7:15am, 8:45am, 12:15pm & 7:30pm**

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**



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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



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

Pastoral Council Members

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Julianne Grennen, Kimberly Moran,
Mary Murphy, Dave Ohlsen,
Linda Ohlsen, Secretary,
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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.



*One way we can give thanks
to God, is by serving others.
During this time of year,
there are many
opportunities for us to serve
others. Including making a
gift to this year's Catholic
Ministries Appeal.*

FORMED

This week on **FORMED...**



Week 2

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 9th

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 7:15am Rita Dombrowski
- 8:45am Edward & Eleanor Morrissey
- 12:15pm Rory Polley
- 7:00pm Living Rosary
- 7:30pm Heather McNamara

Tuesday, December 10th

- 7:15am Jane Murrell
- 8:45am Mary Loeffler

Wednesday, December 11th

- 7:15am Poor Souls in Purgatory
- 8:45am Loretta O'Connell

Thursday, December 12th

Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 7:15am Rory Polley
- 8:45am Anna L. Campbell

Friday, December 13th St. Lucy

- 7:15am Patrick Joseph Kelly
- 8:45am Hannah M. Sullivan

Saturday, December 14th

St. John of the Cross

- 8:45am Barbara Lenahan, John D'Esposito
- 5:00pm Diogenes B. Valerio

Sunday, December 15th

Third Sunday of Advent

- 7:30am Elizabeth Stewart
- 9:00am Joan Poretta
- 10:30am Sodality
- 12:00pm Joan Casey, John "Jack" Butler, Rory Polley, Anna Chibbaro, Herbert Howard, Anna Taffner, Kathleen Scire

4:30pm St. Raymond Parish

Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday

Gn 3:9-15, 20/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday

Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday

Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday

ZEC 2:14-17/LK 1:26-38

Friday

Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday

Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18



Please Pray for Our Sick

Baby Faith Madison	Anthony Campanile
Mary Lynch	Baby Cooper Graham
Fr. Don Hansen	Maureen Condiss
Linda Dagostino	Timothy Murphy
Karen Pagnotta	Elizabeth Lacchini
Colleen Popp	Michael Malone
Jodi Neckles	Noreen Concannon
Michael L.	Jose Colon
Diane Minucci	Nick S.
Patrick Dunning	Patrick Malone
Philip Barone	Eileen Schreiber

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



Rest in Peace
Eugene Ledwith
Ann M. Tallon



The Bread & Wine
For this week is in
loving memory of
Bob Murray
Love,
Cathy & Jim Rooney

Parish Bulletin Board



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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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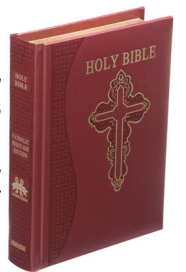
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