

Masses

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

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

Pastoral Team

Pastor
Father Chuck Romano

Associate Pastors
Father Vincent H. Buls
Father Theodore Iloh

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

**Pastoral Associate, Youth &
Parish Social Ministry**
Deacon Richard W. LaRossa

School Principal
Sr. Ruthanne Gypalo, I.H.M.

Director of Religious Education
Mrs. Evelyn Contaldi

Business Manager
Thomas J. Donovan

South Nassau Hospital Chaplain
Father Cornelius Dery

Parish Staff

Music Ministry **Folk Group**
Laura Garbitelli AnnMarie Lynch

Children's Choir
Patricia Mayle

Hand Bell Choir
Se-beng Koh

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 15, 2019

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

"Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he
will prepare your way before you."

-Matthew 11:10



Third Sunday of Advent

Gaudete Sunday

December 15, 2019

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-5pm;
Saturdays from 9:30am-1pm.

Web Site: www.SaintRaymonds.org

E-Mail: StRayRcc@optonline.net

Rectory.....593-5000

Rectory Fax.....887-0554

Parish Social Ministry.....887-9197

Office Hours are Monday-Thursday from 10am-2pm.

Parish Social Ministry Fax.....593-6278

St. Raymond School.....593-9010

St. Raymond School Fax.....593-0986

Religious Education Office.....593-9075

Religious Education Office Fax593-1156

Pastoral Care Of The Sick

Holy Communion—Available to the homebound;
call the rectory to schedule an appointment.

Devotions

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursdays from 1-4pm in Our Lady's Chapel.

Nocturnal Adoration

First Fridays from 8-9pm.

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

Children's Choir: Sings at the 9am Mass on the 3rd
Sunday of the month from September—June; practice on
Tuesdays at 5pm in the school auditorium.

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.

Hand Bell Choir: Plays at the 5pm Mass on the last
Saturday of the month from September— June; practice
on Tuesdays at 7:30pm in the church.

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 Deacon Rich LaRossa.

This Week in Our Parish

Monday, December 16th

1-2:30pm Human Life Committee

3:30-4:30pm Christmas DVD

7:30 Sodality "Christmas Social"

MWMR

Auditorium

Cafeteria

Tuesday, December 17th

10:00am Prayer Service

6:00pm Christmas Carol

7:30pm Charismatic Prayer Group

7:30-9pm Handbell Choir

O.L. Chapel

Cafeteria

MWMR

Church

Wednesday, December 18th

9:00am Art Club

7:30pm Choir

7:30pm Prayer Service

MWMR

Church

O.L. Chapel

Thursday, December 19th

9:30am Bible Sharing

3:30-4:30pm Christmas DVD

MWMR

Auditorium

Friday, December 20th

7:30-10pm Boy Scouts

Gym

Saturday, December 21st

3:30pm Confessions

Church



Always keep our Service Men & Women in your prayers ...



SPC Frank Candreva, ARMY
PFC Giuseppina Coppola, ARMY
Capt. Kathryn M. Costello, U.S.M.C.
Recruit Joseph R. Diltz, USMC
Lance Corporal Sean M. Donohue, U.S.M.C.
Pvt. Brian Efferen, U.S.M.C.
Sgt. John David Efferen, U.S.M.C.
Corporal Daniel J. Ferrato, U.S.M.C.
Lt. Commander Joseph Garbitelli, U. S. Navy
Michael Gondek, National Guard
SPC John C. Hayes, U.S. ARMY
Lance Corporal Dylan J. Hickam, U.S.M.C.
Lt. Col. Mary P. King, M.D., U.S. ARMY
PFC Brian Lantz, U.S. ARMY
Lt. jg Joseph Leahy, U.S.N.
Capt. Joseph McQuade, U.S.N.
Lt. Jake Murphy, U.S.ARM
Capt. Brian Peterson, U.S.A.F.
Capt. Graham A. Perry, U.S.M.C.
1st Lt. Roy Ragusa, Jr., U.S. ARMY
Capt. Kimberly Russo, National Guard
Lt. Kevin Reilly, U.S. ARMY
Lt. Cmdr. Andrew Schimenti
Lt. Justin Winter

Please remember to pray for our wounded soldiers.

Father Chuck's Corner

Greetings and God's blessings be yours on the Third Sunday of Advent, also known as "Gaudete Sunday!" The theme of "joy" should now guide all our preparations for Christmas. By immersing ourselves in the rituals of the season our faith can shine forth brightly. In the first reading from Isaiah, the prophet contrasts the harsh land of the desert with the lushness of the gardens that God's salvation will bring. And this transformation will not only be of the earth but also for humanity. ***"Those whom the Lord has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee."*** Then in the second reading James is urging his readers to be patient and ready, for the Lord will be coming again. ***"Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand."*** And finally, Matthew's gospel draws the tension and distinctions between Jesus and John the Baptist. John understands his mission is to ***"prepare the way of the Lord"*** yet he wonders if Jesus is the true Messiah. Jesus' answer is a description of his actions. He is hoping that John can link the description of the messianic age and Jesus' mission in fulfilling it. Jesus also wants to clarify the importance of John the Baptist. He is no mere celebrity prophet impressing the rich and famous. He is the real thing, a prophet proclaiming the word of God. ***"Amen, I say to you, among those born of women, there is none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."***

Advent is always about "ready" and "not yet." We know that Jesus has been born into our world already, but we sense deep in our being that the reign of God is not yet shining with the glory and splendor that we long for in our lives. Over the years, our vision may have dimmed a bit, and we have trouble seeing what perhaps we saw more clearly as children; that with the birth of Christ into our world, with Christmas, things are meant to be different. We are called to see, to hear and to leap with joy at the coming of the Messiah, even as we are also called to proclaim good news to the poor and raise to new life those dead to the reality of what love can do for all of us when it is shared with others as God shares his life and love with us.

The reign of God was indeed at hand as John's followers returned to him with good news. John must have rejoiced that he had prepared the way for God's coming into his world. ***The question is: are we preparing the way for God to come into our world?"***

Of all the holiday meals of the season, none is as simple as the one we share around the table of the Eucharist. In its very simplicity, this meal challenges us always to see with a clarity born of faith, which is the greatest gift and greatest reality of all. God has loved us so much that he came once to be one of us and he comes again and again to be with us every time we gather for Mass.

Today our parish celebrates ***Gaudete Sunday*** with a festive ***Hospitality Sunday*** sponsored by the Sodality of Our Lady. It begins in the school cafeteria immediately following the 9am Family Mass and continues till after the 12noon Mass. ***All Christmas Plant orders should be picked up at this time in the cafeteria.*** Also, the winner for our special Christmas Cash 50/50 will be pulled at the end of Hospitality today. You can still purchase chances right up to the drawing. So, come by for some refreshments and friendship; pick up your Christmas Plants and make sure you're in it for the Christmas Cash 50/50. ***Then in the evening, our Adult Choir will present its annual Lessons and Carols starting at 7:30pm in our church.*** Through scripture and song, the Christmas story is presented in a way that truly enhances our Advent spirituality. Come and bring a friend.

On Tuesday, December 17th, we will celebrate an ***Advent Penance Service*** (with Confessions) starting at 7:30pm in the church. It will be the ***"No Questions Asked"*** format that we have used in the past. Take advantage of this important way to spiritually prepare for the Christmas season. Again, come and bring a friend.

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*** and the ***Principal's Corner*** of St. Raymond School, the ***Schedule of Christmas and New Year's Day Masses*** plus the additional times for Confession, the envelopes for the ***Christmas Masses of Remembrance, an invitation to 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! ***Smile, share and remember: Each of us is an innkeeper who decides if there is room for Jesus.*** God bless always.

-Father Chuck



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 **Sunday, December 22nd**. Thank you, **Father Chuck**



An evening of reflection and prayer
on the coming of
Jesus from the perspectives of Matthew,
Mark, Luke and John.
Presented by Fr. Bret Stockdale, S.J.
Sundays December 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd
6:00pm-7:30pm
Tabor House-St. Anthony's
60 Anchor Ave Oceanside, NY
Community Room and Chapel
RSVP to Karen: ksuero@jesuits.org
516-675-4012

HOPE
LOVE

ADVENT

JOY
PEACE



Gaudete Sunday



Sunday, December 15th, the Third Sunday of Advent, takes the name "Gaudete Sunday" to emphasize that having reached the halfway point of Advent it is the time to focus on "rejoicing." As part of our parish rejoicing for Gaudete Sunday, we will have a special Gaudete Hospitality throughout the day from **10:00am until 2:00pm** in the School Cafeteria.

There will be refreshments, carols, the picking up of Christmas Plant Orders, the pulling of the winning Christmas Cash ticket at 2:00pm and other "Gaudete Surprises." So make plans to stop by after Mass to get in the spirit of Advent Rejoicing that will lead to Christmas Joy!

Blessing the Crèche

The blessing of our outdoor creche will take place immediately following the 9:00am Family Mass on **Sunday December 15th**. Be sure to stop by the school cafeteria for the Gaudete celebration afterwards! Bring the whole family!

O Come, O Come,
Emmanuel!



"No Questions Asked"
Advent Penance Service
With Confessions

Tuesday, December 17th, 7:30pm
St. Raymond Church



A gentle way to come back
To this healing sacrament.



An Evening of
Lessons & Carols
Presented by...
St. Raymond's Choir
Celebrate the Miracle!
Sunday, December 15th; 7:00pm
St. Raymond Church
Laura Garbitelli, Director
Eric Williams, Organist

Christmas 2019

(Note additional Masses and time changes)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

(confessions)

Saturdays, December 14th and 21st

3:30 till 4:30 in the Church

Tuesday, December 17th

7:30pm Communal Penance Service
in the Church

Thursday, December 19th

and Friday the 20th

Confessions in the Church

4:30-5:30pm

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24th

5:00pm

8:00pm (Folk Group)

10:30 pm (Choir Carol Service)

11:00pm (mass ending at Midnight)

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25th

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

(No Evening Mass on Christmas Day)

Solemnity of Mary

New Year's Eve

Tuesday, December 31st

5:00pm and 7:30pm

New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

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

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS
January 2020 through March 2020
Register Online WWW.DRVC-FAITH.ORG

RCIA Level I

Our Lady of Grace, West Babylon

Wednesday, January 15 22, 29
and February 19, 2020
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Or

St Martin of Tours, Bethpage

Thursdays, January 16, 23, 30,
February 6, and 13, 2020
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Ministry of Consolation Level I

St. Aidan, Williston Park

Wednesdays, January 22, 29;
February 5, and 12, 2020
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Building Intercultural Competences
in Ministry**

St. Frances Cabrini, Coram

Thursdays, February 6, 13, 27;
March 12, and 19, 2020
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Or

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, Roosevelt

Mondays, February 10, 24;
March 2, 9, and 16, 2020
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Catechist Training Level II

St. James, Setauket

Tuesdays, March 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2020
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Bereavement Conference

St. Frances de Chantal, Wantagh

Saturday, March 21, 2020
8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Bereavement Ministry Facilitator Training
Level I & II**

St. Mary's, East Islip

Saturday, March 28; April 4, 18, 25;
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; and June 6, 2020
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

WITH GOD ALL
THINGS ARE
POSSIBLE



Mount
Sinai
South
Nassau

WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR HELP

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO CROCHET
RED WHITE AND BLUE LAP SIZED (36 x 48) BLANKETS
FOR OUR PATIENTS WHO ARE VETERANS

Please drop off all donations to Mount Sinai South Nassau Hospital, Volunteer Office
Monday through Friday Only
516-632-3928



**The St. Raymond
Adult Choir**

Invites you to sing in God's house!



"He who sings, prays twice!" St. Augustine

**Come and join us as we sing and pray
together during the 10:30am Mass on
Sundays!**

No Audition Required!

**Choir rehearsals are held every
Wednesday from 7:30-9:30pm in the
Church Choir Loft.**

***Why not come to a choir rehearsal
and see what we are about?***

**For more information, call Choir
Director, Laura Garbitelli at**

516-593-7345

BEST
Advent
EVER

AMAZING POSSIBILITIES

Because a Great Christmas Begins
with an **Incredible Advent**



*We're passionate about re-energizing the
Catholic Church in America and inspiring people
to rediscover the genius of Catholicism.*

Are You Ready to Get Ready?

**SO... WHAT IS BEST
ADVENT EVER?**

**It's a totally free and totally
awesome daily video
program (sent straight to
your email) that will help you
prepare for Christmas like
never before!**

***SIGN UP AT [https://
dynamiccatholic.com](https://dynamiccatholic.com)***



The Three MMMs

Missals- The Season of Advent signals the change of missals for the new liturgical year. Our book, entitled ***Breaking Bread*** which is ***one book containing the hymnal and readings for the entire year.*** In addition, all of the missals are enclosed in new and old blue hard covers. This new book in its binder makes an attractive and effective worship aid. ***Now I appeal for your help in keeping them in good condition. Please do not separate the book from the binder or take them from the pews.*** It seems that as time goes by, we begin missing a number of them. We have just the right amount to fill our worship needs. ***Also, please do not give them to young children for coloring or pacifying purposes.*** The pages are delicate and easily torn. ***When finished always close the binder and place upright in the pew rack.*** With your help their durability and quality will be maintained for the entire liturgical season, plus a neat appearance maintained in the congregation areas of our church worship space.

Munchies- You would be surprised at the amount of food that is left in the pew book racks and on the floors of the church. ***Crumbs are everywhere, food and candy wrappings are strewn all over and gum is often left stuck to the wood of the pews.*** I know that munchies have become necessary to occupy young children at Mass and we certainly want the children at Mass. However, it would be most helpful if some alternative behavior control could be utilized, especially when there are many not so young children with snack food at Mass. ***I ask that if you must have munchies for your children, please help by cleaning up after them.***

Messiness- Each weekend we try to have the church looking good for the Sunday Masses. There is a dedicated crew of workers and volunteers who spend time each week making sure that our church is clean and attractive to be a fitting place to celebrate Mass. Many people come to our church from Saturday morning through Sunday night. They come for one of our six regular Sunday Masses, Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals and other services. ***As the weekend events accumulate so does the general messiness of both places.*** Bulletins are strewn about, the blue booklets are haphazardly left about, and all sorts of litter is found in the pews, on the floor and especially in the book racks. The ushers, sacristans, ministers and others, like me, try to keep on top of things as we move along, but still it gets messy. ***If everyone would just be attentive to the space, you use and what you see around you I am sure that we can eliminate a lot of the messiness.***

I mention these ***Three MMMs*** as we start our new Church Year of Advent. Our church has been cared for so that we start everything in a good, clean and attractive order. ***Let's all do our fair share to keep our church as a beautiful place of prayer.*** A little more concern and care is all we need. Thanks for taking the time to read this notice and for your help in carrying out its message.

-Father Chuck

Healing Mass



Father Augustine Fernando
presiding

Tuesday, December 17th
7:30pm

Rosary at 7:00pm

Sponsored by

St. Anastasia's Church

45-14 245th St.

Douglaston, Little Neck NY

Music by Al Barbarino

Advent Prayer

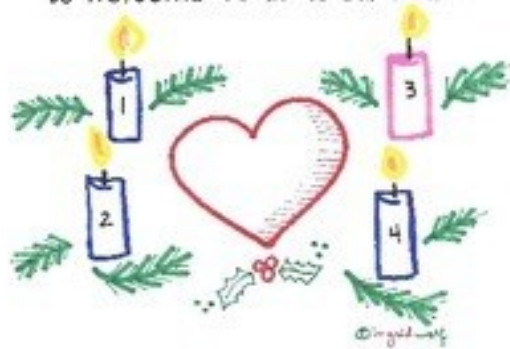
4, 3, 2, 1... Count the weeks
til Jesus comes.



Each week we add another light.

Our hope for Jesus growing bright.

We pray, we share, we do our part...
to welcome Jesus to our heart!



**Jesus is waiting to go
to the homes
of those who cannot
come to His.**

If you know anyone in our parish
who would
like to receive the Eucharist at home,
please
call the rectory at 593-5000.

God is



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. (*St. Raymond has already received donations from the Associated Vincentian Charities!*) Your donation is tax deductible and will be towed away at no charge. The vehicle does not have to be operating.

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

718-491-2525

Or email: svdpauto@gmail.com

For details: svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org



amazonsmile

St. Raymond School is
a participating charity in
the Amazon Smile
program. Every time

that you make an eligible purchase at smile.amazon.com
and choose St. Raymond School, East Rockaway, NY as
your charity, St. Raymond's will receive 0.5% of the
purchase price **at no additional cost to you!**

Please make all of your purchases through Amazon Smile
rather than Amazon.com and choose St. Raymond
School, East Rockaway, NY as your charity. (Please note
that there are several St. Raymond's listed. Be sure to
choose the one that says "East Rockaway, NY" to ensure
that our School benefits from your purchase.) It is a fast,
easy and free way to provide much needed financial
support to our School.

As always, we thank you for your generous support!

Principal's Corner

Sister Ruthanne

We hear in the Responsorial Psalm for today the cry, "Lord, come and save us." Then in the second reading from the Letter of Saint James we are told to "Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord." Patience is a virtue we all need to practice - especially as we wait for the Lord to come to us. The signs are hopeful as we celebrate Gaudete Sunday. The birthday of our Lord is right around the corner. Be ready!

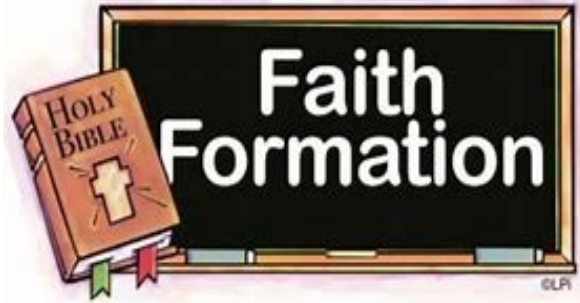
Does it seem possible that this is the last week of school for 2019? Because Christmas falls on a Wednesday this year, the school will be closed for two weeks after this Friday. It's a great vacation time for the children (not sure how some of the adults feel). So, we have a full week of school with even more holiday events planned. Here's the day by day:

- Monday: Grades 2 & 3 to morning mass; Baked ziti at lunch
- Tuesday: Grade 8 to mass; Enterprise for 3 and 4; Pizza; Spirit Basketball with Long Beach Catholic at 3:30 and 4:45 PM; School Christmas Caroling at 6:30 PM (weather permitting - meet in the cafeteria); Parish Penance Service at 7:30pm in the Church
- Wednesday: Kindergarten and Grade 1 to morning mass; Band lessons (No FULL BAND in the morning); Enterprise for 5 and 6; Deli sandwiches; Spanish Scrabble after school
- Thursday: Grades 6 & 7 to morning mass; "Toastmasters" Oratorical Contest at 10am; Bagel day; Spirit Boys' Basketball at St. Rose at 4:15pm
- Friday: School Mass at 8:45am; Hot pretzels at lunch; Christmas break begins at dismissal at the end of the day

If you would be interested in joining the school for Christmas caroling on Tuesday evening, please join us in the cafeteria by 6:30pm. We're actually scheduled to sing in the lobby of the nursing home at 6:45 so that will be our first stop this year. From there the group will travel around the immediate area (trust me - not too far, especially if the weather isn't being too cooperative!) to bring a little holiday spirit. Our Parents' Club will welcome us back to the school for cookies and hot chocolate at the end of our serenading. All are welcome.

Thanks to all those folks who supported all of our activities this last month. We truly appreciate your kindness and help.

Enjoy this Third Week of Advent. Pray and practice patience, for we know not the day nor the time when the Lord will come again.



Religious Education — Faith Formation

Evelyn Contaldi, Director

THERE WILL BE NO RELIGION CLASSES AND THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DURING THE WEEKS OF DECEMBER 23RD, 2019 AND DECEMBER 30TH, 2019. CLASSES WILL RESUME AND THE OFFICE WILL RE-OPEN ON MONDAY, JANUARY 5TH, 2020.

Christmas Pageant

Our annual Christmas Pageant was a success thanks to our students who participated in both the choir and play portion of the pageant. Congratulations to one and all for a wonderful evening!!!! A special thanks to the parents of these children for their cooperation in permitting their children to be part of the pageant. These days our students are involved in so many after-school activities and we appreciate that the parents were willing to add on one more commitment to both theirs and their child's schedule. However, I would say that after seeing the pageant, they know it was well-worth it because this pageant tells the true meaning of the season, the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, as depicted through the eyes of a child!!

There are not enough thanks or words to express the gratitude and appreciation felt for the women who conducted the choir, helped with costumes and assisted us in managing the players for the pageant - Mrs. Donna Delia, Mrs. Theresa DiGirolamo, Mrs. Lynn Ferguson, Mrs. Julianne Grennen and Mrs. Donna Viemeister. These ladies have been involved in the production of this pageant from the beginning. It is a lot of hard work, commitment and dedication - and yet, they continue to come back year after year with the same amount of enthusiasm and passion as they did the very first time we put on this production - 25+ years ago!! May they always know how much they are appreciated and valued by their parish community - may they always know how much they are loved and cherished by the Religious Education staff.





Stewardship

A Way of Life

Living Stewardship

"Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not!" As we get closer to the day when Our Lord came to us as a child, let us continue to preach the Good News to others. Winter and the Christmas season may not always be a time of joy for all people (winter blues, grief over the loss of a loved one); let us bring to them the light of Christ.

Sacrificial Giving

December 8, 2019: \$18,297

December 7, 2018: \$16,428



Parish Social Ministry

The Heart of the Parish

We wish to thank all our benefactors for your support and for all you do throughout the year. You have made a difference in the lives of numerous people and have put a smile on the faces of many this Christmas. God bless you.

O people of Sion, behold,
The Lord will come to save the
nations, and the Lord will make the
glory of his voice
heard in the joy of your heart.
Isaiah 30:19,30



St. Raymond Human Life Committee

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PRAYER PROGRAM SIX MONTH DEVELOPING BABY

Although your spiritually adopted baby is growing rapidly, your baby's organs are still developing. His or her skin is bright pink, covered with a heavy protective creamy ointment "vernix". His or her eyelids separate, eyelashes form and the eyes are partially opened. The baby's weight is about two pounds. Any baby born at this time has a very good chance of surviving. Today, medical advances in caring for extremely small newborn infants are extraordinary. About nine out of ten babies will now survive with intensive care services. As this spiritually adopted child is being formed by our loving God, please continue to be faithful in your prayers for him or her, so that his or her mother will choose life for her little one. As you know, because of the law, the fathers are legally prohibited from protecting their baby from being killed through abortion. The woman's "right" supersedes, not only the baby's right to life, but the father's right to protect his child. Remember, the taking of the innocent baby's life in the womb through abortion is legal in America, up to and including the moment of birth. Recently, some elected officials even have stated that if a baby does survive the abortion, that is the baby has been born alive, then it is up to the mother and the doctor (the abortionist) to decide what should be done with the baby. In fact, our own Congresswoman, Kathleen Rice, recently wrote one of our members, "Legislation like the "Born-Alive Protection Act (HR. 962)" harm a woman's right to choose and criminalizes doctors, nurses, and other health care practitioners for personal medical decisions. I do not support H.R. 962, and would not vote for it or any other bill that places unnecessary restrictions on women and their doctors." The H.R. 962 would make it mandatory for the doctor to give to the infant that survived an abortion the same medical care that any baby just born would receive. What Cong. Rice fails to address is "the harm" that would be perpetrated on the live baby who survives the abortion, if the mother and the abortionist decide to complete what the abortion was to originally accomplish, the termination (death) of the baby. And what method would the doctor (the abortionist) use to cause the death of the baby?

Please join us at our next meeting:

**Monday, December 16th, 1:00-2:30pm,
lower level of the rectory, Msgr. Walsh room.
All invited and all needed to be a voice for
the babies in the womb.**

*"If we accept that a
mother can kill even
her own child, how
can we
tell other
people
not to kill
one another?"*

~ Mother Teresa



ENHANCED OFFERTORY PROGRAM

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Who will be asked to support this appeal?

We plan to ask each member of our parish family to consider making a sacrificial increase in their regular support for our parish. We hope each parishioner will play a conscientious role in shaping the future of our parish.

By how much should I increase my offering?

Only you can decide what is appropriate for you and your family. A lasting and meaningful increase by all of the faithful of our parish will make a tremendous impact.

What if I miss Mass and am unable to bring my offering?

The church depends upon the consistent, regular offerings of all its members. If you are unable to attend Mass, it would be very helpful if you could "make-up" your offering at the next Mass that you are able to attend.

What if I cannot increase my offering at this time?

While it is our hope that this appeal will have a significant, positive impact on our offertory, I am particularly interested in hearing from 100% of our parish. Not everyone is in a position to increase their support. However, everyone can respond to the appeal. Perhaps there is something that we can do to assist you and your family. I ask everyone to pray for the success of this appeal.

When should I start contributing at my new level?

Please start contributing at your new level immediately. Please try and maintain this new amount as your regular giving level each time you make an offering.

Is Automated/Electronic Giving available for our offering?

Yes. We offer Automated/Electronic Giving (ACH) for those who like to pay their regular bills (mortgage, car payments, etc.) in this manner. Please check the appropriate box on the Intention Card this weekend.

GUIDELINE TO GIVING

Find your present weekly giving level and, if possible, consider giving the suggested amount. A forward step by all who can will make a significant difference.

Present Weekly Giving Level	Suggested New Giving Level
\$1.00	\$2.00 to \$3.00
\$2.00	\$4.00 to \$5.00
\$3.00	\$6.00 to \$8.00
\$4.00	\$7.00 to \$9.00
\$5.00	\$8.00 to \$10.00
\$7.00	\$11.00 to \$14.00
\$10.00	\$14.00 to \$17.00
\$15.00	\$20.00 to \$25.00
\$20.00	\$27.00 to \$32.00
\$25.00	\$32.00 to \$39.00
\$30.00	\$37.00 to \$44.00
\$35.00	\$42.00 to \$49.00
\$40.00	\$47.00 to \$54.00
\$45.00	\$52.00 to \$59.00
\$50.00	\$57.00 to \$64.00
\$55.00	\$62.00 to \$69.00
\$60.00	\$67.00 to \$74.00
\$65.00	\$72.00 to \$79.00
\$70.00	\$77.00 to \$84.00
\$75.00	\$82.00 to \$89.00
\$80.00	\$87.00 to \$94.00
\$85.00	\$92.00 to \$99.00
\$90.00	\$97.00 to \$104.00
\$95.00	\$102.00 to \$109.00
\$100.00	\$110.00 to \$115.00

What Our Lord Asks Is

Not Equal Gifts — But Equal Sacrifice

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

I come to You in Thanksgiving, knowing that all that I am and all that I have are gifts from you. Teach me to be generous as You have been generous with me. I offer to You this day all the facets of my life, whether at home, at work or at school—to be patient, to be merciful, to be generous and to be holy.

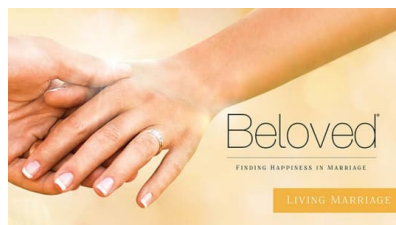
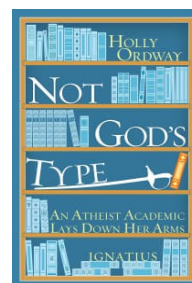
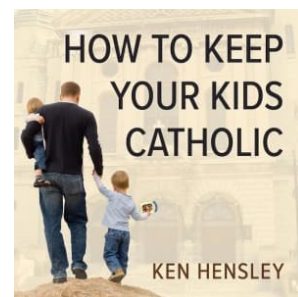
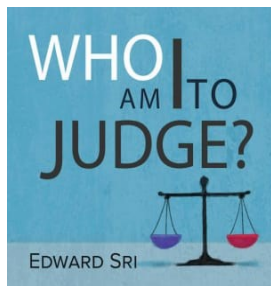
Keep me mindful that as Your disciple, I am called through the Holy Spirit, to be an instrument of *dramatic missionary growth*, radically faithful to participation in the Sunday Mass, deeply devoted to the presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist, and courageous in living the truths of our Faith and sharing the "Good News" with the world.

Make us One Family in Mission so that together, we may ignite our Church with the joy of the Gospel. Amen.

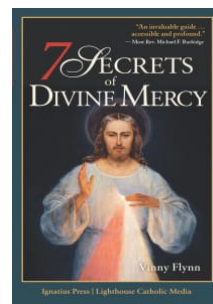


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*"Sodality is a women's organization devoted in prayer
 and service to the Blessed Mother.*

*The membership is active in many ways
 doing what we call "Mary's Work", helping those
 in need in any way we can."*

"Annual Christmas Social"

December Meeting

Monday, December 16th Time: 7:30

Place: St. Raymond's Cafeteria

**Please join us and bring a friend as we are
 always looking for and happy to welcome new members.**

DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE

WHERE: St. Raymond School Cafeteria

WHEN: Saturday-January 11, 2020

9:00 am to 3:30 pm

COST: \$50.00

Please call Rose Giglio at the
 school office 593-9010 to
 reserve your seat for this
 defensive
 driving course.



Come check out our wonderful paintings...



***St. Raymond's Art
 Club Show***

Rockville Centre Library

221 N. Village Avenue

Basement Meeting Rooms

Months of November & December



The Rose for Life Program

The Rose for Life program began here at St. Raymond on Mother's Day, May 12, 1985. A rose is placed on the Offertory Table at the 5:00pm Mass and is presented to the priest at the Offertory. The rose symbolizes the life of a preborn baby who dies from abortion. It remains at the tabernacle for the coming week.

The main purpose of the rose is to remind each one of us to pray for the babies who are in danger of abortion. Prayer is one of the most important ways to stop abortion. The rose also serves a special remembrance of the life of our loved ones, in whose name the rose is dedicated each week.

For dedications, please call Mary Healy at 887-4062.



Masses for this Week

Monday, December 16th

7:15am Claire Kane

8:45am Daniel Pignataro

Tuesday, December 17th

7:15am Dorothy Sullivan

8:45am Loretta & Edward O'Connell

Wednesday, December 18th

7:15am Mary W. Duggan

8:45am Betty Vance

Thursday, December 19th

7:15am William Lods

8:45am Peggy Conepo

Friday, December 20th

7:15am George O'Kane

8:45am Joseph Ingrao

Saturday, December 21st

8:45am Tom Handley

5:00pm Anne Mazza

Sunday, December 22nd

7:30am Daniel Pignataro

9:00am Thomas Hourican

10:30am Peter J. Tauckus

12:00pm George Higgins, Peg & Jim Mahoney
Anthony Zollo, Susan Burke
Barbara Barth Feldman, Denis Motherway

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

Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Please Pray for Our Sick

Bridget Feminella, Dickie Ohlsen, James Ryder,
Margaret Mary Bardato, Helen Skelos, Lydia Dengel, Thomas
Botkin, Jack Dempsey, Bill Saar, Jane Fitzpatrick, Olivia Bonino,
Alyssa B., Anthony B.

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



Rest in Peace

Joseph F. D'Amico, Jr.

Thomas Crowe

Margaret Ann Henshaw



The Bread & Wine

For this week in

Christopher Scott

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Lynbrook Fire Dept. Vulcan Company



The Sanctuary Light

For this week in Loving Memory of

Josephine, William & Thomas Huhn

All Our Love Always,
Dorothy & Ed Block & Family



The Rose for Life

For this week is in Memory of

Patrick & Kathleen Duggan

For Dedications call Mary Healy at 887-4062

Pastoral Council

Live in the world as if only God and your soul
were in it; then your heart will never be made
captive by any earthly thing.

-St. John of the Cross

Pastoral Council Members

Jean Chojnacki, Monica Collins, Vice Chairperson;
Jeanne LaSala, Patricia Mayle, Chairperson;
Patriacia McCormack, Secretary; Mary Carmell Murphy;
Liz Tortorella; Father Chuck Romano

Parish Bulletin Board

Supervised, Meaningful Caregiver Support Group of Long Standing

Wednesday's from 3:50 to 4:50 at SNCH Health Counseling Center.

2277 Grand Ave Baldwin NY 11510.

We create a comfortable and caring environment where ideas are shared and strategies are suggested to provide resources to reduce caregiver stress. Please join us. For information contact Mental Health Center at 516-377-5400

TOMORROW'S HOPE FOUNDATION

The mission of Tomorrow's Hope Foundation is to ensure the excellence as well as the continuance of Catholic Schools on Long Island by increasing awareness and by providing scholarship and program funding for the needs of students and schools.

If you are interested in knowing more, please contact Val Seitz at 516-745-7611 or vseitz@thfny.com

Reclaim

A science-based Catholic program for overcoming addiction to pornography and other unhealthy sexual behaviors.

For info, visit www.reclaimsexualhealth.com

End of Life Decision Making

Catholic teaching on end of life decisions; nutrition and hydration; palliative and hospice care; assisted suicide, euthanasia; healthcare proxies and living wills.

For info, visit www.catholicendoflife.org.

Position Available—Homeworker

Catholic Health Services of Long Island Helping Hands addresses the needs of the frail, elderly, or disabled in the RVC community by providing non-medical in-home support services. Looking for kind and compassionate companions. Good verbal communication skills and a warm, friendly demeanor. Prior housekeeping experience preferred. Candidates may apply online or email us at hr@chsli.org. <https://jobs.chsli.org/job/rockville-centre/home-worker-helping-hands-grant-program/247/13957347> Excellent benefits!

Help the Poor in Appalachia

The emergency food pantry at St. Stephen's Catholic Church in Cumberland, Kentucky distributes collected food, groceries and sanitary products to over 400 families in need every month. They need help to keep going. Please consider supporting the food pantry by sending a donation, large or small, to:

St. Stephen Catholic Church
304 Central St.

Cumberland, KY 40823

Att: Father Mani George Thellikalayil
Volunteer missionaries are welcome,
call Father Mani at 609-589-5616

May God forever bless you!

AA Meeting

Monday Nights; 7:00pm

VFW Post 3350 164 Main St., East Rockaway

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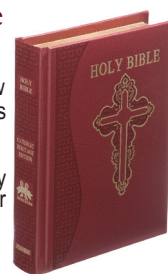
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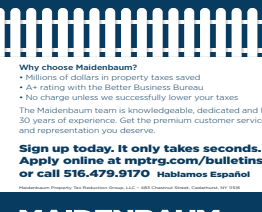
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