

## 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 Vincent H. Bulus  
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., T.S.A.

**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 (RIP)

**South Nassau Hospital Chaplain**  
Father Cornelius Dery

## Parish Staff

**Music Ministry**  
Laura Garbitelli

**Folk Group**  
AnnMarie Lynch

**Plant Manager**  
Steve Bennett

**Parish Secretary**  
Doreen Dolan

**Bulletin Editor**  
Linda Ohlsen

# The Parish of St. Raymond

*A Eucharistic Community of  
Faith, Love and Friendship*

Sunday, February 28, 2021

263 Atlantic Avenue, East Rockaway, NY 11518

516-593-5000

*"This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."*

*-Mark 9:7*



February 28, 2021

Second Sunday of Lent

## 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](http://www.SaintRaymonds.org)

**Facebook:** St. Raymond Parish, East Rockaway

**E-Mail:** [StRayRcc@optonline.net](mailto: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 Fax .....593-1156

### 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.

### 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.



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DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIMES.**



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— NETWORK —**

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Monday - Friday at 11:00 am, 9:30 pm ET

Saturday at 11:00 am, 9:30 pm ET

Sunday at 1:30 pm, 8:30 pm ET

#### **St. Agnes Cathedral, Rockville Centre, NY**

Monday – Friday at 8:30 am, 12:30 pm ET

Sunday at 11:00 am, 7:00 pm ET

#### **St. Patrick's Cathedral, NY**

Monday – Friday at 6:30 pm ET



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

SPC Frank Candreva US ARMY  
SPC Giuseppina (Josie) Coppola US ARMY  
Lt. Col. Mary P. King , M.D., US ARMY  
Lt. Com. Joseph Garbitelli US NAVY  
Sgt. Gerard Moran  
Lt. Com. Joseph Leahy US NAVY

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



## Parish Bulletin Board



### THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE of ROCKVILLE CENTRE

The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) is available on Optimum channel 29/137, Verizon FiOS TV channel 296, and Charter Spectrum channel 162/471 throughout the New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut area. The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) is also available on selected cable and satellite systems nationwide, along with a vast on-demand library of original programming and a high quality 24/7 live stream.

### Engaged Encounter Preparing for Marriage?

March 6-7, 2021

### Seminary of the Immaculate Conception Huntington

Engaged Encounter is an effective PreCana program designed to provide you with the tools for a successful marriage. Couples are given the opportunity to explore many aspects of their relationship through a series of presentations, writings and dialog. There are no group discussions. Couples are provided with social-distancing during this time.

For info, call Lenny & Pat Walker at 631-563-1032, or visit [www.engagedencounterli.org](http://www.engagedencounterli.org)

### 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](http://www.catholicendoflife.org).

### Collection Envelopes

To insure the accuracy of the recording of your weekly offering, please indicate the amount of your offering on the front of your envelope and write your envelope number on your check. And please do not tape or staple the contents or envelope flap.

**Thank you! And God Bless you for your stewardship!**

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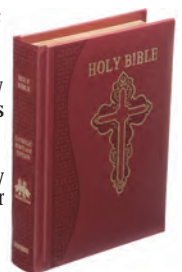
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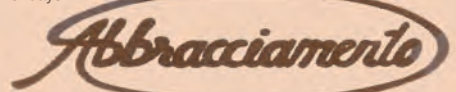
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## Father Chuck's Corner

**Greetings and God's blessing on the Second Sunday of Lent!** Today's focus is on the sacrificial importance during the Lenten season. We give up something for a greater good just as God did for us. In the first reading from Genesis, we have God testing Abraham's faith by telling him to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. When Abraham proves his faith, God stops the sacrifice from happening, then God showers praise and blessings in abundance upon Abraham. **"I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son."** Then in the second reading from Romans, we are told that God did not spare his own Son from death. Jesus is now the perfect intercessor to the Father on our behalf. **"Christ Jesus it is who died, or rather was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us."** And finally, Mark's gospel is the story of the Transfiguration. Here the divinity of Jesus is clarified. In a sense, Mark interrupts the story to show us how it will end. Together the law and the prophets express the fullness of divine revelation. The presence of Jesus symbolizes that he is the fullness of divine revelation. **"Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice: This is my beloved son. Listen to him."**

Remember how in the movie, *It's a Wonderful Life*, George Bailey gives up his desire to go to college and instead stays to take over the family business after his father dies? Instead, his brother goes to college and has a successful career while George struggles at home. But in the end viewers see that George didn't give up; instead, he gained in countless ways. I think we can all identify with this story. Someone donates a kidney for someone on dialysis. Parents giving up sleep to care for a sick child or a teenager gives up his paycheck to his single mom to meet family expenses. On the other hand, we almost instinctively think of our own well-being first. Sacrifice is not something that comes easily. Now in the first reading, Abraham's love for and trust in God is total. And in the second reading we see God's love for us being described by the sacrifice of his Son for us. Because God did give his Son, we have someone who is always for us. Then the gospel shows God's love for his Son. The Transfiguration affirms this love when a voice from a cloud says, **"This is my Son, whom I love, listen to him."** Imagine the feeling of Peter, James and John coming down from the mountain.

It was an experience of such closeness with God that they didn't want it to end. For us having a moment when God's presence is felt is not unlike what these apostles felt. It is a closeness with God that we don't want to end. So, understanding better what sacrifice means and how love is paramount, let us come to Jesus with hearts open to his transforming love and mercy.

Two weeks from today on March 14<sup>th</sup>, the Fourth Sunday of Lent we will have a special **"Gift Card Sunday"** for the benefit of Parish Social Ministry and the Human Life Committee. I am asking if possible that in addition to your regular parish contributions given in the baskets at Mass that you also give a gift card that will help these two parish ministries. **Now the only gift cards we are asking for are Stop and Shop for Parish Social Ministry and either Walmart or Target for the Human Life Committee.** Gift cards from any of these three places would be greatly appreciated to help those from our community who are in need. So, remember: **Gift Card Sunday** will be on March 14<sup>th</sup>, the Fourth Sunday of Lent.

The first round of **Parish Picks** was held last Monday and **\$2000** was won by some very lucky parishioners. What! You don't have any numbers yet. Well, there are still five more months of winners to be picked. Just fill out the form found in the bulletin and send it in to the rectory. Numbers will be assigned to you right away and you will be set for the next five months. **Remember: You gotta be in it to win it!**

**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, an order form for the new round of **Parish Picks**, 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 Lent.** Smile, pray, fast, and help someone in need. **Plus remember: If you're headed in the wrong direction, God allows U-turns.** God bless always.

**-Father Chuck**





# WEEKLY MASS PRAYERS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021 –SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

## 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.



## The Our Father

Our Father,  
Who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy Will be done,  
on earth as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day  
our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who  
trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.

## 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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

## FIRST READING

**Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18**

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am!" he replied. Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you." When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am!" he answered. "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son. Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: "swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing—all this because you obeyed my command."

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19**

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

I believed, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted." Precious in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your handmaid; you have loosed my bonds. To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the LORD.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

My vows to the LORD I will pay in the presence of all his people, In the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

R. I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

## SECOND READING

**Rom 8:31b-34**

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died—or, rather, was raised—who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

## VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL

**Cf. Mt 17:5**

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

## GOSPEL

**Mk 9:2-10**

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.



# ***THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS***

## ***STATIONS 1-7***

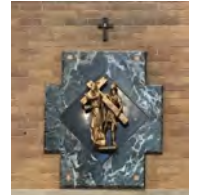


### ***THE FIRST STATION-JESUS IS CONDEMNED TO DIE***

Just as Jesus was wrongfully accused, sometimes people falsely place blame on me to escape the responsibility themselves. And yes, sometimes I also put others down in order to build myself up. When Jesus was condemned to death, even those who had once followed Him went along with Pilate. Do I care more about being accepted by those around me than returning your love? Help me Lord. Be with me Lord.

### ***THE SECOND STATION-JESUS IS GIVEN HIS CROSS***

Lord, help me remember the humble and loving way You carried Your cross up to Calvary when I experience life's heavy burdens and strife. Sometimes I think I can't go on. Help me remember I am not alone. You are always with me. May I imitate Your virtues of love, humility and perseverance while dealing with my crosses and offer them up on behalf of my sins, for the sick and less fortunate. Help me to understand that there is nothing You and I can't get through together.

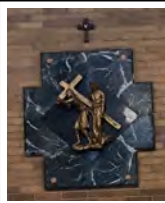


### ***THE THIRD STATION-JESUS FALLS THE FIRST TIME***

I am like you, Jesus, in that I take up my own cross. But my cross is made up of my sins, temptation and Materialism. I carry my cross through my life, like You, Jesus, carried Your cross to Calvary. Jesus, You fell under the weight of my sins. I fall by accepting temptation and giving into evil. I fall when I give in to gossip or hurt others. You carry my sins to death so I can be free. Help me, Jesus, to really understand all that You have done for me. Help me to make my burden lighter.

### ***THE FOURTH STATION-JESUS MET HIS MOTHER***

How does anyone have the strength to watch someone they love suffer and die? Death knows no boundaries and takes everyone. I need to have the strength and faith of Mary when I am faced with the loss of a loved one. Lord, while I know death is not an end but really a beginning, please give me the strength of faith that Your mother showed, and help me to be strong for the others who are grieving.



### ***THE FIFTH STATION-SIMON OF CYRENE HELPS JESUS CARRY HIS CROSS***

I need Your help to get me through these tough situations that I encounter during my day. Help me discover my options through prayer. Please help me to be nicer to those who are against me, and let me be trusting in my relationships with my friends, family and neighbors. I have enough to handle on my own. Why, then, am I further burdened with worry about family members or friends? Why does it always seem to be me who has to take on their problems as well as my own? Lord, show me the way.

### ***THE SIXTH STATION-VERONICA WIPES THE FACE OF JESUS***

Every day I see people who are suffering or in need of help. They seem to be everywhere. I wish someone would help them. I'm so busy; I just don't have the time. That isn't really true. I guess I just don't want to be involved. I have my own problems, I don't need to take on any more. O Lord, teach me to see Your face in the faces of those who need comfort. You have assured us that random acts of kindness will have their own rewards, if not here and now, then later, with you in the kingdom.



### ***THE SEVENTH STATION-JESUS FALLS AGAIN***

In spite of my best intentions, I am so weak and fall again. I try to do the right thing, but temptations are so strong. I know, when Jesus stumbles and falls, He is suffering greatly. He knows He must continue in order to save me and lead me on the path to God. He loves me so much that He just keeps on going-for me. With Your help, I can have the courage and the faith to get up again and continue on. Help me to pray that I will not follow my own way but, instead, the way of the Lord, for which Jesus was sacrificed.



# ***PUT YOUR CROSS AT THE FOOT OF HIS CROSS***

## ***STATIONS 8-14***

### ***THE EIGHTH STATION-JESUS MEETS THE WOMEN OF JERUSALEM***

How difficult I find it sometimes to think of others particularly when I am troubled or hurting. Sometimes I get so wrapped up in myself that I shut others out, and I wonder if I can go on. Lord, You have shown me love and compassion for others even when they scorn You. Please help me to look beyond the exterior of others and help me to show compassion as You did. Please don't let me be selfish. Instead, let me always be merciful in my journey through life.



### ***THE NINTH STATION-JESUS FALLS THE THIRD TIME***

I Sometimes fear the future. I become afraid of change. I am just so unsure of myself, let alone others. I need confidence. I need to know I am not alone. I need to understand that I am worthy of love and respect. Lord, forgive me for each day of my life that I sin against You. Sometimes I have the best intentions, but I turn away from You anyway. Help me to appreciate all you have done for me. Give me strength and wisdom to seek kindness in others and see myself in the image and likeness of God.



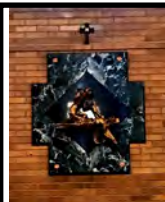
### ***THE TENTH STATION-JESUS IS STRIPPED OF HIS GARMENTS***

My possessions are very important to me. I surround myself with beautiful and expensive things. I have far more clothes than I really need, and sometimes I spend money on silly things and forget about others who don't even have necessities. Dear Jesus, you not only sacrificed everything, You laid down Your life for me. Help me to be a strong spiritual follower in faith. Please show me the right way towards eternal happiness by following Your example.



### ***THE ELEVENTH STATION-JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS***

O, my God, sometimes I persecute others because they are different. I am embarrassed when I think of some of the things I've said about others. It's so easy to gossip. Sometimes I just don't like people because of their skin color or religion. Give me the courage to not give in to the pressures of putting others down. Dear Jesus, please forgive me and the others like me, and help me, instead to be Your messenger of love and care to all I meet so that they may experience Your love and concern through me.



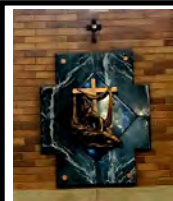
### ***THE TWELFTH STATION-JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS***

Jesus, give me the strength so that I can survive the mysteries of life that are ahead of me. I know I'm going to fall many times. Give me the courage to stand back up. Let me recognize all the good things that surround me each day of my life. Our heavenly Father gave all of us a beautiful world. You even died so our sins would be forgiven. May I be like You in Your perfect example of sacrifice and love. Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.



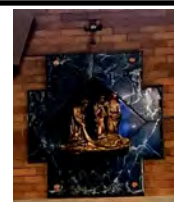
### ***THE THIRTEENTH STATION-JESUS IS TAKEN DOWN FROM THE CROSS***

Lord I am truly sorry for forgetting You. I am sometimes preoccupied by my life when I should be focusing on You. I really don't know why, but I always seem to let all the things in my life crowd you out. Often, when I do pray, I do not concentrate on my prayer. I sometimes just say the words and don't pay attention to what I am saying. Help me to show that You are my first priority by setting aside time for You each day.



### ***THE FOURTEENTH STATION-JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB***

Dear Jesus, following Your death, helplessness and despair was felt by many. Your death on the cross left those who really knew You empty inside. Lord, when I am feeling empty inside, help me to attain inner strength and peace to make it through the day. Knowing that You love me and believe in me, gives me the reassurance I need. Help me to face my problems, and to remember that You are with me always until the end of time.



## ***Gift Card Sunday***

On Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, which is the Fourth Sunday of Lent we will be having a special ***"Gift Card Sunday"*** for the dual benefit of ***Parish Social Ministry*** and the ***Human Life Committee***. We are asking everyone to donate gift cards when you come to Mass on that Sunday. Simply place your gift card donations in the baskets along with your regular Sunday contributions.

Now we are very specific about which gift cards we are asking for.

***We want only "Stop and Shop" for our Parish Social Ministry and either "Walmart or Target" for the Human Life Committee.***

*Please get only these cards.* They are the only ones needed and serve the Immediate purpose for these ministries. So, remember ***"Gift Card Sunday"*** on March 14th, the Fourth Sunday of Lent. It is the perfect way to practice some almsgiving for Lent.



**Dynamic Catholic**

Be Bold. Be Catholic.®

### **Become the-Best-Version-of-Yourself**

**What if, this Easter, your soul was more alive than at any other point in your life? That can happen. Not by accident. But intentionally. By feeding your soul with a daily course of prayer. Let us get back to the basics this Lent. Let us**

**Master the fundamentals. Let us become people of prayer! Join Matthew Kelly for free, daily Lenten reflections, and start feeding your soul like you never have before!**

**Sign-up at [www.dynamiccatholic.com](http://www.dynamiccatholic.com)**

### ***Bishop Andrzej's Lecture Series Continues Liturgical Catechesis Tuesdays this Spring @ 7:30 p.m.***

**February 23 Liturgy and Our Covenant with God...**  
online via ZOOM

**March 23 Liturgy and the Paschal Mystery in Us...**  
online via ZOOM

**April 27 Liturgy and St. John Paul II Reform**

**May 25 Liturgy and Personal Growth**

So that Bishop Andrzej can safely continue his Liturgical Catechesis lecture series, presentations in February and March will be available only through ZOOM. In order to be emailed the ZOOM link, you must register. Please see below for instructions on how to register in order to gain access to these presentations. If you already receive updates regarding Bishop Andrzej's presentation schedule, the ZOOM link will automatically be emailed to you.

**Please call or email to register:  
Suzanne Lynn at 516-744-6850;  
[westernvicariate@drvc.org](mailto:westernvicariate@drvc.org)**





## Abstinence and Fasting

All Catholics who have reached their fourteenth year are bound to abstain **entirely** from meat/poultry on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent. All Catholics between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine inclusive are also bound to observe the law of fast on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day. Those whose work or health would be impaired and excused from fast and abstinence. Individual conscience should decide proper cause for excuse. A more serious reason is required to excuse oneself from **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** fast and abstinence.



## *The Heart of the Parish*

— *St. Francis Xavier*

***We thank you for your generosity especially in these trying times. We keep you in our prayers as the Lord keeps you in His heart.***



**"It is the responsibility of the bishops of the United States to defend the most fundamental of all human rights, the right to life, and to protect the integrity of Catholic moral teaching. We cannot abdicate either of these responsibilities, even as we are eager to work with everyone to promote the common good. We must continue to speak to Pres. Biden, as well as all Catholics, and even all Americans, about the truth of what abortion is. Abortion is not something to be celebrated, and it is not healthcare.**

(Kansas City Archbishop Joseph Naumann)

**St. Raymond R. C. Church**  
**Page 8**





## *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.



### **A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY**

**O Most Blessed Virgin Mary**, Mother of Mercy, at this most critical time, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care.

Most Holy Mother, we beg you to reclaim this Land for the glory of your Son. Overwhelmed With the burden of the sins of our nation, we cry to you from the depths of our hearts and seek refuge in you motherly protection.

Look down with mercy upon us and touch the hearts of our people. Open our minds to the great worth of human life and to the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

Free us from the falsehoods that lead to the evil of abortion and threaten the sanctity of family life. Grant our country the wisdom to proclaim that God's law is the foundation on which this nation was founded, and that He alone is the True Source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

O Merciful Mother, give us the courage to reject the culture of death and the strength to build a new Culture of Life. **Amen.**

### **2021 MASS BOOK**



**The 2021 Mass Book is  
now open! Come into the  
Rectory and have a Mass  
said for a loved one!**

*"Put all the good works in the world  
against one Holy Mass; they will be  
as a grain of sand beside a mountain."*

*— St. John Vianney*

## **Religious Education- Faith Formation**

***Evelyn Contaldi, Director***

### **ATTENTION 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE PARENTS**

An e-mail was sent to all 2<sup>nd</sup> grade parents (memo to St. Raymond School students) with information regarding First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. If any 2<sup>nd</sup> grade parent did not receive the e-mail, please notify the Religious Education office at 516-593-9075 or e-mail econ-taldisrre@optonline.net.

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SCHEDULE**

Group 1-Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 11am

Mrs. Joyce & Mrs. Layng classes plus  
home schooled children

Group 2-Saturday, May 1, 2021 at 11am

St. Raymond School students & Mrs. Ohlsen's class

Group 3-Saturday, May 1, 2021 at 1pm

Mrs. Hollenstein & Mrs. Casucci's classes

Group 4-Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 11am

Mrs. Agnello & Mrs. Breuer's classes

Group 5-Saturday, May 8, 2021 at 1pm

Mrs. Hannon & Mrs. Kelhetter's classes

### **ATTENTION 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENTS**

Dates for 2021 Confirmation are not yet determined due to the pandemic. As soon as we know what the plan will be, we will advise parents immediately.

### **REMINDER TO 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENTS**

On February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 an e-mail along with four Confirmation assignment attachments was sent to the parents. This is a reminder that this homework is due in the Religious Education office on or before 3/1/2021. Instructions on how to return these assignments are at the top of each page that was sent. If parents need the forms re-sent, please e-mail the Religious Education office – econ-taldisrre@optonline.net.

### **HOME TEACHING**

For parents who have opted to teach Religion to their children at home, the student's completed workbooks are due the week of 4/19/2021. We are more than half way through the Religious Education school year and this is a reminder that you have until our final week of classes to complete your child's lessons. Mrs. Contaldi has been in touch with each of you and will be following up with you again early February. As we get closer to April, we will advise you of the procedure to return the completed books to the Religious Education office.

## **Principal's Corner**

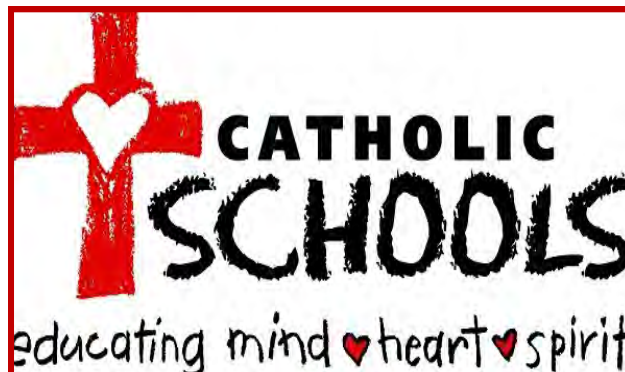
***Sister Ruthanne***

On this Second Sunday of Lent our Scripture readings have us at the top of the mountain. In the first reading from the Book of Genesis we go with Abraham up the mountain to the altar of sacrifice where he is prepared to offer his son as a holocaust. (Of course, we know that because of Abraham's devotion to God, he was stopped from taking Isaac's life.) Then in the Gospel reading we hear the account of the Transfiguration with Jesus, Elijah, and Moses again on the top of the mountain. This time God himself spoke saying, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." In both cases, the event was transforming to the observers and hopefully, to us. Can we say with Peter, "it is good that we are here"? Take time to be quiet with the Lord and savor the response.

Tomorrow begins the new month of March. Unlike the ones in our recent past, this one is not quite as busy with outside activities. We are starting it off with testing - Comprehensive exams for the students in the BRIDGE and i-Ready diagnostic tests for everyone (K-8). The comps obviously require some prepping, the i-Ready, not so much. This is our second time with the i-Ready tests, so our children are familiar with them. Hopefully, each of the children will see improvement in their scores showing the growth we anticipate. This is the schedule for the Comps: Monday - 6<sup>th</sup> Science, 7<sup>th</sup> SS, and 8<sup>th</sup> Math and LA; Tuesday - 6<sup>th</sup> SS and Math, 7<sup>th</sup> Lit and Science, 8<sup>th</sup> Science and SS; Wednesday- 6<sup>th</sup> ELA, 7<sup>th</sup> Math and LA, and 8<sup>th</sup> Lit. The students are well aware of the schedule.

I would like to remind our 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents that the annual Sodality Scholarship test is being given on-line from 4-5 pm on Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. Everyone must register ahead of time. Please follow through with this special opportunity.

Have a peaceful second week of Lent. Pray for all in need of our prayers, especially the sick and suffering throughout our world. Know our prayers are joined to yours.  
**God bless you all.**

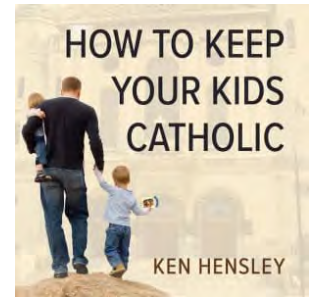
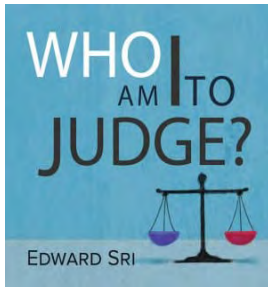




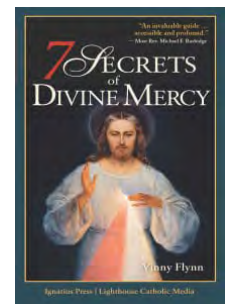
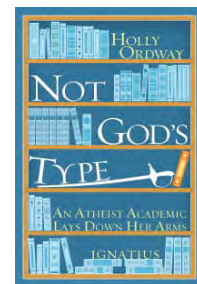


# FORMED

*THE CATHOLIC FAITH ON DEMAND*  
*STUDY/WATCH/LISTEN/READ*



**GO TO THE ST. RAYMOND  
WEBSITE FOLLOW THE  
*FORMED*  
LINK TO REGISTER IT'S FREE!**



# It's time for the next round of...



Dear Friends,

We are about to venture on another segment of Parish Picks. To enhance Parish Picks we have added a new system so you can obtain additional tickets.

Here's how the new system works: The basic entry to participate in Parish Picks is \$60.00. For \$60.00 you will get **THREE TICKETS**. If you contribute \$120 you will receive **SIX TICKETS**. Yes, we are offering additional tickets for **FREE** according to the amount you contribute (see below)

	Number of Tickets			TOTAL AMOUNT
Ticket Cost	for each \$60.00	Free Tickets	BONUS TICKETS	OF TICKETS
\$60.00	1	1	1	3
\$120.00	2	2	2	6
\$180.00	3	3	3	9
\$240.00	4	4	4	12
\$300.00	5	5	5	15
\$360.00	6	6	6	18

Your participation would greatly help the expenses St. Raymond incurs. **YOU GOT TO BE IN IT TO WIN IT!** We would like to give you a call and **MAKE YOU HAPPY!**

The next segment begins in **February 2021** and goes through **July 2021**. You "**regulars**" know how it works, but for those of you who haven't yet joined...here's the scoop: The cost of a ticket is still \$60, and you're eligible to participate in all the monthly drawings because even if you win, your ticket automatically goes back in for the remaining drawings. Each month the following prize amounts are awarded:

**1st Prize: \$1,000    2nd Prize: \$500    3rd Prize: \$250    4th Prize \$250**

**Entry money for the next six months must be received by January 18, 2021.** Ticket numbers are not reserved; they will be given in the order in which your payment is received. Members of the committee can be contacted to answer any questions.

On behalf of the Parish Picks Committee, I thank you for your continuous support of this parish fundraiser. Your participation is a big help to St. Raymond Parish and our many ministries. God bless you always.

**Sincerely, Father Chuck, Pastor & Julianne Grennen & Doreen Dolan**  
**StRayRCC@optonline.net or 516-593-5000**

## St. Raymond's Parish Picks Order Form

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ ticket (s) in the Parish Picks. I will receive extra tickets for each ticket that I purchase in accordance with the chart shown on the enclosed letter. (Each ticket is good for 6 months of chances and costs \$60.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope #: \_\_\_\_\_

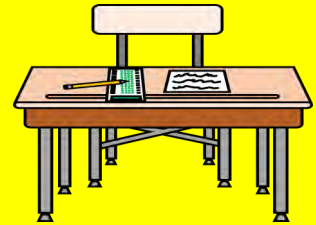
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



## Sodality of Our Lady Scholarship Exam 2021

- WHAT:** Three \$800 scholarships sponsored by  
The Sodality of Our Lady at St. Raymond's Church.  
Three \$150 Marianne Malone Memorial Scholarships.
- WHO:** Any **eighth grade student**, living within the geographic boundaries of St. Raymond's Parish, who has been accepted for admission to a Catholic High School in September 2021.
- WHEN:** Thursday, March 11, 2021.  
Time 4:00pm to 5:00pm
- WHERE:** The test will be administered through Email  
(instructions will be sent to participants after the registration deadline)
- EXAM:** ONE ESSAY
- HOW:** To Register – Call or text Patricia Winter (516)376-0364 before Friday, March 5, 2021. **Your registration will be confirmed. If you have not received a confirmation please call again.**



**REGISTRATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AFTER  
FRIDAY, March 5, 2021**

**\*\*\*ABSOLUTELY No add-ons past the DEADLINE.**

***A student cannot sit for the exam without first being registered\*\*\****

### Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn

#### *Gives Back!*

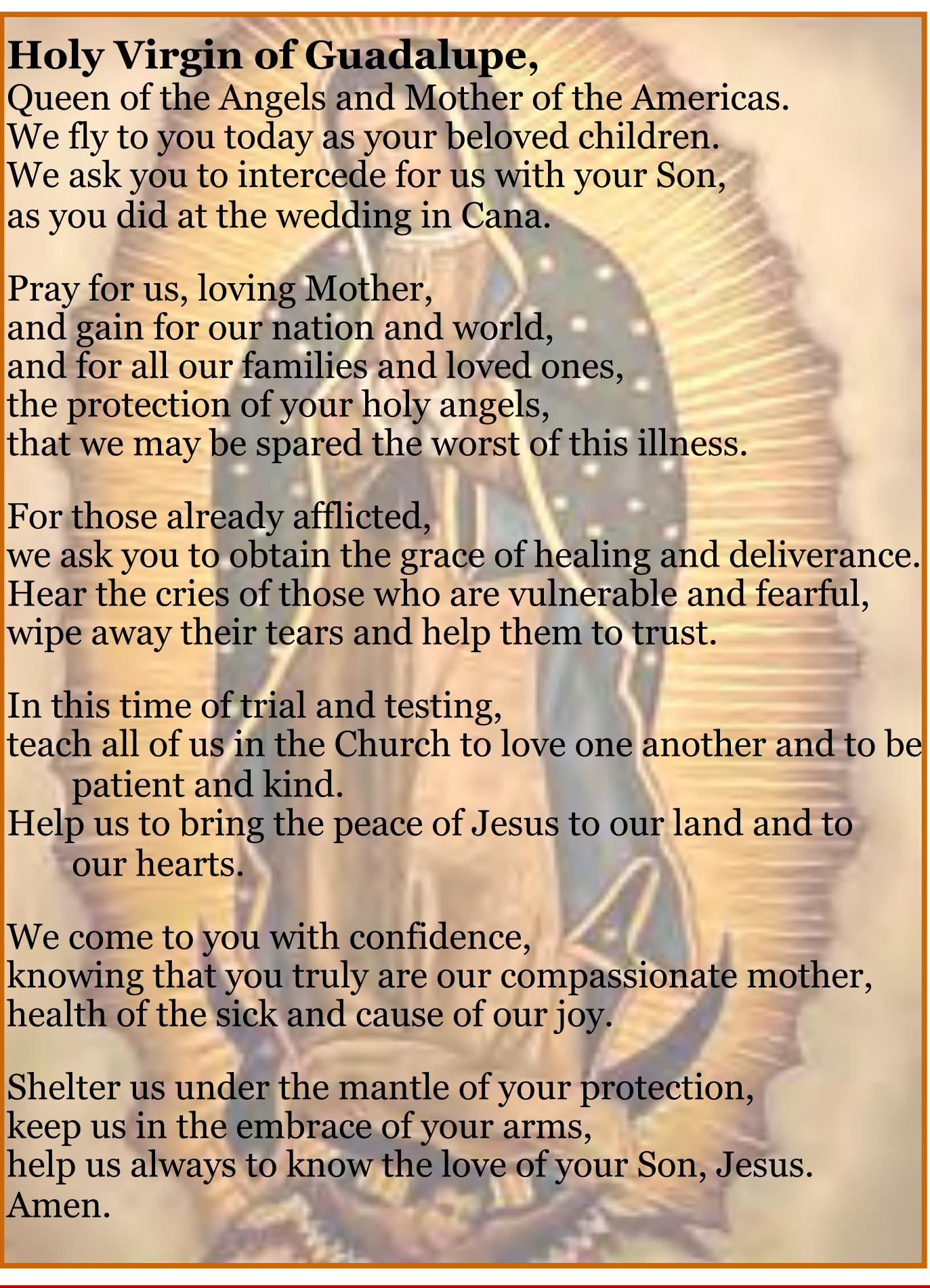
For each donated car, truck or van, running or not, the Associated Vincentian Charities will give back to our parish \$75-\$200 per vehicle.

**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](http://svdpauto-brooklynqueens.org)



AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE  
*We will serve the Lord.*  
JOSHUA 24:15

The background of the page features a faint, artistic representation of the Virgin of Guadalupe. She is depicted with her characteristic blue mantle adorned with white stars, and a golden sunburst radiating from behind her head. The image is centered and serves as a backdrop for the text.

## **Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,**

Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.

We fly to you today as your beloved children.

We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,  
as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother,  
and gain for our nation and world,  
and for all our families and loved ones,  
the protection of your holy angels,  
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted,  
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.  
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,  
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing,  
teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be  
patient and kind.

Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to  
our hearts.

We come to you with confidence,  
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,  
health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,  
keep us in the embrace of your arms,  
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.  
Amen.



**A Prayer as I put on my mask:**

Creator,  
As I prepare to go into the world,  
Help me to see the sacrament  
In the wearing of this cloth-  
Let it be "an outward sign  
Of an inward grace"-

A tangible and visible way of living  
Love for my neighbors,

Christ,  
Since my lips will be covered,  
Uncover my heart,  
That people would see my smile  
In the crinkles around my eyes.

Since my voice may be muffled,  
Help me to speak clearly,  
Not only with my words,  
But with my actions.

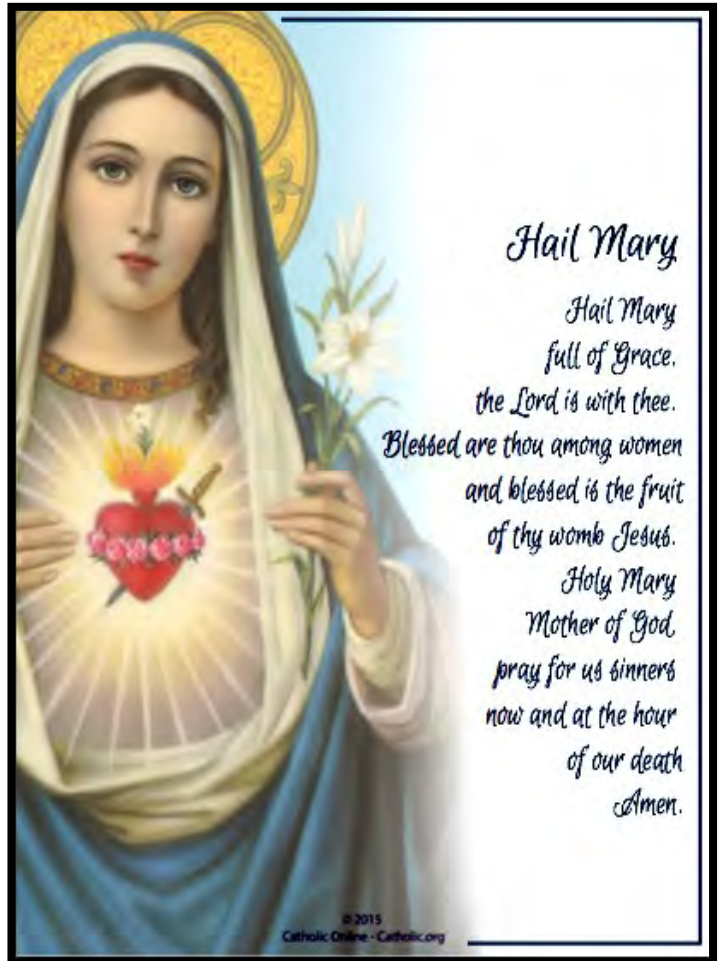
Holy Spirit,  
As the elastic touches my ears,  
Remind me to listen carefully-  
And full of care-  
To all those I meet.

May this simple piece of cloth be  
Shield and banner,

And each breath that it holds,  
Be filled with your love.

In your name and in  
The name of love  
I pray.

May it be so, May it be so.



*Hail Mary*

*Hail Mary  
full of Grace.  
the Lord is with thee.*

*Blessed are thou among women  
and blessed is the fruit  
of thy womb Jesus.*

*Holy Mary  
Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners  
now and at the hour  
of our death  
Amen.*

**PRAYER OF  
SPIRITUAL  
COMMUNION**

*My Jesus, I believe that you are  
present in the most Blessed  
Sacrament, I love You above all  
things and I desire to receive You  
Into my soul. Since I cannot now  
receive You sacramentally, come at  
least spiritually into my heart. I  
embrace You as if You have already  
come, and unite myself wholly to  
You. Never permit me to be  
separated from You.*

*Amen*







## Masses for this Week

### Monday, March 1st

7:15am Regina Rodenburg  
8:45am Edward A. Farrell  
12:15pm Edward Collins

### Tuesday, March 2nd

7:15am Tom Collins  
8:45am Patrick R. Farrell  
12:15pm Deceased Members of the Falcone Family

### Wednesday, March 3rd

7:15am John Raber  
8:45am Gillespie Family (living)  
12:15pm Carmela Zizzo

### Thursday, March 4th

7:15am Rev. John Denniston  
8:45am Peter Broughal  
12:15pm Msgr. William Singleton

### Friday, March 5th

7:15am Thomas P. Duggan  
8:45am Brendan McGuire  
12:15pm Richard Gottcent

### Saturday, March 6th

8:45am James P. Sullivan  
5:00pm Patrick O'Connell

### Sunday, March 7th

7:30am Francis Foster  
9:00am Msgr. Thomas Candreva  
10:30am Ray Hartwick  
12:00pm Tomo Olie, Cathy Turner  
4:30pm St. Raymond Parish

### Scripture Readings for the Week

#### Monday

Dn 9:4b-10 / Lk 6:36-38

#### Tuesday

Is 1:10, 16-20 / Mt 23:1-12

#### Wednesday

Jer 18:18-20 / Mt 20:17-28

#### Thursday

Jer 17:5-10 / Lk 16:19-31

#### Friday

Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a / Mt 21:33-43, 45-46

#### Saturday

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20 / Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

#### Sunday

Ex 17:3-7 / Rom 5:1-2, 5-8 / Jn 4:5-42

### Please Pray for Our Sick

Fr. Tom Moriarity, Deacon Rich LaRossa, Valerie Fellows, Jeanette Kostyrka, Rudy Romano, Tamika Brown, Azai Betty McCormack, Cathy Maziejka, Stephen Iervalino, Ralph Cerrato, Sky Mary Cirrito, Pat Bolino, Anthony Sisco Gloria Criscuolo, Gina Mazzola, Dr. Sam Iyer, Samara Q, Patricia Criscuolo, Joan Ellyn Bolino, Connie & Fred Polik, Margaret Mary Barbato, Taylor Clark, Liz Biondi, Jodi Neckles, Olivia Bonino, Anthony B., Alyssa B., Bart Castellaneta, Victoria Wilkinson, Nick, Kathleen Clancy, Rob Ruggiero, Peter Scala, Suzie McHale, Baby Madison Grace Layman, Ellen Bretschneider.

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



### Rest in Peace

Mary A. Stella

Danielle Kirrane

Catherine Bella



### The Rose for Life

In Memory of

Kathleen & Patrick Duggan

Donated by Their Family

For Dedications call Mary Healy  
887-4062



It can take only a small gesture or kind word to brighten someone's day. This week be polite and compassionate to all those you come across.