



Saint Raymond de Penafort

A Catholic Faith Community

Our Joyful Response to Living Stewardship

"Welcome. Love. Serve."

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 17, 2017

THIRD SUNDAY OF *ADVENT*



IN THIS BULLETIN

- ST. RAYMOND KAIROS # 3 REGISTRATION
- CHRISTMAS GREETERS - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
- BACK PACK MINISTRY DECEMBER FOOD COLLECTION
- ST. RAYMOND GALA TUITION RAFFLE

THANK YOU

We owe these generous members of our faith community our thanks for their gifts, which will build and steward a bright future for everyone in our parish – and for generations to follow. To those who have already given, we thank you, and we honor your generosity. While the following families or individuals listed have made a pledge or gift to *Sharing Our Faith; Securing Our Future*, several have elected to remain anonymous. We thank them as well for their gifts.

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Meersman and Timothy J. Murphy
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John & Liz Zulaski
Piotr & Elzbieta Zupinski
Ilgonis & Anita Zvejnieks



BETHANY HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY

A home-like residence for young women who come to the U.S. as unaccompanied minors and who have "aged out" of federal immigration juvenile detention facilities.

December 7, 2017

St. Raymond de Penafort Parish
Attn.: Sr. Valerie Kulbacki, SSJ-TOSF
301 S. I-Oka
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

Dear St. Raymond de Penafort Parishioners,

On behalf of the young women who live at Bethany House of Hospitality, we wish to thank you for generous donation of canned goods and food staples. The impact and value of your gift to us is beyond calculation!

Your gift allows us to provide safe and comfortable housing for our young women who typically live at BHH for several months until they are able to live independently or until their immigration status is finally determined.

As well, your gift contributes to the development of each young woman as she works to make her personal dream a reality. This includes:

- pursuing education
- learning life skills essential to adult living
- becoming more comfortable in U.S. society
- gaining and maintaining employment or volunteer service in the community
- growing in her faith tradition

Thank you for this expression of hospitality to our women who have left situations of violence, persecution, or displacement and who have taken many risks to come to our country. If you wish to make a financial donation, kindly contact one of the Co-Directors for further information. We so appreciate your continued prayers and tangible expressions of support!

Sincerely,
BHH Co-Directors

Jacqueline Goodin (CSJ) MSW
jgoodin@csjoseph.org

&

Darlene Gramigna, MSW
darlenegram@gmail.com



TOY DRIVE COLLECTION UPDATE!

Thank you for your generous giving!! Seven vehicles were filled to the brim with hundreds of toys taken to the Mt. Prospect Fire Department. They were overwhelmed at the volume of gifts and very appreciative. Thank you to additional drivers: Chuck Hemler, Hank Szott and Tim McDermott. Thank you to all who carried toys and packed the cars.

The Outreach Committee --

Lorelei McDermott, Kathy Hemler, Sue Rudnick, Sue Smedinghoff,
Theresa Drangines, and Kathi Szott



St. Raymond de Penafort Parish

BACKPACK MINISTRY

Feeding Children One Backpack at a Time



December Food Collection

December 16th & 17th

With all of your generous donations we shop for about half of the food in our weekly backpacks. We take advantage of weekly sales, bulk food stores, and online orders to get the supplies we need. If you would like help us fill those bags to the brim, please shop for any of the following items listed below. Bring your donations to Mass the first weekend of the month; label your donations as "Backpack Ministry" and put them in the Food for the Hungry Bin in the Narthex.

- Beans (canned or 1 lb. bag, dried)
- Canned meals: chili, pasta with meat, stew
- Canned meats: chicken, ham, salmon, tuna
- Canned soups
- Canned vegetables
- Fruit (small cans, cups, pouches)
- Individually-packaged oatmeal
- Rice (1 lb. bag or box)



"What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and the needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like." - Saint Augustine

SAINT RAYMOND DE PENAFORT
MASQUERADE
BENEFIT GALA

\$5,000 TUITION RAFFLE!

\$5,000 PRIZE GUARANTEED TO ONE LUCKY WINNER!

**GOOD FOR ANY TUITION ACCOUNT AT ANY
SCHOOL, TUITION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS OR TO
PAY OFF STUDENT DEBT!**

SAVE THE DATE!
MASQUERADE BENEFIT GALA
February 24, 2018
Rolling Green Country Club
DETAILS COMING SOON!

CHECK OUT THE DETAILS!

The \$5,000 prize can be used to pay tuition at St. Raymond or any private school, high school, college or university accredited in the United States. Proceeds can also be deposited into a 529 tuition savings plan or used toward any outstanding student loan debt.*

\$50 PER TICKET

To purchase tickets go to st-raymond.org and click on the tuition raffle link.



Not sure what to get the kids or grandkids for Christmas?
Who wouldn't like \$5,000 for tuition!

*The prize will be transferred directly by St. Raymond's to the designated school, high school, college, university 529 savings plan or financial institution named on the student loan.

Being Ready for Christmas

By Fr. Ron Rolheiser

Many of us arrive at Christmas tired, running, distracted, and already fatigued with the lights, songs, and celebrations of Christmas. Advent is meant to be a time of preparation for Christmas; but for many of us it is not exactly a time for the kind of preparation that enables Christ be born more deeply in our lives. Instead our preparation for Christmas is mostly a time of making ready to celebrate with our families, friends, and colleagues. The days leading up to Christmas are rarely serene. Instead we find ourselves harried and hurried putting up decorations, shopping for gifts, sending out cards, preparing food, and attending Christmas socials. Moreover, when Christmas arrives, we are already tired of Christmas carols, having heard them already, non-stop, for weeks in our shopping malls, restaurants, public squares, and on our radio stations.

And so Christmas, itself, generally finds us more in a pressured and tired space than in a leisured and rested one. Indeed sometimes the Christmas season is more an endurance test than a time of genuine enjoyment. Moreover and more seriously, if we are honest with ourselves, we have to admit that in our preparations for Christmas, we, in fact, make very little space for the spiritual, for Christ to be born more deeply in our lives. Our time of preparation is generally more of a time to prepare our houses than a time to prepare our souls, more of a time of shopping than of prayer, and more of a time of already feasting than a time of fasting as a preparation for a feast. Today advent is perhaps more about already celebrating Christmas than it is about preparing for it.

And the end result is that, like the biblical innkeepers who had no room for Mary and Joseph at the first Christmas, we generally arrive at Christmas with “no room at the inn”, no space in our lives for a spiritual rebirth. Our hearts are good, we want Christmas to renew us spiritually, but our lives are too pressured, too full of activity and tiredness, for us to have any real energy to make Christmas a special time of spiritual renewal for ourselves. The spirit of Christmas is still in us, real, but lying like a neglected baby in the straw waiting to be picked up. And we do intend to pick up the baby, but simply never get around to it.

So how bad are we?

Now, while this should challenge us to take a look at ourselves, it is not as bad as many religious critics make it out to be. Arriving at Christmas with a life too busy and too distracted to make more room for Christ doesn't make

us bad persons. It doesn't mean that we are mindless pagans. And it doesn't mean that Christ has died in our lives. We are not bad, faithless, and pagan because we habitually arrive at Christmas too distracted, too busy, too pressured, and too tired to make much of a conscious effort to make this feast a time of real spiritual renewal in our lives. Our spiritual lethargy simply defines us as more human than angelic, more earthy than platonic, and as more sensual than spiritual. I suspect that God fully understands this condition.

Indeed, everyone struggles with this in some fashion. No one is perfect; no one gives a full place in his or her life to Christ, even at Christmas time. That should bring us some consolation. But it should also leave us with a pressing challenge: There is too little room for Christ in our busy, distracted lives! We must work at clearing some space for Christ, at making Christmas a time of spiritual refreshment and renewal in our lives.

How do we do that?

In the days leading up to Christmas, many of us struggle to do all the things we need to do to be ready for all that needs to happen in our houses, churches, and places of work. We need to shop for gifts, send out cards, put up lights and decorations, plan menus, buy food, attend a goodly number of Christmas socials at work, at church, at friends' houses. This, added on to the normal pressures within our lives, not infrequently leaves us with the feeling: I'm not going to make it! I won't be ready! I won't be ready for Christmas! That's a common feeling.

But being ready for Christmas, getting everything we need to do done on time, making it, does not depend upon getting everything neatly checked off on our to-do list: gifts, done; cards, done; decorations, done; food, ready; the requisite number of social obligations, completed. Even if that list is only half done, if you find yourself in church at Christmas, if you find yourself at table with your family on Christmas day, and if you find yourself greeting your neighbors and colleagues with a little more warmth, then it doesn't matter if you are distracted, tired, over-fed, and not thinking explicitly about Jesus, you've made it.

Used with permission of the author, Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser. Currently, Father Rolheiser is serving as President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio Texas. He can be contacted through his website, www.ronrolheiser.com. Now on Facebook www.facebook.com/ronrolheiser. Originally published December 22, 2014.





Through Our Alms We Touch the World

St. Raymond Parish Ministries

The entire alms collection next week will go directly to support the over 100 ministries, faith formation programs and the mission of our parish. St. Raymond is a large and dynamic Faith Community which has been blessed over and over by the talents, generosity and treasure of its members.

Without the faithful and continued financial support you offer this faith community, we would not be able to be a parish that continues to respond to the Lord's great commission of ministry and service to all who call this faith community their home, as well as those who grace our doors in need.

Please use the green alms envelopes available at each Church entrance. Thank you for your generosity.

The St. Raymond Alms Committee searches for organizations which reflect the needs of the "least of our brothers." If interested in joining us, please contact the Parish Ministry office at 847-253-8600. All Are Welcome!

Stewardship of Treasure

Weekly Offering for December 10, 2017

Year to Date (24 Weeks)

Weekly Offering for December 10, 2017

Sunday Offering	\$16,311
Direct Debit/Credit Card Offering	\$3,371
Grand Total for the Week	\$19,682
Amount Needed for Operating Expense	\$22,882
Difference	(-\$3,200)

***Thank you for your Stewardship
And Generosity!***

Collection vs. Budget

Year-to-Date Sunday Collection	\$528,252
Year to Date Budget	\$549,167
Difference Year-to-Date	(-\$20,915)

Extraordinary Collections

Alms	\$30,014
Sharing Parishes	\$12,421
Archdiocesan Required Collections	\$19,242

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday:	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Tuesday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Wednesday:	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Friday:	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Saturday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Sunday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SEASON

2017 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Monday, December 18 - Advent Communal Sacrament of Reconciliation

7:00 PM *Celebrated at St. Alphonsus Parish, Prospect Hts.*

Welcoming All Mt. Prospect Parishes

Tuesday, December 19 – the St Raymond School Nativity Performance

1:30 PM & 7:00 PM *The Students of St Raymond School celebrate the Nativity of Jesus*

Saturday & Sunday, December 23/24, 2017

5:00 PM 8:00 AM 10:00 AM 4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 24, 2017 - Christmas Eve

2:00 PM *Christmas Vigil Liturgy - Children's Choir*

4:30 PM *Christmas Vigil Liturgy - Teen Choir*

11:40 PM *Music Prelude*

12:00 AM *Midnight Mass - Festival Choir & Instrumentalists*

Monday, December 25, 2017 - Christmas Day

8:30 AM *Christmas Liturgy - Piano, Violin & Cantor*

11:30 AM *Christmas Liturgy - Young Adult Ensemble & Instrumentalists*

Saturday & Sunday, December 30/31, 2017

5:00 PM 8:00 AM 10:00 AM The Feast of the Holy Family

Sunday, December 31, 2017 - Mary, Mother of God – (New Year's Eve)

4:00 PM *Mary, Mother of God, Vigil Liturgy*

Monday, January 1, 2018 – Mary, Mother of God – (New Year's Day)

11:00 AM *Mary Mother of God - Holy Day Liturgy*

We are looking for a spirited group of people to be
CHRISTMAS HOSPITALITY MINISTERS!

Please contact Lorelei McDermott at loreleimcd@gmail.com or 847-818-0448
if you would like to join the Christmas Greeters at one (or more!) masses.

Sign up on ivolunteer.com using the link below:

http://straymondparish.ivolunteer.com/christmashospitalityministers_001

Christmas Eve: 2:00 pm, 4:30 pm and midnight

Christmas Day: 8:30 am and 11:30 am



During this Holy Season...we remember those
whose lives reflected the light of the Son

The Advent and Christmas seasons are filled with hopeful anticipation and joyful celebration at the birth of Jesus Christ. It is the time of the year when families and friends make a special effort to be together and share with one another their Joy and Peace! It is also the most poignant when we miss our loved ones who have died.

Each year, the Art & Environment Ministry invites the St. Raymond Community to assist in creating a tangible remembrance of their family and/or friends by helping to fund the Advent and Christmas decorations in our worship spaces. We suggest a donation of \$ 15.00 per memorial but we will be glad to honor your remembrance at whatever level works for you.

This year, in addition to publishing the names of your loved ones in the bulletin at the end of December, during this Holy Season, we will also place their name upon a star that will fill the sky on the special Christmas Remembrance board that will be located in the vestibule of the church.

To participate, please fill out the form below and return it with your donation. There are also Flower Donation envelopes located on the tables in church. Please make your checks payable to St Raymond Church. Donations may be deposited in the Sunday collection (Please be sure the envelope is marked Advent and Christmas Memorials) or drop it off at the Parish Ministry Center during office hours.

Thank you for your generosity.



Christmas Remembrance

In Memory of (Please Print) _____

Donation from (Please Print) _____

Art & Environment Ministry 2017



St. Raymond Kairos #3

January 12-15, 2018

Frequently asked questions:

What is Kairos?

Kairos, which means “God’s time,” is a 3-night, 4-day retreat experience for juniors and seniors in high school that enables them to spend time with peers, teen and adult leaders in order to get to know themselves, others, and God more deeply. Teens leave with a deeper understanding of themselves, their values, and their relationship to God.

Why go?

This is a good question. There are so many reasons that others who have been on Kairos might share with you about why you should go. Thousands of teens go on Kairos each year. They discover who they really are and how they want to live. They gain a better sense of themselves, what is important to them, and their relationship with God. Kairos is an experience of a lifetime. Many teens who attend say it was life-changing for them, or at the very least, a powerful and positive experience. Participants often leave with new and/or deeper friendships. Talk to past Kairos participants to learn more.

Who leads the retreat?

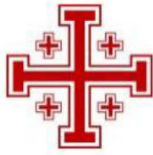
Each specific Kairos has a teen leadership team comprised of seniors who have previously attended a Kairos retreat. Leader application and selection began last year in April for this year’s retreat. The team completes over 20 hours of training and team building. Adult volunteers from the parish also attend as retreat facilitators. The power of the retreat is that it is student-led, but adult-guided.

Where is it?

Kairos #3 will be held at Cabrini Retreat Center in Des Plaines. Teens gather at St. Raymond on Friday afternoon, take a bus to retreat center, and return to St. Raymond on Monday afternoon. We will leave on Friday, January 12th around 3:30 p.m. and return in the afternoon (around 3:30 p.m.) on Monday, January 15th. Students will NOT have to miss school on Monday because it is the Martin Luther King Jr Holiday.

How much does it cost?

The cost for the 4 day/3 night retreat is \$300. This includes all meals, lodging, supplies, and transportation. However, finances and cost should not deter any teen from attending. Please contact Agnes Knott at agnes.knott@st-raymond.org if you need financial assistance. Scholarships are available.



St. Raymond Kairos #3

January 12-15, 2018

Registration deadline is December 23, 2017

Name _____ Male _____ Female _____

How would you like your name to appear on your name tag? _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip code _____

Home Phone _____ Student Cell Phone _____

Student E-mail _____

School attending _____ Grade _____ Age _____

Are you a member of St. Raymond? Yes _____ No _____

If you belong to another parish or church community, which one? _____

Mother

Father

Parent Name _____

Parent cell phone _____

Parent E-mail _____

***Important: Please watch your email for pertinent retreat details as the retreat date draws closer.**

Parent's signature _____

To register for Kairos, please submit this form, the Permission Form, the Participant Agreement, and your payment of \$300 (made payable to St. Raymond) to the following address. If you are St. Raymond parishioner, please pay on www.GIVECENTRAL.org.

St. Raymond Youth Ministry, c/o Agnes Knott, 301 S. I-Oka Ave, Mt Prospect, IL 60056

All registration forms and payment must be received by December 23, 2017.

Registration is on a first-come basis with priority given to St. Raymond Parishioners.

Please do not let finances be an obstacle to your teen's participating. Scholarships can be available.

Contact Agnes Knott at agnes.knott@st-raymond.org for more information.

No refunds can be made after December 27th, 2017

Scholarship or Donations:

I am able to help with a scholarship of _____ (enter amount) for a teen to participate in the Kairos retreat.

Your name _____ Email or phone _____

Please contact Agnes Knott at (847) 253-8600 ext 150 or agnes.knott@st-raymond.org for information.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



New Catholic School Scholarship Opportunity for 2018/19 School Year Through the "Invest in Kids Act," the state of Illinois has created a new way to fund scholarships for children from low-income households who want to attend private schools. This program provides an opportunity for more students to receive a quality Catholic education. The tax credit scholarships offered through this program could cover **up to 100 percent of tuition and fees** for eligible, low-income students. Not all families will be eligible for the new scholarships, but we want to make sure all families are aware of the program.

Program details are still being finalized, but you can find information on the scholarships, the application process and the "Frequently Asked Questions" (FAQ) on the Archdiocese of Chicago's website, archchicago.org/tcs. If you have any questions about tax credit scholarships, please contact the Archdiocese at InvestInKids@archchicago.org or 312.534.5321.

St. Raymond Playgroup



**Mondays
9:00-10:00am**

**Nov. 6th & 13th
Dec. 4th & 11th
Jan. 22nd & 29th**

**No Registration
necessary**

Come join us for fun and play!

The St. Raymond Playgroup offers an opportunity for children ages 0-4 years old to have fun and make friends while moms, dads, grandparents or caregivers share ideas and conversation. *(Adults must stay with their child.)*

Playgroup will be held in the St. Raymond School Gym
On the corner of Lincoln & I-Oka; enter door #26

Questions: contact Amy Somary, at amy.somary@st-raymond.org
or contact the school office at (847)253-8555.



Seeking Volunteer Home Delivered Meals Drivers

**Bring healthy meals
and friendship to
homebound seniors!**



Please help by delivering hot noontime meals Monday through Friday to homebound seniors in Mount Prospect. Meal pick-up is at the Elk Grove Township Building at 2400 South Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights. The route takes about one hour to complete. At this time, we are in need of weekly, bimonthly, and substitute drivers.

**To learn more about
volunteer opportunities call:
Colette Young, Volunteer Coordinator
(847) 524-8800 ext. 182**

www.kennethyoung.org



Whether you are new to knitting or crocheting and wish to learn, brushing up on skills that you haven't used in a long time or are experienced in these crafts, please consider joining our recently-formed Prayer Shawl Ministry. The purpose of our ministry is to create shawls to gift to those in our parish who are in need of our prayer, love and support. It is a wonderful way to meet new friends while creating a meaningful reminder of our concern for our fellow parishioners. Meeting take place on the last Thursday of the month from 7-9 P.M. at the PMC.

If you, a loved one or someone you know would benefit from the comfort of a prayer shawl or if you are interested in joining our group please contact Mary Klostermann at (847) 342-3453 or by email at maryklostermann@comcast.net.

amazon smile

Support St. Raymond Church
while you shop this holiday season.

Use the url: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2182141>
and you will be taken directly to Amazon Smile.

Support us when you shop this holiday season

Buy your gifts and holiday essentials
at smile.amazon.com.
You shop. Amazon donates.

amazon smile





St. Raymond School

FAITH • ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE • SERVICE



Sharing our Art Talents with the Community



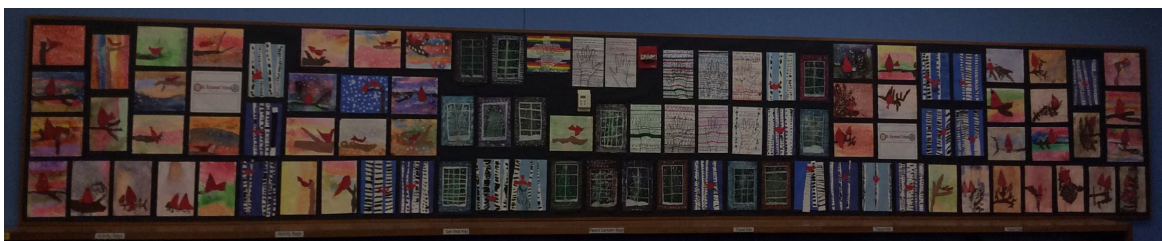
Some of our 3rd and 5th graders teamed up with the parish Afghan Club who provide handmade blankets to women and children. St. Raymond students had fun decorating the gift bags with holiday themes.



All St. Raymond students in kindergarten through 8th grade participated in creating a wall of self-portraits. You can view their portraits outside of the Community room until December 22nd.



Stop by the Mount Prospect Public Library to view more examples of our talented students. Artwork will be displayed through the month of December.



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Office of Human Dignity & Solidarity-Immigration Ministry



Share the Journey – Support the Dream Act

"Dear brothers and sisters...the coming months offer a unique opportunity to advocate and support the concrete actions which I have described with four verbs: to welcome, to protect, to promote and to integrate immigrants and refugees" -Pope Francis

The Dream Act of 2017 (S 1615/HR 3440) was recently introduced in Congress. If passed into law, this bipartisan bill would protect immigrant youth, including DACA beneficiaries. The Catholic Bishops have long supported these immigrant youths and their families who are contributors to our economy and exemplify the extraordinary contributions that immigrants provide to our nation. It is both our moral duty and in our nation's best interest to protect them and help them reach their God-given potential.

ACTION: Respond to the call by asking your legislators to pass the Dream Act of 2017. Visit the USCCB website: www.JusticeforImmigrants.org.

For additional ways to advocate for immigrants and refugees visit: www.CatholicsAndImmigrants.org

THE LEGION OF MARY

Are you called to go deeper into our faith? Come on Tuesdays at 7:30 pm to the PMC to pray and cooperate in the Virgin Mary's and Church's work by participating in the Legion of Mary. The Legion of Mary is a lay apostolic association of Catholics who, with the sanction of the Church serve the Church and the neighbor on a voluntary basis in about 170 countries. To learn more please email Mariloren Bell @ mariloren@gmail.com

MAC (MEN OF ACTION AND CONTEMPLATION)

MAC is a group of five or six men who commit themselves to meeting twice a month for one hour to dialogue, support and encourage each other to live the Gospel message more fully in their daily lives. A resource book, based on the daily scripture readings is used. Each daily reflection contains a part of a scripture reading, a contemporary story, a question for one's own life application and a concluding thought for the day. Each man is asked to find ten minutes each day to reflect and pray over the daily reflection. The men involved find that this experience helps them in their daily lives. For more information please contact Johnny Burnett at yibidee63@gmail.com or 847-707-3360.



THE AFGHAN MAKERS GROUP

All women, young and not-so-young, are invited to join the Afghan Group on the 1st and 3rd Mondays each month in the Parish Ministry Center from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. If you like to knit or crochet (or would like to learn), come join us. Yarn is provided. While we are using our hands to create items for the needy, we also enjoy each other's company. This is a wonderful ministry of caring and sharing. **WON'T YOU CONSIDER JOINING US?** Please call Barbara Klett at (847)255-3147 or just come to the Parish Ministry Center on the dates and times listed above. **Donations of yarn are welcome!** Please bring your donation to the PMC.

MEN'S SATURDAY MORNING SCRIPTURE GROUP

Did you know that the Mens Bible study group has met in Coggins Hall every Saturday morning for over twenty years? It's a lively yet reflective group of guys that read and discuss the scriptures for the coming Sunday Mass. What do we get out of it? An appreciation of God's word coming from many perspectives. Sometimes as we listen to scripture in church it doesn't make sense, but going in having discussed the coming readings brings things into a better light. There's just one catch, we meet at 6AM on Saturday morning. Too early you say? We find it to be the best time of day to reflect and talk before the world really gets cranked up. We end by 7:30 so you have the rest of the day to meet the many activities we all have. We hope you'll join us and see how we help each other appreciate the beauty of God's word and the beauty of the life he has given each of us. For more information?

Call John Ruskuls at 847-394-5693 or Brian Murphy at 847-298-5186.



ST. RAYMOND ROSARY MAKERS

Founded in 1996, this ministry has grown to over 20 male and female members of all ages, who have lovingly hand made and distributed over 230,000 rosaries free of charge to local ministries and mission fields worldwide. These **"Gospels on a string"** have been shipped all across America, as well as to the following 27 countries overseas:

Belize, Brazil, China, Ecuador, Germany, Haiti, Honduras, India, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Latvia, Mexico, New Guinea, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, The Philippines, Puerto Rico Solomon Islands, Switzerland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, and Vietnam.

ROSARY MAKERS GROUP meets virtually every Tuesday from 1 - 3 pm year round in our Community Room. In addition, many members choose to make rosaries at home in their spare time. If you wish to participate in this artistically creative and spiritually fulfilling ministry which enables the global poor to pray for peace, please contact Evelyn Mutzabaugh at mutzyclan@yahoo.com or 847-392-4554.



Keep Christ in Christmas

We are pleased to offer two ways in which we can remind others of the true meaning of Christmas. Knights will be selling Keep Christ in Christmas car/refrigerator magnets and It's ok to say Merry Christmas buttons before and after mass, they will also be available at the PMC.



During this blessed and holy season, together let's wish everyone we meet a Merry Christmas because Jesus is the reason for the season!

Proceeds from the sale of these items will go to support our Seminarians in their journey to become our future spiritual leaders as parish priests.

PADS Shelter Program

This season at PADS we have seen a rise in the number of guests. Our pantry needs constant replenishment. We have groups that donate, prepare and serve dinner every Monday evening. Every week we need many "extra" items for our meals. We reach out to people as yourself to purchase the items and drop them off at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Mt. Prospect on Monday evening between 5:00pm and 6:00pm. If this time is not good I will arrange some other time to meet you. The "extra" items include but are not limited to milk, juices, fresh fruit, lunch meat, cheese, bread, snack size chips, and granola bars. We usually call on Tuesday for the following Monday. If you are not able to help, no worries, we will call again another week. Please consider helping us. Email your information to me or call me. Thanks in advance for your support. Our guests are very grateful.

If you would like to be part of a group that donates, prepares and serves dinner please send me your information also.

Maura Reschke 847-253-0271
mreschke2732@wowway.com

MATS FOR THE HOMELESS MINISTRY

The purpose of this new ministry is to provide sleeping mats to homeless persons. Clean, plastic grocery bags are cut, knotted into "plarn" (plastic yarn) and crocheted into mats (it keeps the plastic out of our landfills, too).

If you are a crocheter, or would like to learn, if you are interested in cutting the plastic, or would like to be involved in this ministry in some way, please consider joining us.

We gather on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6:30 pm in the Formation Room for camaraderie, sharing and fun, while doing something worthwhile.

For further information, please contact Kathi Szott, (847) 226-6369, katsz928@yahoo.com

Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.
~ Vince Lombardi



St. Raymond SCRIP Program Ordering Information

Orders placed by 10:00 am Monday morning will be available Thursday after 1:00 pm.



Christmas Orders : Monday, December 18th will be the last day to place orders that will be received before Christmas. Orders will be available at the PMC during business hours.

*** Please note there will be holiday hours.***

There will be NO ORDERS placed on Monday, December 25th.

SCRIP Program Purchase Form

Date: _____

Check #

Email Address: _____ **Phone:** _____

DD/check/cash

Name:

Amount Due:

Please Indicated Number and Value of Cards Ordered

# of Cards	Value	%	Total \$	# of Cards	Value	%	Total \$
Ace Hardware	\$25/\$100	4%		Jewel Foods Gift Card	\$25/\$100	4%	
Amazon.com	\$25/\$100	2.5%		Joann Fabric Store	\$25	6%	
AMC Lowes Theatres	\$25	8%		Kohl's	\$25/\$100	4%	
Applebee's	\$25	8%		Landry's Rest. (Group)	\$25	9%	
Barnes & Noble	\$10/\$25	8%		Lettuce Entertain You	\$25/\$100	12%	
Bass Pro Shop	\$25/\$100	9%		Limited (The)	\$25	9%	
Bath & Body Works	\$10/\$25	18%		Lou Malnati's Pizza	\$10	8%	
Bed, Bath & Beyond	\$25/\$100	8%		Lowe's	\$25/\$100/\$500	4%	
Best Buy	\$25/\$100	4%		Macy's	\$25/\$100	10%	
BP Gas Card	\$50/\$100	1.5%		Marathon	\$25/\$100	3%	
Buffalo Wild Wings	\$10/\$25	8%		Marianos Fresh Market	\$25/\$50/\$100	4%	
Buona Beef	\$10	8%		Mario Tricoci's	\$25/\$100	7%	
Burger King	\$10	4%		Meijer	\$25/\$50/\$100	3%	
Cabella's	\$25	11%		Menards	\$25/\$100/\$500	3%	
California Pizza Kitchen	\$25	8%		Noodles & Company	\$10	8%	
Carson Pirie Scott	\$25/\$100	8%		Nordstrom	\$25/\$100	6%	
Cheesecake Factory	\$25	5%		Oberweis	\$10	8%	
Chili's Rest. (Group)	\$25	11%		Office Depot/Office Max	\$25/\$100	5%	
Chipotle	\$10	10%		Outback Rest. (Group)	\$25/\$50	8%	
Crate & Barrel	\$25/\$100	8%		Panera	\$10/\$25	8%	
CVS Pharmacy	\$25/\$100	6%		Red Robin	\$25	8%	
Dairy Queen	\$10	3%		Regis Salons	\$25	10%	
Darden Rest. (Group)	\$25	8%		Shell	\$25/\$50/\$100	2%	
Dennis Uniform	\$20	5%		Speedway	\$25/\$100	4%	
Dicks Sporting Goods	\$25/\$100	8%		Staples	\$25	5%	
Domino's Pizza	\$10	8%		Starbucks	\$5/\$10/\$25	7%	
Dunkin Donuts	\$10/\$25	3%		Steak 'n Shake	\$10	8%	
Express	\$25	10%		Subway	\$10/\$50	6%	
Exxon/Mobile	\$50	1%		Target GiftCard	\$25/\$50/\$100	2.5%	
Fannie May	\$10	25%		TGI Fridays	\$25	8%	
GAP/Old Navy(Options)	\$25/\$100	14%		TJMaxx/Marshalls	\$25/\$100	7%	
GameStop	\$25	3%		VISA	\$50/\$100/\$250	1.5%	
Hallmark Gold Crown	\$25	4%		Walgreens	\$25/\$100	6%	
Home Depot (The)	\$25/\$100/\$500	4%		Walmart/Sam's Club	\$25/\$50 /\$100/\$250	2.5%	
iTunes	\$15/\$25	5%		Whole Foods Market	\$25/\$100	3%	

Complete listing of participating retailers at shopwithscrip.com

Participating retailers and rebates are subject to change without notice.

Support Groups for Those Suffering with Addiction and Their Loved Ones

- ♦ **Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Closed Step Meeting**
Parish Ministry Center
Coggins Hall
Wednesday 7:30 pm
- ♦ **Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA)**
Parish Ministry Center
Living Room
Thursday 7:30 pm
- ♦ **Co-Dependents Anonymous (CODA)**
Parish Ministry Center
Living Room
Saturday 10:15 am

Drug, alcohol and gambling addiction is a disease which is chronic, progressive and treatable, but terminal if untreated. Recovery is possible if the person is willing to ask for help and work toward that goal. Families with addicted family members also need help and understanding. Worry, fear and anger destroy both relationships and the family unit. The Substance Abuse Team is available to reach out with support and care. CONFIDENTIALITY AND ANONYMITY are the very essence of our ministry.

Please call our team members for help:

Dan Sullivan 847-9862-5208; Jill Bergner 847-228-6073
Kathy & Warren Goldberg 847-483-0443; Marie McGarry
847-398-0415; Bob O'Donnell 630-400-9479. For assistance with ACA contact Dan Lapinski 847-259-4645.

***God grant me the serenity to accept
the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.***

MISS FOUNDATION -

Perinatal and Infant loss support group
2nd Thursday of each month
7 - 9 pm Parish Ministry Center (PMC)

This is a peer support group for mothers and fathers that have lost a child in pregnancy or shortly after birth. Any questions or to RSVP (encouraged, but not necessary) please contact Jeannie Jordan at 847-217-1548 or jeannie.jordan@missfoundation.org
Julie Levandoski at 708-280-5698 or juie.levandoski@missfoundation.org

GRANDMOTHERS IN PRAYER

Grandmothers In Prayer is a ministry which gives Grandmothers a special way to connect with their grandchildren: by praying for them. These women come together on two Wednesdays every month (from 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon) to pray for their grandchildren, their schools and teachers. For further information please call Donna Czajka at (847) 228-6360.



We Pray...

Seamless Garment/ Respect Life Committee

As people who respect all life from conception to natural death, we pray for those on death row scheduled for execution during the month of December. Let us also hold in prayer their families, and most especially their victim's families.

12/1 Bobby Wayne Stone South Carolina (Stayed)
12/14 Juan Castillo Texas

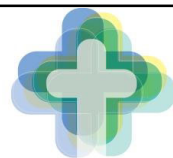
MOMS ROSARY GROUP

JANUARY 2ND AT 7PM IN THE PMC

The Moms' Rosary group meets once a month in the PMC. They pray the rosary for their adult children, their intentions and concerns. New members are most welcome. For information contact Kathi Szott at either 847-226-6369, or katsz928@yahoo.com.

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

Volunteers in this ministry pray daily for the needs of the community and the world. Many in this ministry are homebound. The goal of this ministry is to connect those who are no longer physically able to join us for worship, but can offer prayer for the community. They have meaningful gifts to offer through their service of prayer. A monthly letter is sent asking the ministers to pray daily for the intentions mentioned. If you know a homebound person who would like to be part of this ministry, please call the PMC. Contact: Sr. Valerie Kulbacki at 847-253-8600 x143 / sr.val@st-raymond.org.



WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY CIRCLES

Women's Spirituality Circles are small groups of 8-18 women who gather once a month to nourish, reflect upon and share their own spiritual lives. A resource book is used, which enables the women to come to a deeper understanding of themselves and their own unique spirituality. Through reading, discussion and prayerful reflection, the women experience a deeper prayer life and the invitation to share their gifts in service to God's people. They gather strength, insight and a sense of gratitude from one another. Each group has a facilitator. For further information please contact Kathy Hemler at either 847-427-1472 or chuck.kathy.hemler@comcast.net.

Counseling Services

Counseling services are available for those experiencing the loss of a loved one, a relationship, job, and other challenging life situations through our Human Concerns Commission. If you would like to talk with a counselor, please contact Sr. Valerie Kulbacki, Director of Care Ministries, at 847-253-8600 x 143 or at Sr.Val@St-Raymond.org.

Pray for our Military

Heavenly Father, we pray for the people of this nation and every nation that we might work to bring liberty, justice and peace to all. We ask that you care for the men and women who serve our country in the military that they might know of our prayers and be blessed and protected through your ever loving presence. Amen.

"All Are Welcome"

Please know that everyone is invited to bring up the gifts of bread and wine at mass ... that means a family of 6 or a family of 1 Please- simply let us know!

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

Preferred Date: _____ Mass time: _____

Just drop in the offering basket, call or email us at 847-253-8600 x 145 or worsihpoffice@st-raymond.org.

**Oplatki is available
in church or
at the Parish Ministry Center
(PMC)
Suggested Donation \$ 2**

Pray for Our Sick As Members of the Parish Faith Community, it is our responsibility to remember both in concrete and spiritual ways those who cannot celebrate with us each week because they are ill. Those who are sick in turn, remember all of us daily in their prayers and in their sufferings. We experience many blessings because of their remembering us. And so ... please remember in your prayers the people listed,

Abplanalp, Esther
Adam, Jon & Renee
Adamo, James
Adamo, Mary Jane
Adams, Kathie
Adams, Robert
Baker, Robert
Baldassano, Dina
Banadera, Leonida
Banas, Virginia
Becker, John
Blatnick, Carol
Bonk, Catherine
Boss, Jim
Brady, Lois
Brandson, Jeanne
Brinkman, Cheryl
Brown, Gerald L. "Chip"
Buchberger, Greg
Burke, Don
Bychowski, Mike
Bychowski, Steven
Caulfield, Jim
Cavage, Adeline
Cigrang, Bob
Cole, James
Comanici, Coca
Crafton, Dean
Crooks, Richard
Cyrier, Ruth
Dauer, Elizabeth Anne
DeGiudice, Rita
DeLorenzo, Albert
Demonte, Frank
Denten, Patricia
Dini, John
Doell, Ruth
Dombkowski, Daniel
Dougherty, Chris
Dowling, Beau
Eichberger, Mary Ann
Engelson, Mildred
Fardella, Rosa
Fisher, Charles
Flerlage, Diana

Gadomski, Jan
Gallo, Cynthia
Gelinas, Mark
Gierszewicz, Patricia
Glynn, Rosemary
Gruter, Alicia
Hampton, Janet
Heidkamp, Josh
Hunt, Ann
Hurley, Jim
Iannello, Jennifer
Janas, Becky
Johnson, Margaret H.
Juell, Cathy
Karnes, Mitchell
Keane, Carol
King, Tom
Kotowski, Bernice
Kramer, Eleanor
Kricke, Jaclyn
LaCosse, Mary
Lapinski, Louise
Linkman, Jim
Longfellow, Dorothy
Maffenbeier, Joanne
Magiera, Lillian
Martinelli, Gloria
Matheson, Rosemarie
McDonald, Steve
McGinn, Catherine T.
McGinn, Fred
McGuire, Pat
Mendoza, Leo
Moisan, Connie
Monson, Dorothy &
Clarence
Munao, Kenneth
Nelson, Gregory
Nelson, Jane
Nitkiewicz, Tony
Nolan, Patricia
Noncek, Ed
Nykiel, Antonina
Olsen, Julia
Oshgan, Angeline

Osiol, Robert
Papievic, Shirley
Peterson, Marion
Philbin, Hilda
Pietrzak, Irene
Pinto, Sandra
Pitzele, Mark
Quid, Emma
Randant, Paula
Reising, Donald E.
Riley, Barbara
Ruskuls, Mary Ann
Schieble, Liz
Schreiner, Amy
Schultz, Rosemary
Shea, Dorothy
Sheehy, Eleanor
Shillington, Dee
Simon, Marilyn
Skillman, John
Skowron, Blake
Slack, Patricia
Smith, Debbie
Stell, Kathie
Stiver, Mary
Swedo, Eugene
Theisen, Florence
Thelander, Mary Jo
Todesco, Ben
Tortorello, Carol
Ullrich, Andrea
Urban, Rose
Vais, Joseph
Vecchio, Helen
Victoria, Beatriz
Wayrowski, OSF, Sr. Anne
White, Shirley
Wilson, Irene



† WE REMEMBER †

Monday—December 18, 2017

8:15 am † Jim Drain

Tuesday—December 19, 2017

8:15 am † Rose Marie Loch

Wednesday—December 20, 2017

8:15 am † Gina Pontillo-Pfau

Thursday—December 21, 2017

Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

7:00 am † Communion Service

8:15 am † Clem Berghoff

† Al Yokie

Friday—December 22, 2017

8:15 am † Robert & Iris Cobry

† Walter & Fredoline Lansing

Saturday—December 23, 2017

5:00 pm † Alex Andracki (24th anniversary)

† Claire Clark

† Ed & Betty Conlon

† Edward J. Conlon III

† Kenneth O'Dell

Sunday—December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 am † Mary Hynds

† Dennis Moritz

10:00 am † John Burke

† Harry & Imelda Waski

Vigil of Christmas

2:00 pm † For the People of Saint Raymond Parish Both Living and Deceased

4:30 pm † For the People of Saint Raymond Parish Both Living and Deceased

12:00 am † For the People of Saint Raymond Parish Both Living and Deceased

Monday—December 25, 2017

The Nativity of the Lord—Christmas

8:30 am † For the People of Saint Raymond Parish Both Living and Deceased

11:30 am † For the People of Saint Raymond Parish Both Living and Deceased



Altar Bread and Wine in Memory of
Robert Withey
Week of December 17, 2017



With Sincere Sympathy

Charlie Giraud, Father of Libby Bullock, and
Grandfather of Owen, Kathryn, Charlie and Allison
Natalina Nicolosi, Mother of Margie Masini, and
Grandmother of Olivia and Samuele
Aniela Zabawa, Mother of John, Grandmother of
Brian, and Great-Grandmother of William

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, December 18, 2017

9:00 am	Afghan Group Meeting	LDR
4:00 pm	Children's Choir Rehearsal	CHU
5:30 pm	Liturgical Dance Rehearsal	CHU
6:30 pm	Athletic Board Meeting	LDR
7:00 pm	RCIA Christmas Party	CR

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

1:00 pm	Rosary Makers Meeting	CR
1:30 pm	St. Raymond School Nativity Celebration	CHJ
4:00 pm	Teen Choir Rehearsal	CHU
7:00 pm	St. Raymond School Nativity Celebration	CHJ
9:30 pm	Men's Basketball Drop In	PLC

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

5:30 pm	Liturgical Dance Rehearsal	CHU
7:00 pm	Parish Choir Rehearsal	CHU
7:30 pm	AA Weekly Meeting	CH

Thursday, December 21, 2017

5:30 pm	Liturgical Dance Rehearsal	CHU
7:30 pm	Adult Children of Alcoholics Meeting	LR
9:00 pm	Men's Basketball Drop In	PLC

Friday, December 22, 2017

Saturday, December 23, 2017

6:00 am	Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study	CH
10:00 am	Teen Choir Christmas Rehearsal	CHU
10:15 am	Co-Dependents Anonymous Meeting	LR
12:30 pm	Liturgical Dance Rehearsal	CHU

Sunday, December 24, 2017

Parish Office open 9am to 12:00 noon

8:00 am	Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass	CHU
10:00 am	Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass	CHU
2:00 pm	Christmas Vigil Liturgy—Children's Choir	CHU
4:30 pm	Christmas Vigil Liturgy—Teen Choir	CHU
11:40 pm	Music Prelude	CHU
12:00 am	Midnight Mass	CHU

Monday, December 25, 2017

Parish Office Closed

8:30 am	Christmas Liturgy	CHU
11:30 am	Christmas Liturgy	CHU

Buhrfeind Room	BR	Leadership Room	LDR
Church	CHU	Living Room	LR
Community Room	CR	Rector's Basement	RB
Coggins Hall	CH	Parish Life Center	PLC
Dining Room	DR	Formation Room	FR

Parish Office Hours for Christmas:

Sunday, Dec. 24th Office open 9am to 12noon
Monday, Dec. 25th Office is closed
Tuesday, Dec. 26th Office is closed
Wednesday, Dec. 27th Regular office hours

**The Catholic Faith Community of
St. Raymond De Penafort**
301 S. I-Oka Avenue
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056
www.st-raymond.org

Parish Ministry Office
847-253-8600 Fax 847-253-0023
PMC@St-Raymond.org

Monday—Thursday: 8:30 AM—7:45 PM
Fridays: 8:30 AM—6:30 PM
Weekdays Closed: Noon—1:00 PM
Saturday: 9:00 AM—1:00 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM—12:30 PM

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR

Rev. Edward Panek, x123, Fr.Panek@St-Raymond.org

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Gilbert Mashurano, x139, Fr.Gilbert@St-Raymond.org

DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP

Deacon John Lorbach, x160, J.Lorbach@St-Raymond.org

Worship Office Secretary

Mary Lou Cacioppo, x145, M.Cacioppo@St-Raymond.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Brian Fife, x136, B.Fife@St-Raymond.org

Music Office Secretary

Mary Lou Larson, x153, MusicMinistry@St-Raymond.org

DIRECTOR OF CARE MINISTRIES

Sr. Valerie Kulbacki, x143, Sr.Val@St-Raymond.org

BUSINESS MANAGER

Jack Schuch, x111, J.Schuch@St-Raymond.org

COMMUNICATIONS /ACCOUNTING

Roberta Nichols, x121, R.Nichols@St-Raymond.org

YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

Agnes Knott, x150, A.Knott@St-Raymond.org

BULLETIN EDITOR

Mary Siefke, x135, M.Siefke@St-Raymond.org

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Fr. Jack Hurley, x137, Fr.Hurley@St-Raymond.org

Rosie Rosado, Assistant x163, R.Rosado@St-Raymond.org

PARISH SECRETARIES

Joanna Halvorsen

Rosemary Hinkemeyer PMC@St-Raymond.org

DEACON COUPLES

Deacon John and Ingrid Lorbach, J.Lorbach@st-raymond.org

Deacon David and Monica Babczak, D.Babczak@st-raymond.org

ST. RAYMOND SCHOOL

300 S. Elmhurst Avenue
Mount Prospect, Illinois 60056
847-253-8555

PRINCIPAL

Mary Eileen Ward, x198, MaryEileen.Ward@St-Raymond.org

ASST. PRINCIPAL

Catherine Hart, x191, C.Hart@St-Raymond.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

Pre-School — 8th Grade
Michelle Tuchner, Assistant, x134,
Michelle.Tuchner@St-Raymond.org

Parish Registration: To enter into our faith community as a member of St. Raymond Parish, we invite you and your family to attend one of our Welcoming Sessions. **Our next gathering and registration will be Sunday, January 14, 2018. Our session begins at 8:30 a.m. in the Buhrfiend Room, located in the Parish Ministry Center at 301 S. I-Oka Avenue, followed by the 9:30 a.m. liturgy.** No pre-registration is needed. For more information or questions, please contact Pam and Bill Doucette at 847-894-3645.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: Mass of Anticipation 5:00 PM
Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM, and 11:15 AM

Morning Mass Hours

Monday - Friday - 8:15 AM

Thursday Morning Communion Service - 7:00 AM

Eucharistic Prayer Chapel Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday - 7:30 AM - 9:00 PM*

Thursday - 6:30 AM - 9:00 PM*

Saturday - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM*

Sunday - between Masses - 2:00 PM

**The chapel is closed whenever a Mass is being celebrated.*

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday -13 Hour Adoration - 9:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Thursday Adoration - 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays (individual) 4:00 - 4:30 PM

PARISH LEADERSHIP

PARISH COUNCIL *

Joel Barbel, *Youth Formation*
Libby Bullock, *Office of the Pastor,*
Deanery Representative
Cheryl Costello, *Worship*
Theresa Drangines, *Adult Formation*
Kathy Hemler, *Human Concerns*
Lorelei McDermott, *Vice Chair,*
Office of the Pastor
Evelyn Mutzabaugh, *Human Concerns*
Kathy Nuelle, *Parish Life*
Joyce Ochab, *Worship*
Krissy Olson, *Parish Life*
Rev. Edward Panek, *Pastor*
Gianna Russo, *Teen Representative*
Carl Wrede**, *Chair, Office of the Pastor,*
Deanery Representative

FINANCE COUNCIL

John Reschke**
Judy Czurylo
Harriet Malinowski
Eric Palm
Margie Schmitt
Beverly Schulze
Mark Spanier

**minutes available on website*

****Chairperson**

VISITATION OF THE SICK: If you or a family member are in a local hospital or are homebound, and would like a visit from a minister of care or a priest, please call Sr. Valerie Kulbacki (x143), Director of Care Ministries.

BAPTISM: Our Baptismal Ministry is pleased to help your family prepare for the special event of your child's entrance into our faith community. Through our Baptism Ministry, you are welcomed to meet with other new parents as well as a host couple with the goal of better understanding your role as a Christian parent and also to help plan the Baptism liturgy. Our goal is to make your child's entrance into our Faith Community a rich and rewarding experience. Baptisms are scheduled on the 1st and 4th Sunday at 1:00 p.m., the 2nd Saturday at 12 noon, except during the season of Lent. Parents and Godparents are encouraged to prepare themselves for this Sacrament through a preparation meeting at least two months in advance of the celebration. Please call the Worship Office (x145) for more information.

ADULT CHRISTIAN INITIATION: If you are looking for a place to belong or for a church community with whom you can share your questions and beliefs, perhaps you would like to find out more about what it means to be a Catholic Christian. The Faith Community of Saint Raymond has something quite special to offer and we would love to share the gift of faith with you. Please call the parish office at 847-253-8600 for more information regarding the RCIA (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*).

MARRIAGE: If you are planning to be married at St. Raymond, your preparation process should begin approximately one year prior to your wedding date. Please call the Worship Office 847-253-8600 (x145) to secure a date as soon as possible. Membership at St. Raymond is *not* a requirement. We look forward to helping you during this time of engagement and preparation for the vocation of Christian marriage.



CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —

St. Raymond #512200

ADDRESS —

301 S. Ioka

Mount Prospect, IL 60056

PHONE —

847-253-8600

CONTACT PERSON —

Mary Siefke

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