



ST. RAYMOND DE PEÑAFORT

# GIVING SPIRIT

*Generosity Pages 2021*

Throughout 2021, the members of St. Raymond have generously supported the parish and school along with the surrounding community. As seen on the following pages, St. Raymond parishioners have poured out a genuine love that is grounded in the knowledge of God's love for each person: "For God so loved the world that he gave\* his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." (John 3:16). It is through this belief that so many give without expecting to receive in return. This is a true reflection of God's generous heart and gives meaning to

your actions, strengthens your relationships with others, and unifies us as members of the Body of Christ.

The St. Raymond parish extends a heartfelt thank you! We are grateful for your generous donations that help continue the mission of the Church.



Boy Scout Troop 155 collected 60 gifts for Christmas and joined efforts with the 6th grade students led the St. Raymond School annual toy drive for the children of our sharing parish, Holy Family in Chicago. The 6th graders spoke to the younger classes about this school-wide service project and led the charge in promoting the project through posters and school announcements. Over 622 toys and 197 books were collected and parent volunteers filled their "sleighs" and drove the gifts to Holy Family. This was truly a school community outreach and a great way to start Christmas by sharing with others!



Thanksgiving Day collection for  
Emergency Fund -\$710

The Outreach Ministry joined forces with Mt Prospect's Food Pantry to collect food with St. Raymond using several collection locations through Dec 15th.



The total collection was 23 boxes, 125 grocery bags full of food and drink.





The Women of St. Raymond December charity was Catholic Charities. We asked for unwrapped toys for babies and grade school children. The young adult or high school age receives gift cards valued at \$25.00. We accepted donations at the PMC driveway from 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm, Dec 5th. We filled an entire SUV with gifts. At the WOSR Christmas Party, we again filled an SUV with gifts. Between both collections, we received gift cards or monies to enable us to donate \$870.00 worth of Target gift cards and 1 from TJ Maxx. Catholic Charities (on Rand Road) was thrilled and very grateful for the generosity of our group and St. Raymond Parish.



## 2nd Grade Brownies

Went caroling and read to seniors with Fr. Gilbert.

Our Junior High RE students came together for a creative evening making greeting cards for neighboring nursing homes.



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FAMILIES



LEMONS OF LOVE



## Homebound Parishioners

The poinsettias for the homebound were provided by the Outreach Ministry in the name of The Community of St. Raymond. One of our angel notecards was included with the plant with a message for parishioner "Thinking of you during this holy season and wishing you a very Blessed Christmas.", signed "The Community of St. Raymond".



Saint Raymond de Penafort Parish  
WELCOME | LOVE | SERVE

The OM also sent the angel notecard with a short note "May this be a gentle season of healing and love, knowing that others remember and card.", signed "The Community of St. Raymond" to those families whose loved one's funeral was not at SR.



Backpack Ministry partnered with D59 and provided large monthly boxes of food for October, November, and December for 15 families. Included in the boxes are multiple meals for breakfast, lunch, and dinner to help bridge the gap over the weekend. We also included some fun toys, activity books/crayons, and some candy for Thanksgiving and Christmas. We've also provided snacks to social workers to hand out to children in need during the daytime.

We will continue our giving in 2022 in the same vein—monthly boxes of food rather than weekly deliveries. This method allows us to pack all supplies outdoors (or in our home garages), and we've streamlined our delivery to avoid unnecessary contacts during this time of COVID. In 2022 we will reach out to District 26 again to see if they want to be added back to our distribution, as they declined due to the federal subsidies already received.



This year the Saint Raymond Afghan Group was able to send a donation to the Wings program of 85 afghans and blankets for the residents and children in this year's program. Each year we make this donation but the number is not always this large. Our group has worked very hard to fulfill this request. We also sent scarves to the group making mats for the homeless. We can always use a helping hand and welcome anyone interested in joining us. Contact Cheryl Zalinski at 847-818-9901.