



ST. RAYMOND

CATHOLIC CHURCH

SERVED BY DOMINICAN FRIARS



The Epiphany of the Lord
January 4, 2026



Senior Bingo

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026

12:15 pm - Senior Mass
1:00 pm - Lunch & Bingo

Please join us on **Wednesday, January 7** for a special New Year's gathering of STARS Senior Bingo.

We will begin in the church at 12:15 pm for a senior Mass. Following Mass, the beautiful sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be offered for those who wish to participate. We will then move to the Parish Center for a light lunch and delicious treats. Bring a friend or two to join in the fun with this wonderful group—all are welcome!

If you have any questions, please contact Karyn Leahy at leahyfamily@msn.com.

YOUNG ADULTS



We had another great turnout for our monthly 4D event ADVENTagous prep for Christmas with Fr. Chrysostom. Plug into our growing young adult community (ages 20-40) by joining our WhatsApp group. Every Sunday, young adults meet up after the 10:00 am Mass to enjoy coffee. We will also be starting a new series of men's and women's small groups on Theology of the Body on Jan. 26.



This Week

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026

8:15 am Mass followed by Adoration & Confession until 9:15 am
10:30 am Christmas Caroling (Atherton Post-Acute Care)
3:30 pm Confession until 4:30 pm
5:00 pm Mass

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026

8:00 am Mass
10:00 am Mass followed by ☕ & 🍩
5:00 pm Mass

MONDAY-SATURDAY

8:15 am Mass

MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2026

6:00 pm Legion of Mary (Parish Hall)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026

10:00 am Bible Study
12:15 pm Senior Mass followed by Lunch & Bingo
7:00 pm Catholic in Recovery
7:00 pm Holy Hour (Adoration & Confession)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 2026

8:15 am Mass followed by Adoration & Confession until 9:15 am
3:30 pm Confession until 4:30 pm
5:00 pm Mass

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

8:00 am Mass
9:00 am Religious Education
10:00 am Mass followed by ☕ & 🍩
5:00 pm Mass
6:00 pm BEaST Youth Group

Mass Intentions

Sat., Jan. 3, 5:00 pm Gerald F. Carr †
The Epiphany of the Lord (S)
Sun., Jan. 4, 8:00 am Kalesi Fineasi †
10:00 am Marsha Walsh †
5:00 pm St. Raymond Parish
Mon., Jan. 5, 8:15 am Connie Auyeung (1st anniv.) †
St. John Neumann, Bishop (M)
Tue., Jan. 6, 8:15 am Paul Robbiano †
St. Andre Bessette, Religious (m)
Wed., Jan. 7, 8:15 am Aurora Abelon †
St. Raymond of Penafort, OP, Priest & Master of the Order (S)
12:15 pm St. Raymond Seniors
Thu., Jan. 8, 8:15 am James Roach †
Fri., Jan. 9, 8:15 am James Kelly, Sr. †
Sat., Jan. 10, 8:15 am Puz & Harold Nelson †† & Family, L&D
Sat., Jan. 10, 5:00 pm
The Baptism of the Lord (S)
Sun., Jan. 11, 8:00 am Alice Mignon Gibilterra †
10:00 am Olga Mirek †
5:00 pm St. Raymond Parish

S - Solemnity; **F** - Feast; **M** - Obligatory Memorial;
m - Optional Memorial; **L&D** - Living & Deceased

PRAYERS As a parish community we pray for the sick, including: Jackie Archibald, Nony & Penny Bantug, Maureen DeMoss, Esther Falsario, Janice Hagy, Sandra Lecha, Bonnie Morey, Rosie & Roger, the homebound, those in our local hospitals and skilled nursing facilities, those formerly on the list, and those who wish not to be named.

To add a name or to relist a name, please contact the Parish Office.

ADA DOORS

"Lift up your heads, O gates; be lifted, you ancient portals, that the king of glory may enter." - Psalm 24:7

This Christmas, help us make St. Raymond more welcoming for all! We're raising \$9,000 to install ADA-compliant door openers on both the Mary and St. Joseph side entrances. These openers will serve parishioners with mobility challenges, parents with strollers, and anyone who could use a helping hand.

Your donation—large or small—brings us closer to making our church accessible to everyone. To contribute, please contact the parish office or donate online at <https://strmp.link/doors>.



13th Annual rummage sale SAVE THE DATE

April 25-26, 2026

Start collecting items now! A storage container will be available in early January near the priest home off Arbor Road for you to bring your items. The start date and hours for rummage sale collection will be available soon.

Questions? Contact Karyn Leahy at leahyfamily@msn.com.

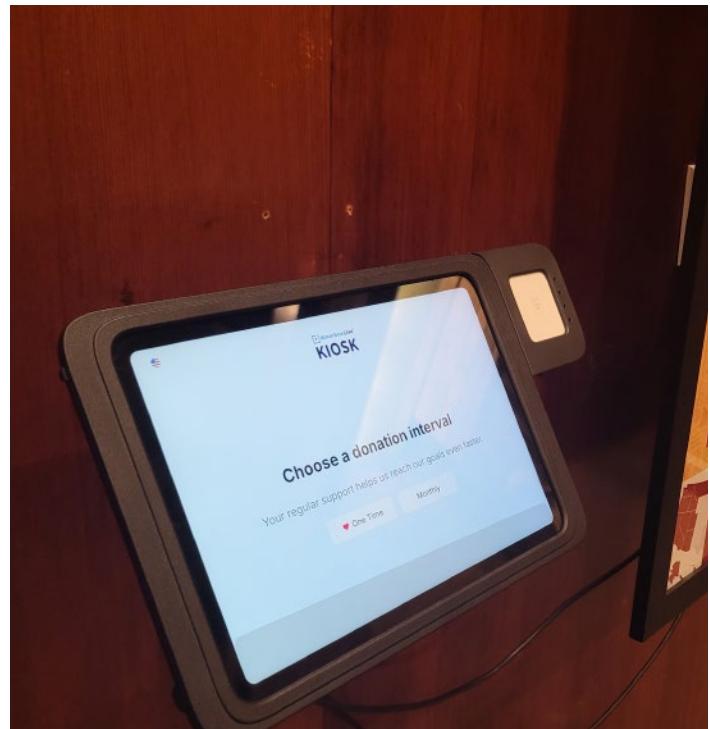
INTRODUCING OUR NEW DONATION KIOSKS!

We're excited to announce a new way to give at St. Raymond! Two convenient donation kiosks have been installed on the Marian side of the church, making it easier than ever to support our parish.

You can now contribute using: Credit or debit card, Google Pay, Apple Pay, Contactless payment methods.

Why Give Digitally? Whether you forgot your checkbook, prefer not to carry cash, or simply want a quick and convenient way to give, these kiosks are here for you. Your generosity supports our parish ministries, programs, and community outreach.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Raymond Parish!



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

If you haven't registered your children or your youth in the programs, you can still do it! Registrations in the Religious Education program are open throughout the year.

Children PreK-6th grade meet on Sundays 9:00-9:50 am.

7th-12th graders meet every Sunday 6:00-8:00 pm.

Parents of young children are also invited to meet every Sunday at the same time: 9:00-9:50 am. Parents of teens are invited to a monthly dinner party and discussion with Fr. Jerome and Florence de Bretagne. Contact florence.debretagne@straymondmp.org if you have any questions, if you want to join now, or if you would like to invite your friends—just do it!

We are grateful to have an amazing team of dedicated catechists and seminarians who contribute to the religious education of our children, teenagers, and parents.

Here is what a mother is saying:

"This first semester of CCD has absolutely blown my mind. From the parent sessions to praying the rosary together in the church, to parent dinners and catechists who are actually teaching the faith in a compelling way—I'm so grateful and so happy for my children to have something beyond our home to help them grow in their faith! My son's teacher is spectacular!! I can't believe how much Bible knowledge he's imparting on our 6th graders! Wow!!"

Upcoming in the New Year:

All our classes resume on Jan. 11.

PreK-6th grade: Our next "Family Mass" with children participating in the liturgy will be Jan. 25.

7th-12th grade "BEaST" youth group:

- Jan. 10, 8:15 am-12:00 pm: Confirmation morning retreat for confirmandi, parents, and sponsors in the Parish Hall
- Jan. 11: Ice skating with the whole family at Winter Lodge in Palo Alto! Secure your spot and register at <https://strmp.link/iceskating> (\$20 for skaters, Free for non-skaters, \$6 for skate rentals)
- Jan. 24-25: Next youth fundraiser—bake sale and tamales sale after each Mass

We thank all our BEaST students and families who participated in the bake/tamales sale last weekend, and we thank even more all the parishioners who bought some treats. We raised \$1,400 which helped cover the youth retreat we went on last Nov.! Our next fundraiser will go towards a service trip in Virginia to help migrant communities. More details to come.



If you have any questions regarding the BEaST youth group, please contact brjohnpaul@straymondmp.org or florence.debretagne@straymondmp.org.



DOMINICAN CORNER

Are We Following Christ's Revelations in Our Lives?

Br. Mark Joseph Soto, O.P., reflects on the Gospel for the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord (Mt 2:1-12)

My dear brothers and sisters, our Savior has come as the bright light shining in the darkness! Today we celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord, His birth revealed to the Magi by the Star of Bethlehem. We too get to experience our own epiphany for ourselves. The Wise Men were trained to interpret the stars, so in a sense, because of their training, they were docile to the prompting of the star to go, find, and worship the new King. Guess what, we too, by our Baptism, have received this glistening Star, the Holy Spirit, God Himself, in our own souls! The question is, are we attuned to being docile and following our Bright Light?

This star, seen by the Wise Men, was not just for them, but for everyone else as well, this is a sign that each of us is given the opportunity now in this life to meet the God Man! They first went to King Herod in Jerusalem to inquire about where the new King was to be born. From there, they were sent to Bethlehem. So too in our own journey to finding and growing in love for the Child Jesus, it is going to take time, effort, the help of our neighbor, and ultimately His grace to redirect us towards this bright Star. This journey is a journey of sanctity. And there is nothing to be afraid of because that Star in your soul is the flame of Holy Spirit, shining bright to guide you in trial, tribulation, and also in joys.

But there are so many things one can do. What is it that I need to do? I don't feel like a saint....

We think of the Wise Men only giving gold, frankincense, and myrrh when they finally meet the Child, but really, the first gift was in their yes to go on this long and probably stressful trek. This was a certain acceptance of God's grace. So, we may feel far from sainthood, but sainthood starts with accepting that grace, giving it back to our Redeemer by following that grace, and ultimately giving all the crosses and joys along the way. We then offer our gold, frankincense, and myrrh which for us can resemble what is most precious to us, our very lives.

And guess what, we don't have to wait very long at all to start offering these gifts of ours. Run to the holy Mass and offer yourself as a victim of love, handing over your entire being. That is a powerful time and place to offer these gifts and return home another way, truly transformed, running home by way of joy and peace, for our Savior has come and meets us face to face.

Because Women Deserve Better than Abortion.[®]

WALK for LIFE

WEST COAST

22ND ANNUAL



SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2026 • CIVIC CENTER PLAZA • SAN FRANCISCO

Rally: 12:30PM
CIVIC CENTER PLAZA
Info Faire: 11:00AM
Saturday, January 24, 2026

Walk for Life
WEST COAST
ABORTION HURTS WOMEN

Rally starts at Civic Center Plaza, walking down Market Street (2 miles). Walk ends at Embarcadero Plaza. BART stations at both locations. Ample parking.

Register and info: (415) 658-1793 | email: info@WalkforLifeWC.com

WalkforLifeWC.com

WALK FOR LIFE SAN FRANCISCO

Join us for the 22nd Annual Walk for Life West Coast on Saturday, January 24, 2026! Stand up for the dignity of every human life at this inspiring event in San Francisco.

Event Schedule:

- Rally: 12:30 pm at Civic Center Plaza
- Walk: Down Market Street (2 miles) to Embarcadero Plaza

Bus Transportation from St. Raymond: We're offering convenient round-trip bus service!

- **Departure:** 10:00 am from St. Raymond parking lot
- **Return:** Approximately 4:00 pm
- **Cost:** \$30 per participant (non-refundable)

Space is limited, so register early at strmp.link/walkforlife26.



"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you." - Jeremiah 1:5

ST. RAYMOND, OUR PATRON

GREAT DOMINICANS: ST. RAYMOND OF PENYAFORT (JAN. 7)

By Br Stefan Mangnus O.P.

When a great legal mind and a deeply pastoral heart come together, something special is bound to happen.

Raymond of Peñafiel (ca. 1175 – 1275) was one of the great legal minds of his time. Born in a village near Barcelona, he was trained as a canon lawyer and occupied the chair of canon law in Bologna, at that time the place to be for anyone interested in law.

In Bologna Raymond met the Dominicans, and joined the order at the age of 47. He went back to Barcelona, but Pope Gregory IX had heard of his juridical talent, and asked him to come to Rome for an important task. For some centuries, papal decrees had been multiplying and were scattered over a unhelpfully great number of collections: Raymond was to rearrange and bring order in canon law. In 1234 the work was finished, and Pope Gregory publicly thanked "our dear Son, brother Raymond" for his work. The "Decretals of Gregory IX" as they became known, are an exceptional collection of canon law: they remained the standard in the church for almost 700 years, until the Codex of Canon Law was published in 1917.

After the work on the Decretals was finished, Raymond returned to Spain, but could not stay there very long: in 1238 his Dominican brothers chose him as the third Master of the Order. Although he was by now over 60 years old, he set out on foot to visit all the houses of friars and nuns of the Order. In the meantime, he drafted a new set of constitutions for the order, in which he included a resignation clause for the Master. When the constitutions were accepted

by the next general chapter of 1240, he immediately took advantage of that option and stepped down.

Raymond is well known for his Decretals, and we Dominicans know him as our third Master, but there was another side to brother Raymond. In Barcelona, he wrote the "Summa de casibus poenitentiae", a handbook to help his Dominican brothers with questions that might arise in hearing confessions. In contrast to existing handbooks for confessors, Raymond did not just give a list of sins and suggested penances, but discussed pertinent doctrines and laws of the church to help the understanding of the confessors.

In his years in Rome, Raymond was the confessor of Pope Gregory IX. Back in Barcelona, he became the confessor of King James of Aragon, and was known for his wise counsel. A look at his other works confirms Raymond's deeply pastoral heart: he wrote a book on marriage, in which he stressed the centrality of free consent, and in which he diverges from a mainly legal approach to discuss the goods of marriage. He also wrote a book settling sensitive cases of conscience.

Looking at these works, it is hard not to think of Raymond as a teacher of Christian freedom: teaching confessors insight in how to free people from the bondage of sins, teaching the centrality of freedom in the love that binds people together in marriage, and writing on conscience, what the church later would call "the most secret core and sanctuary of a man" (*Gaudium et Spes* 16). Freedom from sin, freedom to give oneself to another in love, freedom of conscience: Raymond of Peñafiel put his great legal mind at the service of this "freedom of the children of God". For this, he is rightly remembered as a great Dominican.

Source: <https://english.op.org/godzdogz/great-dominicans-st-raymond-of-penafiel/>



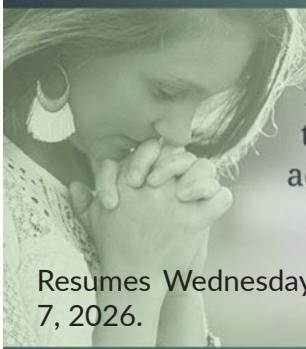
PACK THE PANTRY

As part of our parish mission to pray, serve, and socialize we will have a "Pack the Pantry" collection site at our parish. We will be collecting unopened non-perishable items to supplement our St. Raymond St. Vincent de Paul conference's mission to feed the vulnerable. Next time you're at the store, please grab a few extra items from our list! This will be an ongoing project.

Located in the black storage locker in the parish courtyard next to the parish hall.



Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m. St. Raymond Church



Catholic sacramental recovery and fellowship for those seeking freedom from addictions, compulsions, and unhealthy attachments.

Resumes Wednesday, January 7, 2026.



FAITH | FREEDOM | FELLOWSHIP

Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary meets every Monday at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Feel free to join us and learn more about the Legion of Mary. Members have been Praying, Serving, and Socializing since the 1950s.

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING CATHOLIC?

If you've been curious about the Catholic faith, we'd love to have you join us for OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults). It's a welcoming group where adults explore what it means to be Catholic—no pressure, just honest conversation and learning together.

Questions? Reach out to **Dn. Tom Kelly** at tfk@sbcglobal.net or 650-670-2200. He's happy to answer any questions you might have.

Photo Credits: Cover - St. Raymond, Stained glass window from Holy Rosary, Houston TX. <https://flic.kr/p/RDmDRA>. Photo by Fr. Lawrence Lew, O.P. Creative Commons BY-NC-ND 2.0. Page 6 - Church of Sant'Anastasia, Verona, Italy. Altar of Raymond of Peñafort. Altarpiece begun by Felice Riccio and completed by Alessandro Turchi. (CC BY-SA 4.0)



EMOTIONAL & MENTAL WELLNESS MINISTRY

If you or a loved one is experiencing mental or emotional wellness challenges, please contact our St. Raymond Emotional & Mental Health ministry at (650) 899-0370. This is a dedicated line and only co-leads of the ministry team will hear your message. You may also email the ministry team at emwm@straymondmp.org.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Raymond is a Catholic parish where we Pray, Serve, and Socialize together as we live out our faith in Jesus Christ.

VISION STATEMENT

St. Raymond Catholic Church is a vibrant parish in which every parishioner is engaged in ministry and all parishioners pray-serve-socialize together to keep the fire of our faith growing.

WELCOME



If you are a visitor to St. Raymond Parish, we want you to know you are welcome here—whether you have come from another part of the country, from across the world, or another parish in the Bay Area. Say hello to any of our parishioners! For information about our parish or to register, contact us at office@straymondmp.org or register online at straymondmp.org/register.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturdays	5:00 pm Vigil
Sundays	8:00 am, 10:00 am, 5:00 pm
Weekdays	8:15 am (Mon-Sat)
Holy Days	8:15 am, 12:15 pm, 7:00 pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8:45-9:15 am & 3:30-4:30 pm;
Wednesday 7-8 pm, or by appointment

ADORATION

Saturday 8:45-9:15 am, Wednesday 7-8 pm

ANOINTING OF THE SICK, BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, & FUNERALS - Please contact the parish office at 650-323-1755 or email office@straymondmp.org.

Low-Gluten Hosts are available at each Mass. Please visit the presiding priest's Communion line to receive the low-gluten host.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK Do you know of anyone who is homebound or ill? If so, we want to hear from you. Please contact the parish office at (650) 323-1755 and help us get in touch with those who need ministry.

GIVING: ONLINE AND IN PERSON

Make stewardship simple with eGiving! Set up secure automatic donations using your credit card, debit card, or bank account, and never worry about forgetting your weekly offering again. Manage your giving anytime at straymondmp.org/giving.



ST. RAYMOND PARISH

Served by the Dominican Friars of the Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus (Western Dominican Province) since 2013.

1100 SANTA CRUZ AVENUE, MENLO PARK, CA 94025

TELEPHONE 650-323-1755

EMAIL office@straymondmp.org

PARISH WEBSITE www.straymondmp.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS Mon-Fri. 9:00 am-5:00 pm

PASTOR - Fr. Jerome Cudden, O.P.
jcudden@straymondmp.org

PAROCHIAL VICAR - Fr. Antony Augustine Cherian, O.P.
frantony@straymondmp.org

DEACON/OCIA (RCIA) - Tom Kelly tfk@sbcglobal.net

TRANSITIONAL DEACON/BEAST YOUTH MINISTRY/YOUNG

ADULT GROUP/MERCY NIGHT -

Dn. John Paul Puschautz, O.P.
brjohnpaul@straymondmp.org

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL- Roderick Harrison
rharrison@straymond.org

PARISH STAFF

DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH - Hallie Colorado
Hallie@straymondmp.org

DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION/CHILDREN'S LITURGY
Florence de Bretagne
florence.debretagne@straymondmp.org

PARISH COORDINATOR - Ronnica Hagy
rhagy@straymondmp.org

GROUNDSKEEPER - Javier Hernandez

FACILITIES SUPERVISOR - Pedro Hernandez
phernandez@straymondmp.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & LITURGY - Lauri Hofstrom
music@straymondmp.org

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS - Angie Robbiano
dirofOPs@straymondmp.org

BULLETIN EDITOR/SACRISTAN - John Sanchez
jsanchez@straymondmp.org

COUNCILS

PASTORAL COUNCIL - Lori Mirek (Chair), Lindsay Craig, Karyn Leahy, Chris Terndrup, Stephanie Howard
pastoralcouncil@straymondmp.org

FINANCE COUNCIL - Patrick Green (Chair), Dave Brenner, Caitlin Burke, Mark Secker
finance@straymondmp.org