SVdP 5th Sunday Collection

St. Raymond
Catholic Church
Served by Dominican Friars

1st Sunday of Advent - November 29, 2026



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
650-323-1755 | office@straymondmp.org | straymondmp.org

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

Parochial Vicar Fr. John Paul Puschautz, O.P.
brjohnpaul@straymondmp.org

Deacon/OCIA Tom Kelly tfk@sbcglobal.net

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

Call 650-323-1755 or email office@straymondmp.org.

This Week

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28
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, NOVEMBER 29
8:00 am Mass
10:00 am Mass followed by Coffee & Donuts
5:00 pm Mass

MONDAY TO SATURDAY
8:15 am Mass

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30
6:00 pm Legion of Mary (Parish Hall)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2
10:00 am Bible Study
12:15 pm Senior Mass followed by Lunch & Bingo
6:15 pm Compass College Group
7:00 pm Catholic in Recovery (Parish Hall)
7:00 pm Holy Hour (Confession & Adoration)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4
6:30 pm Couples' Ministry Advent Celebration (off-site)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5
8:15 am Mass followed by Adoration & Confession until 9:15 am
2:00 pm Parish Advent Retreat
3:30 pm Confession until 4:30 pm
5:00 pm Mass

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6
8:00 am Mass
9:00 am Religious Education
10:00 am Mass followed by Coffee & Donuts
5:00 pm Mass
6:00 pm BEaST Youth Ministry

Liturgical Color for next Sunday (Second Sunday of Advent)



Violet/Purple

Mass Intentions

Sat., Nov. 28, 5:00 pm — Dr. Ralph Yob † & Family, L&D
1st Sunday of Advent

Sun., Nov. 29, 8:00 am — St. Raymond Parish
10:00 am — Sue Wagstaffe *birthday*
5:00 pm — Edward Devitt †

Mon., Nov. 30, 8:15 am — William Devitt †

Tue., Dec. 1, 8:15 am — Frazier Family, L&D †

Wed., Dec. 2, 8:15 am — Raymond H. Wiener †
12:15 pm — St. Raymond Seniors

Thur., Dec. 3, 8:15 am — Milo Pitera *birthday*
St. Francis Xavier, Priest M

Fri., Dec. 4, 8:15 am — Fr. Reginald Martin, O.P. † *birthday* & Lan Haarmann *birthday*
St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church m

Sat., Dec. 5, 8:15 am — Romeo Ko†

Sat., Dec. 5, 5:00 pm — Rosario Tavora †
2nd Sunday of Advent

Sun., Dec. 6, 8:00 am — Papa & Ruocco Families, L&D
10:00 am — Janice Covolo †
5:00 pm — St. Raymond Parish

S - Solemnity; F- Feast; M - Obligatory Memorial; m - Optional Memorial; L&D - Living & Deceased
Mass Intentions are available for 2027.

PRAYERS

As a parish community we pray for the sick, including: Sally Adams, Jackie Archibald, Nony & Penny Bantug, Howard Benden, Carolyn DeMarce, Maureen DeMoss, Enrique Diaz Salazar, Andrea Edwards, Esther Falsario, Janice Hagy, Richard Hammerud, Mark Head, Margaret Kelly, Bonnie Morey, Anjuli & Rashmi Nunn, Roger Pineda, Esperanza Quintanilla, Linda Rasmussen, Miguel Rosa, Enrique Diaz Salazar, Varsha Saxena, Emily Wong, the homebound, those in our local hospitals and skilled nursing facilities, those formerly on the list, and those who wish not to be named.

We also pray for the recently deceased Ray Lane, Rev. Jerome Murphy, and Rosie Pineda.

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



THE ST. FRANCIS CENTER
2026 HOLIDAY TOY PROGRAM

Wish List Ideas

Large Dolls
Large Trucks
Remote Control Cars
Remote Control Trucks
Large Lego Sets
Robots
Hello Kitty Items
Board Games
Large Stuffed Animals
Disney Dolls
Puzzles
Play-Doh Kits
Barbies
Super Hero Toys
Slime Kits
Bracelet Kits
Pokémon Cards
Blow Dryers
Hair Straighteners
Hair Ties & Hair Brushes

Books for ages 6 to 15 years
Soccer Balls
Headphones
Makeup Baskets
Jewelry
Sweatshirts
Tennis Shoes
Earbuds
Scooters
Art Sets & Art Supplies
Furbys & Plushy Stuffed Animals
Building Blocks
Cultural Dolls
Sensory Boxes
$25.00 Target Gift Cards
Christmas Wrapping Paper & Bows
Large Black Hefty Trash Bags
Packing Tape
AA and AAA Batteries





Please take an ornament from the Giving Tree in the Church. Each ornament specifies an age range. Please purchase a new gift for that child and bring it unwrapped to the Church or to the Parish Office on or before **Sunday, December 6.**

Students from St. Raymond School will take the gifts to St. Francis Center in Redwood City. There, families will be able to select items for their children. Your donations help to make a Very Merry Christmas for many local families. Thank you for your support and have a blessed Christmas!



Please join us on Wednesday, December 2 for a special Christmas gathering of STARS Senior Bingo. We will begin in the church at 12:15 pm for a senior Mass. Following Mass we will offer the beautiful sacrament of the anointing of the sick for those that wish to participate. We will then move to the Parish Center for a light lunch and delicious treats. Please bring a wrapped gift (value approx. $15) so you can participate in our annual lively gift exchange. Invite 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 leahyfamily@msn.com

St. Vincent de Paul

This Sunday, November 29, is the fifth Sunday in the month of November. In each month that contains five Sundays, St. Raymond's St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) conference takes up a collection on the fifth Sunday to help fund our work. Your support makes a big difference in the lives of the needy right in our area.

We would love to have additional volunteers. The volunteer work is very satisfying and does not take a lot of time. Please contact Camilo Colorado (ccolorado2005@gmail.com) to find out what volunteering involves.

God bless you and thank you for your generosity! Donate at straymondmp.org/giving.

ST. RAYMOND'S
COUPLES MINISTRY

Advent
CELEBRATION

GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4
6:30–8:30 PM
AT THE RASCH'S HOME
$30 PER COUPLE

SCAN TO SIGN UP

**TEAM UP, BUILD SOMETHING SWEET,
AND KICK OFF ADVENT TOGETHER!**

CONNECT & JOIN US
Joanna Rasch · joasia.rasch@gmail.com

COUPLES' SMALL GROUPS

Looking to go deeper?

Groups of 4–6 couples meet monthly in one another's homes to pray, discuss marriage and faith, and support one another in the sacrament of marriage.

Groups are forming now!

Contact Leilani Ahern · laniahern@gmail.com

Living Advent with Mary



December 5, 2026

St.Raymond's Parish Hall 2PM-5PM

Retreat preached by Br. Hyacinth O.P.

Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary is a group of Catholic laypeople who come together each week to pray, grow in faith, and serve others — all under the guidance and intercession of Mother Mary. Members volunteer in a variety of ways, from visiting the sick and homebound to outreach in the community, bringing the love of Christ to those who need it most. Along the way, members find genuine friendship and community with fellow parishioners who share their desire to live the faith.

The Legion of Mary at St. Raymond meets every Monday at 6 pm in the Parish Center. All are welcome to join us and learn more about this beautiful apostolate.

O.C.I.A.

Curious about the Catholic Faith? You're not alone. OCIA brings together adults who are exploring what it means to be Catholic — whether you're new to faith entirely or returning after time away. We'd love to have you join the conversation. Contact **Dn. Tom Kelly** at tfk@sbcglobal.net or 650-670-2200.

ST. RAYMOND · ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Pack the Pantry

All items MUST be non-perishable

Items needed

- ☐ Peanut Butter (16oz preferred)
- ☐ Canned Tuna
- ☐ Canned Chicken
- ☐ Beans
- ☐ Canned Fruits
- ☐ Canned Vegetables
- ☐ Pasta
- ☐ Rice

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!

Located right here!
Drop off in the courtyard between the Parish Hall and Youth Center.

Ongoing project
Give any week — unopened items only.

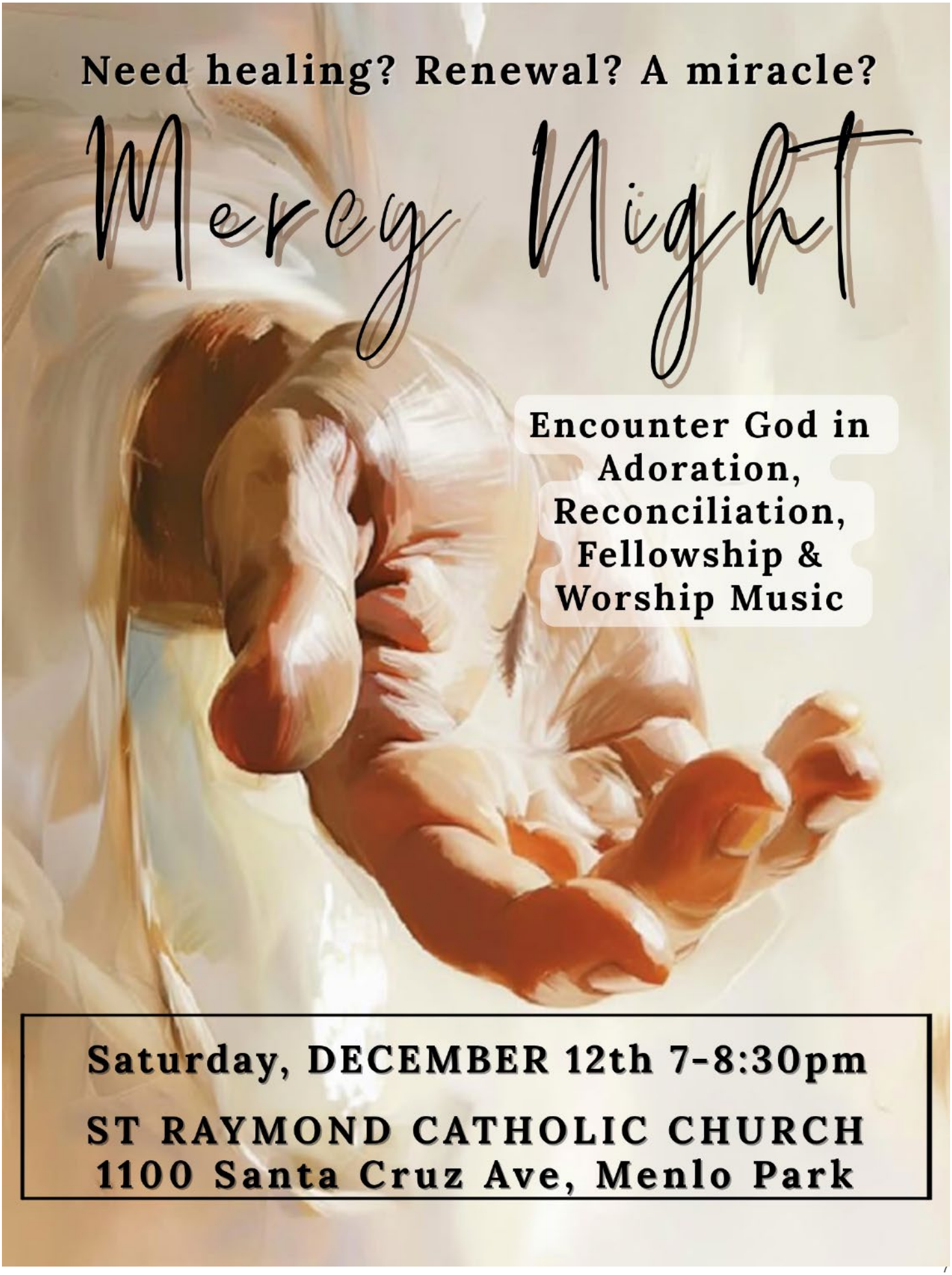
SPIRITUAL CARE OPPORTUNITY AT STANFORD HOSPITAL

Would you be interested in visiting Catholic patients at Stanford Hospital and offering them Communion as a Eucharistic Minister? If you are a compassionate listener, empathic, well-grounded in your faith and open to serving 2-4 hours a week, then becoming a **Spiritual Care Services Volunteer at Stanford Hospital** might be the right opportunity for you. We particularly welcome bilingual Spanish/English candidates.

Our Spiritual Care volunteer program opens enrollment **once a year** in the Spring. Plan ahead so you don't miss one of the 2 upcoming Spiritual Care Services Volunteer Information Sessions on **January 5th & January 12th 2027**, a virtual orientation about serving as a Spiritual Care Volunteer, program expectations, and application process.

Get on the mailing list for the orientation session today by adding your name to the interest list here (https://strmp.link/shcvol) before it closes on **December 9th**. You can also email your interest for becoming a Spiritual Care Volunteer to Volunteer Resources at Stanford Health Care, specifying your name and faith group at VolunteerResources@stanfordhealthcare.org. We can't wait to see you join our ministry. ■




Need healing? Renewal? A miracle?
Mercy Night
Encounter God in Adoration, Reconciliation, Fellowship & Worship Music
Saturday, DECEMBER 12th 7-8:30pm
ST RAYMOND CATHOLIC CHURCH
1100 Santa Cruz Ave, Menlo Park

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

JOY TO THE WORLD! OUR SAVIOR IS BORN!

SHARE CHRISTMAS JOY AND HOT CHOCOLATE!



Saturday, December 12th

10:00 AM to 12 PM

Meet at St Raymond Parish Hall

We will walk over to Atherton Acute Care to sing for the residents, making singing stops downtown along the way.



Women's Retreat Weekend

Explore - Encounter - Engage

Join other Catholic women to pray, rest, and journey toward Holy Week. Experience a pathway to the heart of Jesus' message for us.

Lent 2027

Includes talks by Dominican Priests from Saint Raymond Church.

- **Explore** different forms of Catholic prayer
- **Encounter** Jesus through personal prayer and reflection
- **Engage** with other faithful women of all ages

Register Early and Save!

DATE	LOCATION	COST
MAR. 12-14 2027	**VALLOMBROSA CENTER** Our beautiful local Retreat Center 250 OAK GROVE AVENUE MENLO PARK, CA 94025	$435.00 SINGLE OCCUPANCY ROOM $395.00 REGISTER BY DEC. 1

REGISTER TODAY!

GO ONLINE: strmp.link/LWR

Or **Mail your check** to: St. Raymond Church
Attention: Women's Retreat
1100 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park CA 94025

Registration fee includes two nights accommodations & all meals.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: FEBRUARY 1ST, 2027

Questions? Please Contact Our Organizers:
Yvette Gilardi: 650-248-4139
Mary Smith: 415-297-1754
WomensRetreatStRaymondMP@gmail.com

Spaces are limited. Register before Dec. 1st and save!!

Registration deadline is February 1st, 2027

SPONSORED BY ST. RAYMOND CHURCH, MENLO PARK CA

Religious Education News

Thanksgiving Weekend & December News

There will be no Religious Education classes and no BEaST youth programs this Sunday. Happy Thanksgiving!

All programs will resume on December 6:

BEaST High School: Serving food to people experiencing homelessness in East Palo Alto.

BEaST Middle School: Service project with the Order of Malta

Religious Education: Children will meet as usual with their catechists.

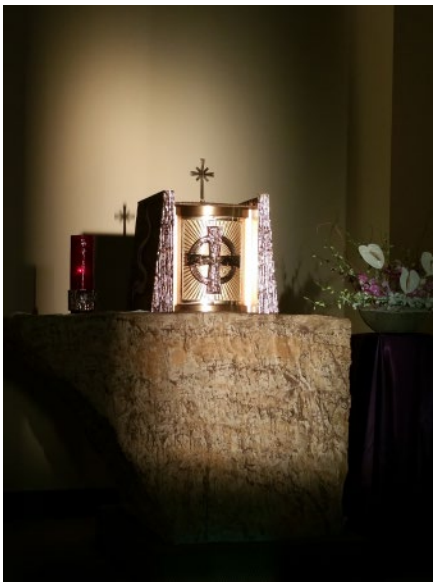
As we enter Advent, it's a wonderful time to invite friends and their families to join our St. Raymond community!

On December 13, all BEaST youth groups will come together for a White Elephant Party. The more, the merrier! Please see the flyer for details.

World Youth Day 2027: South Korea (Ages 14–33)

We invite all high school families and young adults to prayerfully discern whether they feel called to join our parish pilgrimage to World Youth Day in South Korea next summer. Please contact Fr. John Paul or Florence if you are interested or have any questions.





Morning Light on the Tabernacle

Each year, the morning sun lines up with our tabernacle and fills it with a warm glow. It is happening now, from about Nov. 15 to Dec. 7, around 7:25–7:35 AM, arriving a few minutes earlier each day. The sun is expected to return to the same angle from about Jan. 5 to Jan. 20, around 7:40–7:55 AM. If you are at church early, take a moment to see it for yourself!



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.

Domincan Gospel Reflections

How Will You Keep Watch This Advent?

Br. Albert Mary Uplazni, O.P.

Advent is this time of the year in which we prepare our minds and hearts for the celebration of Christmas, when Christ first came into the world as a little child. Advent is also a time in which we wait in a special way for the second coming of Christ, when He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, which explains why in today's gospel, on the first Sunday of Advent, Jesus tells us: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come."

The Greek word for "be watchful" is *??????????*, and it literally means "Be awake!"

Jesus doesn't forbid us to sleep. We naturally need sleep. He's not asking us to be awake merely physically, but spiritually!

What does this mean?

When we sleep, we are alive, but our living activities are reduced to a minimum. When awake, on the contrary, we actualize the fullness of life within us. We move, sense, and desire like other animals do; we also think, understand, and love. The more we exercise these activities, especially the highest ones, the more we can be said to be awake.

Spiritually, then, we are asleep when, though we have the life of grace within us from our baptism, our spiritual life is reduced to a minimum, that is we never or rarely make acts of faith, hope, and charity.

Thus, by calling us to watch this Advent, Jesus calls us to make full use of the supernatural life that we have received at baptism, and this by making actual acts of faith, hope and charity.

Here are two simple ways to do this.

First, practice Lectio Divina. Read Scripture and meditate on what God teaches us about who He is and what His plan of salvation for us is. Since love follows knowledge, actually meditating on God's goodness, in Himself and in what he does, disposes us to love Him actually.

Second, give thanks. Before bed, spend five minutes thanking God for three things you received that day. You can even write them in a journal.

These two simple practices will help you grow in love of God and remain spiritually awake with Christ.

Happy Advent!

Young Adult Group

Looking for community and authentic friendship centered on Christ? Hoping to learn more about the Catholic faith? We meet on the 4th Thursday of every month @ 4D Event: Dinner, Drinks, & Discussion w/ Dominicans.

Plug into our growing young adult community by joining our WhatsApp group — scan the QR code!

Young Adult Mass Meet-Up (YAMM)

Every Sunday, young adults:

1) Sit at 10 am Mass together (center-right);
2) Greet clergy & one another outside Parish Hall;
3) Enjoy FREE coffee, donuts & fellowship @ Rose Garden.







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.

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.

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.

Helplines for Clergy/Church Sexual Abuse Victims

(415) 614-5506 This number is answered by Rocio Rodriguez, LMFT, Archdiocesan Pastoral Outreach Coordinator. This is a secured line and is answered only by Rocio Rodriguez.

(415) 614-5503 If you wish to speak to a non-archdiocesan employee, please call this number. This is also a secured line and is answered only by a victim survivor.

(800) 276-1562 Report sexual abuse by a bishop or a bishop's interference in a sexual abuse investigation to a confidential third party. reportbishopabuse.org

St. Raymond Parish

PARISH STAFF (CLERGY ON FRONT)

Student Brother	**Br. Hyacinth Marie Bui, O.P.** hbui@straymondmp.org
Director of Outreach	**Hallie Colorado** Hallie@straymondmp.org
Director of Faith Formation	**Florence de Bretagne** florence.debretagne@straymondmp.org
School Principal	**Erin Glanville** eglanville@straymond.org
Parish Coordinator	**Ronnica Hagy** rhagy@straymondmp.org
Groundskeeper	**Javier Hernandez**
Facilities Supervisor	**Pedro Hernandez**
Director of Music & Liturgy	**Lauri Hofstrom** music@straymondmp.org
Director of Operations	**Angie Robbiano** dirofOPs@straymondmp.org
Bulletin Editor/ Sacristan/AV	**John Sanchez** jsanchez@straymondmp.org

COUNCILS

Pastoral Council pastoralcouncil@straymondmp.org	**Lori Mirek (Chair), Lindsay Craig, Karyn Leahy, Chris Terndrup, Stephanie Howard**
Finance Council finance@straymondmp.org	**Patrick Green (Chair), Tres Evans, Mark Secker, Art Shaw**



Photo Credit: Cover - Photo by Fr. Lawrence Lew, O.P. Detail from the apse mosaic of St John Lateran. CC BY-NC-ND 2.0 https://flic.kr/p/8WK2Qf.