

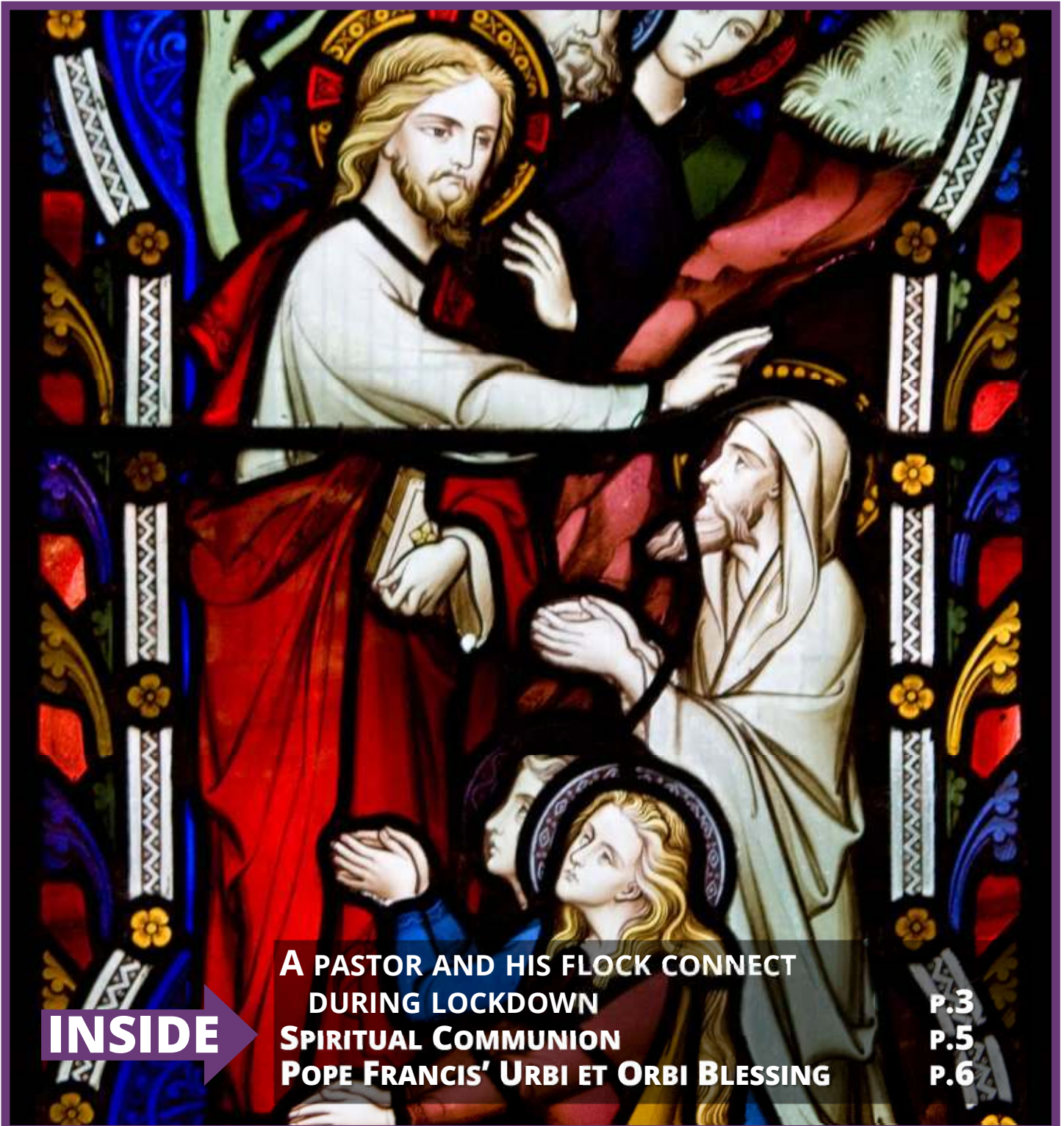


BULLETIN

ST. RAYMOND CATHOLIC CHURCH

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 29, 2020



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DURING LOCKDOWN
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ONLINE SCHEDULE

THIS WEEK

ALL EVENTS WILL BE LIVESTREAMED ON:

FATHER JEROME'S FACEBOOK:

www.facebook.com/fatherjeromecudden/live
(This link will work with or without a Facebook account) **AND**

FATHER JEROME'S YOUTUBE:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCuqOE0QYMH1OCIFCSpBXz2g

UNLESS NOTED AS ST. RAYMOND'S FACEBOOK PAGE WHICH IS:

www.facebook.com/straymondmp/live

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020

9:00 am Mass (5th Sunday of Lent)

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2020

8:30 am Mass
1:30 pm Rosary (St. Raymond's Facebook)
6:45 pm Rosary with Fr. Jerome

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020

8:30 am Mass
1:30 pm Rosary (St. Raymond's Facebook)
6:45 pm Rosary with Fr. Jerome

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2020

8:30 am Mass
1:30 pm Rosary (St. Raymond's Facebook)
6:45 pm Rosary with Fr. Jerome

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2020

8:30 am Mass (St. Raymond's Facebook)
1:30 pm Rosary (St. Raymond's Facebook)
6:45 pm Rosary with Fr. Jerome

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2020

8:30 am Mass
12:00 pm Rosary with Fr. Jerome
3:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplets
(St. Raymond's Facebook)
6:45 pm Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2020

8:30 am Mass

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2020

9:00 am Mass (Palm Sunday)

LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS

ALL MASS INTENTIONS WILL BE SAID, THOUGH SOME MAY BE TRANSFERRED TO A NEW DATE, DUE TO OUR REDUCED SCHEDULE.

Sat., Mar. 28, 5:15 pm Sr. Rita McCloskey, O.P. †
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sun., Mar. 29, 8:00 am Carlina DeLeon
10:00 am Charles Galdes †
12:00 pm St. Raymond Parish
6:00 pm Harold Ero Meconi †

Mon., Mar. 30, 8:30 am Barney Cook

Tues., Mar. 31, 8:30 am Frank Spiteri † & Sons †

Wed., Apr. 1, 8:30 am

Thur., Apr. 2, 8:30 am For the Souls in Purgatory †
St. Francis of Paola, Hermit (m)

Fri., Apr. 3, 8:30 am Kathleen Doyle Mackay †

Sat., Apr. 4, 8:30 am
St. Isidore, Bishop & Doctor of the Church (m)
5:15 pm

Palm Sunday

Sun., Apr. 5, 8:00 am Bishop Robert Christian, O.P. †

10:00 am Antonio † & Celeste
Ciarafoni †

12:00 pm St. Raymond Parish

6:00 pm The Galvez, Herborn, &
Ritzen Families, Both Living & Deceased

S—Solemnity F—Feast M—Memorial m—Optional Memorial

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Dear Religious Education Families, please know we are specially holding you in prayer right now.

We know many of you are making the transition to working and learning from home and others of you are still serving at your places of employment and providing essential services to our community.

So that your child(ren) can continue learning through our religious education program, we are sending weekly lessons by email and catechists are sending lesson plans as they are able. Families can set up an account on the Pflaum website and access the teaching guides for all grade levels that go with our weekly lessons here: <https://www.pflaumweeklies.com/catechists-and-teachers/>.

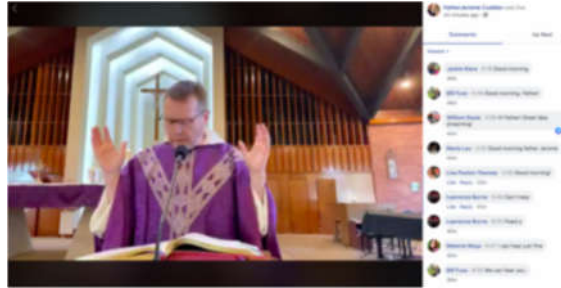
Create your account by clicking on Login at the top right of the page and using St. Raymond's account number 1102309 to create your account. Feel free to post your pictures of your "home studies" on the St. Raymond Facebook page where we can all "see" you. And don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or need help navigating the Pflaum website; we're only an email away. Email Amy at ajobin@straymondmp.org.

'WE CAN HEAR YOU': A PASTOR AND HIS FLOCK CONNECT DURING LOCKDOWN

On Day 1 post-coronavirus lockdown, Dominican Father Jerome Cudden is seen in a screenshot celebrating 8:15 a.m. Mass March 17, 2020, by livestreaming at St. Raymond Parish in Menlo Park. Massgoers sent words of encouragement by Facebook as he prepared, alone in the church on a vacant school parish campus. (Catholic San Francisco)

March 17, 2020
Rick DeVecchio
Catholic San Francisco

"We can hear you." With that comment from a Facebook user to Dominican Father Jerome Cudden alone on the altar in front of a camera, the first day post-lockdown was underway at St. Raymond Parish in Menlo Park.



Both priest and audience seemed grateful for the social media connection as Father Cudden livestreamed the 8:15 a.m. Mass on March 17, the morning after Bay Area authorities announced a region-wide quarantine to halt the spread of the coronavirus. The 25-minute video liturgy had nearly 200 views by late afternoon.

In an announcement after Mass, Father Cudden said the archbishop has asked parishes not to have public Masses and added that he will be scheduling more livestreamed Masses. He also encouraged parishioners to reach out to one another, especially to those in need

"We're trying to get in touch with all our elderly parishioners," he said. "This is a wonderful opportunity to reach out to parishioners who might be elderly and need extra help. We're all in this together and together we will definitely get through this."

For sacramental emergencies, Father Cudden said he can be reached through the church phone that patches through to his cell phone.

"Go in peace, glorify the Lord with your lives, thanks be to God," Father Cudden prayed in closing.

Continuing to improvise a virtual community on a large parish school campus where nearly all activity had come to a halt, the Dominican friar, who turns 50 this month, posted parish family photos on a back pew and put the image on Facebook. It was an additional gesture of extending prayer to families as the first day of quarantine came to an end. Father Cudden welcomed more family photos at jcudden@straymondmp.org.

As a warmup for the new reality, Father Cudden

hosted a Facebook chat March 16. Questions came in from St. Raymond School students and from Dominican communities in Benicia and outside California.

He opened with a prayer that Christ be present with all in this time of trial. "We ask that you're always with us to carry your cross, no matter what's going on in our lives," Father Cudden said.

"First-time ever doing this," Father Cudden greeted the virtual audience consisting of school kids from kindergarten through eighth grade as well as adults.

A youngster, Matteo, put the first question: "How do I stop being scared of the coronavirus?"

"It's OK to be scared," the priest answered. "It's a reaction to an injustice. Let's say you're walking down the street and this big dog starts barking. It freaks you out. I'd be scared too. We have to look at the situation. It's scary. It's absolutely OK to have fear in your life. What are we going to do with that fear?"

"If you're home and surrounded by people who love you, it's OK to be afraid. Even though in we're in lockdown mode, we still have community here ... Stay close to our family, stay close to God."

Someone else asked if it's a sin to drink coffee while watching Mass on TV.

Not really, said the priest, but if it were a devotional Mass, all distractions would be set aside.

He explained the Sign of the Cross to another person on the forum, and then answered a question about where he lives.

Father Cudden lives in a nine-bedroom house with six other Dominican priests. He shared that he carries his worldly possessions lightly, not more than he can fit into his car when he has to move.

A kindergartener asked why priests always wear white and purple.

The Dominican habit is white, he explained. Benedictines wear black, Franciscans brown, Mother Teresa wore a sari. Priests wear green in ordinary time green, purple during Advent, white or gold during Christmas, then back to green for ordinary time again, back to purple for Lent and white or gold at Easter.

Why is the altar wine red, asked Gabriella, a fifth

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

grader.

"We had white when I got here but I like red," Father Cudden said. "I think it's better symbolic value to use red wine."

A third grade girl asked why girls can't be priests.

Father Cudden's answer covered Scripture and tradition. He noted that Jesus went against the prevailing culture of pagan prophetesses during his time. He said churches that have followed Jesus in this way have been more successful throughout Christian history.

He said his favorite Scripture passages are Genesis 1-3 and John's Gospel.

Someone asked him to recite the Ten Commandments, a challenge he successfully met, or nearly so. "I usually get nine out of 10," he confessed.

He said his favorite Bible character is Joseph because Joseph shows the power of God's redemption.

A kindergartener asked where heaven is. "We don't know exactly where it is," Father Cudden said, "but we know it's being in union with God.

Favorite saint? "I was not baptized Jerome," he explained. "Being from a good Irish family, my baptismal name is Brendan Charles Cudden." He changed it when he entered religious life in 1999, looking into Jethro first and then choosing Jerome, who translated the Hebrew and Greek scriptures into Latin. He also liked the story of Jerome befriending a lion who came into his cave, and liked the saint's beard.

Favorite book? "Screwtape Letters," by C.S. Lewis. "He was a master at understanding human psychology. I love it because he looks at what is good and virtuous and pins it on his head, then he uses good to attack evil," Father Cudden said. "If you're looking for some good spiritual reading, I would recommend that, PG-13 and above."

A young person asked how someone becomes a priest. Father Cudden recounted his journey from a secular career to religious life. People kept telling him he would make a good priest but at first "I was terrified, ran away for while, tried to hide from God." But he soon found a home with the Dominicans.

One important aspect of Dominican life is learning to walk with a habit without tripping on the stairs. "Not as easy as it looks," he said.

"I love being a priest," he said. "I think it's the greatest thing in the world.

"I think more people are being called to be priests, nuns, sisters and brothers," he said, "and they're kind of running away."

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PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

As a parish community we pray for the sick among us, including: Arthur Ang, Balvina Gonzalez, Bernice Corcoran, Candy Hernandez, Christine Galvez, Celeste Green, Diane Mojtehed, Emmanuel Barbariol, Gayland Hagy, GB, Janice Hagy, Lorraine Macchello, Lynn Bacon, Lynn Cintron, Margaret McSweeney, Modesta Cintron, Penny Bantug, PN, and those who wish not to be named. Please contact the parish office if you wish to have a name added to this list.



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 or email office@straymondmp.org and help us get in touch with those who need ministry.

BULLETIN SPONSERS

Our bulletin is published each week with the help of our sponsors. Please support them in this difficult time.

EGIVING: GIVING MADE EASY

eGiving provides an opportunity to simplify your stewardship donations through secure automatic giving. You can pay with a credit/debit card or your checking or savings account. Schedule or update recurring donations at straymondmp.org/giving.

You can also give to St. Vincent de Paul's 5th Sunday collection online.

THE ROSARY CONFRATERNITY

is a spiritual association of the Catholic Church, the members of which strive to pray the entire Rosary during the course of one week. To join, you must have your name inscribed in the register of the Confraternity. There are no meetings, and no dues. To enroll and learn more, please visit www.rosary-center.org.



SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

IF YOU CAN'T RECEIVE COMMUNION, MAKE A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

"Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart."

March 10, 2020
Patti Armstrong
National Catholic Register

As the coronavirus spreads, the list of canceled events has come to include even Catholic Masses. South Korea closed churches and in Italy, the Italian bishops' conference announced that all public Masses and liturgical celebrations are suspended until April 3.

As people adjust their habits to include more vigorous handwashing, for Catholics, aspects of their church worship are also being altered such as some holy water fonts have been emptied, handshaking and Communion from the chalice suspended, and one diocese has banned hymnals.

But altering the ways of worship is nothing compared to canceling the worship itself. No Mass means no Eucharist. Jesus gave us his Body and Blood on the cross and instituted the memorial of this great sacrifice at the Last Supper. "Do this in memory of me," he told us. And so we do at every Mass.

It is only during the Mass at the consecration that the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Thus, canceling Masses is monumental. As explained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life. The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch," (CCC 1324).

Through this sacrament, "we unite ourselves to Christ, who makes us sharers in his Body and Blood to form a single body," (CCC 1331).

Holy Communion also cleanses us from venial sins. (If a Catholic is conscious of having committed a "grave sin" he or she must go to Confession before receiving Communion or he commits the additional sin of sacrilege.) "For as often as we eat this bread and drink the cup, we proclaim the death of the Lord. If we proclaim the Lord's death, we proclaim the forgiveness of sins. If, as often as his blood is poured out, it is poured for the forgiveness of sins, I should always receive it, so that it may always forgive my sins. Because I always sin, I should always have a remedy," (CCC 1393).

BLOOD DONATIONS ⁵

Blood centers remain open as hospital patients continue to require life-saving donations.

In light of the recent "shelter in place" issued for six Bay Area counties, Stanford Blood Center (SBC) wants to let the public know that we are still open, and that there is a need now more than ever for community members to come donate. Our health and safety procedures are very thorough, and there is no increased risk to getting novel coronavirus (COVID-19) from donating blood.

For more information, please visit stanfordbloodcenter.org.



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STANFORD
BLOOD CENTER

Act of Spiritual Communion

The Church encourages frequent, even daily, Holy Communion, but if at any time we cannot go to Mass in or out of this season of the coronavirus, we can still unite ourselves to the Eucharist through making a spiritual Communion.

By making an Act of Spiritual Communion, we express our faith in Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist and ask him to unite himself with us. Here is the Act of Spiritual Communion written by St. Alphonsus de Liguori:

**My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from
You. Amen.**

POPE FRANCIS' URBI ET ORBI ADDRESS ON CORONAVIRUS AND JESUS CALMING THE STORM

Pope Francis meditated on the calming of the storm from the Gospel of Mark during the prayer service over which he presided on the steps of St Peter's Basilica on Friday evening. Here is the full text

“When evening had come” (Mark 4:35). The Gospel passage we have just heard begins like this. For weeks now it has been evening. Thick darkness has gathered over our squares, our streets and our cities; it has taken over our lives, filling everything with a deafening silence and a distressing void, that stops everything as it passes by; we feel it in the air, we notice in people's gestures, their glances give them away. We find ourselves afraid and lost. Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. On this boat... are all of us. Just like those disciples, who spoke anxiously with one voice, saying “We are perishing” (v. 38), so we too have realized that we cannot go on thinking of ourselves, but only together can we do this.

It is easy to recognize ourselves in this story. What is harder to understand is Jesus' attitude. While his disciples are quite naturally alarmed and desperate, he stands in the stern, in the part of the boat that sinks first. And what does he do? In spite of the tempest, he sleeps on soundly, trusting in the Father; this is the only time in the Gospels we see Jesus sleeping. When he wakes up, after calming the wind and the waters, he turns to the disciples in a reproaching voice: “Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?” (v. 40).

Let us try to understand. In what does the lack of the disciples' faith consist, as contrasted with Jesus' trust? They had not stopped believing in him; in fact, they called on him. But we see how they call on him: “Teacher, do you not care if we perish?” (v. 38). Do you not care: they think that Jesus is not interested in

them, does not care about them. One of the things that hurts us and our families most when we hear it said is: “Do you not care about me?” It is a phrase that wounds and unleashes storms in our hearts. It would have shaken Jesus too. Because he, more than anyone, cares about us. Indeed, once they have called on him, he saves his disciples from their discouragement.

The storm exposes our vulnerability and uncovers those false and superfluous certainties around which we have constructed our daily schedules, our projects, our habits and priorities. It shows us how we



The miraculous crucifix of San Marcello on the Corso (Vatican News)

have allowed to become dull and feeble the very things that nourish, sustain and strengthen our lives and our communities. The tempest lays bare all our prepackaged ideas and forgetfulness of what nourishes our people's souls; all those attempts that anesthetize us with ways of thinking and acting that supposedly “save” us, but instead prove incapable of putting us in touch with our roots and keeping alive the memory of those who have gone before us. We deprive ourselves of the antibodies we need to confront adversity.

In this storm, the façade of those stereotypes with which we camouflaged our egos, always worrying about our image, has fallen away, uncovering once more that (blessed) common belonging, of which we cannot be deprived: our belonging as brothers and sisters.

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“Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?” Lord, your word this evening strikes us and regards us, all of us. In this world, that you love more than we do, we have gone ahead at breakneck speed, feeling powerful and able to do anything. Greedy for profit, we let ourselves get caught up in things, and lured away by haste. We did not stop at your reproach to us, we were not shaken awake by wars or injustice across the world, nor did we listen to the cry of the poor or of our ailing planet. We carried on regardless, thinking we would stay healthy in a world that was sick. Now that we are in a stormy sea, we implore you: “Wake up, Lord!”

“Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?” Lord, you are calling to us, calling us to faith. Which is not so much believing that you exist, but coming to you and trusting in you. This Lent your call reverberates urgently: “Be converted!”, “Return to me with all your heart” (Joel 2:12). You are calling on us to seize this time of trial as a time of choosing. It is not the time of your judgement, but of our judgement: a time to choose what matters and what passes away, a time to separate what is necessary from what is not. It is a time to get our lives back on track with regard to you, Lord, and to others. We can look to so many exemplary companions for the journey, who, even though fearful, have reacted by giving their lives. This is the force of the Spirit poured out and fashioned in courageous and generous self-denial. It is the life in the Spirit that can redeem, value and demonstrate how our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people – often forgotten people – who do not appear in newspaper and magazine headlines nor on the grand catwalks of the latest show, but who without any doubt are in these very days writing the decisive events of our time: doctors, nurses, supermarket employees, cleaners, caregivers, providers of transport, law and order forces, volunteers, priests, religious men and women and so very many others who have understood that no one reaches salvation by themselves. In the face of so much suffering, where the authentic development of our peoples is assessed, we experience the priestly prayer of Jesus: “That they may all be one” (John 17:21). How many people every day are exercising patience and offering hope, taking care to sow not panic but a shared responsibility. How many fathers, mothers, grandparents and teachers are showing our children, in small everyday gestures, how to face up to and navigate a crisis by adjusting their routines, lifting their gaze and fostering prayer. How many are praying, offering and interceding for the good of all. Prayer and quiet service: these are our victorious weapons.

“Why are you afraid? Have you no faith”? Faith begins when we realise we are in need of salvation. We are not self-sufficient; by ourselves we founder: we need the Lord, like ancient navigators needed the stars. Let us invite Jesus into the boats of our lives. Let us hand over our fears to him so that he can conquer them.

Like the disciples, we will experience that with him on board there will be no shipwreck. Because this is God’s strength: turning to the good everything that happens to us, even the bad things. He brings serenity into our storms, because with God life never dies.

The Lord asks us and, in the midst of our tempest, invites us to reawaken and put into practice that solidarity and hope capable of giving strength, support and meaning to these hours when everything seems to be floundering. The Lord awakens so as to reawaken and revive our Easter faith. We have an anchor: by his cross we have been saved. We have a rudder: by his cross we have been redeemed. We have a hope: by his cross we have been healed and embraced so that nothing and no one can separate us from his redeeming love. In the midst of isolation when we are suffering from a lack of tenderness and chances to meet up, and we experience the loss of so many things, let us once again listen to the proclamation that saves us: he is risen and is living by our side. The Lord asks us from his cross to rediscover the life that awaits us, to look towards those who look to us, to strengthen, recognize and foster the grace that lives within us. Let us not quench the wavering flame (cf. Isaiah 42:3) that never falters, and let us allow hope to be rekindled.

Embracing his cross means finding the courage to embrace all the hardships of the present time, abandoning for a moment our eagerness for power and possessions in order to make room for the creativity that only the Spirit is capable of inspiring. It means finding the courage to create spaces where everyone can recognize that they are called, and to allow new forms of hospitality, fraternity and solidarity. By his cross we have been saved in order to embrace hope and let it strengthen and sustain all measures and all possible avenues for helping us protect ourselves and others. Embracing the Lord in order to embrace hope: that is the strength of faith, which frees us from fear and gives us hope.

“Why are you afraid? Have you no faith”? Dear brothers and sisters, from this place that tells of Peter’s rock-solid faith, I would like this evening to entrust all of you to the Lord, through the intercession of Mary, Health of the People and Star of the stormy Sea. From this colonnade that embraces Rome and the whole world, may God’s blessing come down upon you as a consoling embrace. Lord, may you bless the world, give health to our bodies and comfort our hearts. You ask us not to be afraid. Yet our faith is weak and we are fearful. But you, Lord, will not leave us at the mercy of the storm. Tell us again: “Do not be afraid” (Matthew 28:5). And we, together with Peter, “cast all our anxieties onto you, for you care about us” (cf. 1 Peter 5:7).

Editor’s note: The “Urbi et Orbi” (To the City and to the World) is a papal blessing only given by a newly elected pontiff and each year on Christmas and Easter Sunday. This blessing is considered extraordinary as it is given outside of its usual time.

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

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 Archdiocese. Say hello to any of our parishioners! For information about our parish or to register, please contact us at office@straymondmp.org or register online at www.straymondmp.org/register.

ST. RAYMOND PARISH

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

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CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS ⁸

MASSES (see p.2 for current online schedule)

Saturdays 5:15 pm Vigil

Sundays 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 Noon,
6:00 pm

Weekdays 8:15 am (Mon.-Sat.) in the Chapel

Holy Days 8:15 am, 12:15 pm & 7:00 pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturdays after the 8:15 am Mass (Chapel)

Thursdays 7:00 pm—8:00 pm at Holy Hour

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

1st Thursdays after 8:15 am Mass (Chapel)
or by appointment

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 3:45 pm—4:45 pm or by
appointment

Thursdays 7:00 pm—8:00 pm at Holy Hour

HOLY HOUR (ADORATION & RECONCILIATION)

Thursdays 7:00 pm—8:00 pm

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Mon.-Sat. 7:25 am (Office of Readings and
Morning Prayer) in the Chapel

ROSARY

Mon.-Sat. 8:00 am in the Chapel

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, AND FUNERALS

Please contact the parish office at 650-323-1755 or
email office@straymondmp.org.

VISION STATEMENT St. Raymond Parish is a family. As disciples of Jesus, we are “children of God” and “brothers and sisters in Christ.” Jesus himself says, “Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother, and sister, and mother” (Matthew 12:50). We welcome all to belong to our Catholic family and to inherit with us in Christ the mission to preach the Gospel!

MISSION STATEMENT St. Raymond Parish is a community united by our Catholic Faith as disciples of Jesus Christ. We seek communion with God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit through ongoing personal and communal conversion to Christ and a deeper commitment to the mission Jesus gives each of us to preach the Gospel. The sacred scriptures and sacraments of the Church sustain us. We dedicate ourselves to Truth and strive to grow in love of God and neighbor through community, prayer, study, and service, as we work by grace to build up in one another and share freely with others the abundance of magnificent gifts God has given.

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