

## HOLY WEEK | WEEK OF MARCH 28, 2021

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

12pm-2pm Confessions (Rose Garden)

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 1

6:00 pm Mass (Outdoors) Followed by Adoration 11:00 pm Recitation of Jesus' High Priestly Prayer

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2

1:00 pm Stations of the Cross at Vallombrosa

2:00 pm Rosary (Rose Garden)

**3:00 pm** Divine Mercy Chaplet (Rose Garden)

**6:00 pm** Celebration of the Lord's Passion (Outdoors)

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 3

10:00 am Blessing of the Easter Food Confessions (Rose Garden)

8:00 pm The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night (Church\*)

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4

8:00 am Mass (Outdoors) 8:00 am Mass (Church\*) 10:00 am Mass (Outdoors) 10:00 am Mass (Church\*)

\*Please register at straymondmp.eventbrite.com



## **SCHEDULE**

ALL EVENTS ARE STREAMED ON FACEBOOK AT facebook.com/straymondmp/live

ALL MASSES ARE ALSO STREAMED ON YOUTUBE AT youtube.com/c/straymondmp

### MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY THIS WEEK

9:00 am Mass (Outdoors) 3:00 pm Devotional 6:30 pm Rosary (M-W)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2021

10:00 am Zoom Weekly Bible Study (p.2)

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021

12:00 pm Laudato Si' Group Zoom (p.6)

Please see front cover for the complete HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE.

Note: There will be no morning Mass Thursday, April 1, through Saturday, April 3. There will be no evening Mass on Easter Sunday.

\*\* The first Sunday morning Mass will return to its original time of 8 am from this day onward.

RSVP for weekend Masses at straymondmp.org/eventbrite.

**WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY** The St. Raymond Small Group Bible Study meets on **Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 11:30 am** on Zoom. The group discusses the readings for the upcoming Sunday. If you would like more information, please contact Christine Galvez at chrisgalvez@aol.com.

## **GET PARISH NEWS VIA EMAIL**

Sign up for our parish email newsletter at <a href="mailto:straymondmp.org/newsletter/">straymondmp.org/newsletter/</a>.

**LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS**—Low-gluten hosts are available at each Mass. Father will announce which line has the low-gluten host.

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Send in your prayer requests to the Rosary Center at <u>rosarycenter.org/homepage-2/request-prayers/</u> and the Dominican Nuns at Corpus Christi Monastery at <u>opnunsmenlo.org/request-prayer</u>.

## **LITURGY**

Sat., Mar. 27, 5:00 pm St. Raymond Parish

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Sun., Mar. 28, 9:00 am Melba Elvin

**10:00 am** Special Intentions of the Vuong & Haarmann Families

**5:00 pm** Aurelio Maestrini †

Mon., Mar. 29, 9:00 am The Harold Curtis & Leo

O'Neill Families, Both Living & Deceased

Tue., Mar. 30, 9:00 am Regina Rios †

Wed., Mar. 31, 9:00 am Barbara †

Thur., Apr. 1, 6:30 pm St. Raymond Parish

Mass of the Lord's Supper

Fri., Apr. 2, 6:30 pm

Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Sat., Apr. 3, 8:00 pm St. Raymond Parish

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

**Sun., Apr. 4, 8:00 am** The Ruocco & Papa Families, Both Living & Deceased

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

**10:00 am** Carlo & Maria Paolucci

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

To request a Mass Intention, please call the parish office.

## **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.



## **HOMELESS FAMILY FUND**

Please consider making a reoccurring monthly edonation or a lump sum to help support the Homeless Family Fund. Please make donations payable to St. Raymond Homeless Family Fund. They may be placed in the collection basket, sent to the parish office or through the St. Raymond website at <a href="https://www.straymondmp.org/donate">www.straymondmp.org/donate</a>. Questions or want to get involved? Please reach out to: HFF@straymondmp.org.

## **LIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

On Friday, **April 2 at 1:00 pm**, join Fr. Jerome as we will pray the Stations of the Cross at Vallombrosa Retreat Center, which is located at 250 Oak Grove Ave, Menlo Park. All are invited to attend. If raining, please plan appropriately.

## **SPEAKER SERIES TALKS**

# THE PSALMS: LIFTING UP THE SOUL TO GOD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021, 7 PM ON ZOOM WITH ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL J. BYRNES, S.T.D.

Archbishop Michael J. Byrnes' presentation will focus on the poetic nature of a psalm as a vocal activity in song and chant; the importance of emotional content in the psalm; the scandal of crying out to God and/or the imprecatory Psalms.



KNOWING THE UNKNOWN GOD, APRIL 28, 2021, 7 PM ON ZOOM, WITH DN. JOHN WINKOWITSCH, OP

GOD'S KNOWLEDGE AND OURS, MAY 12, 2021, 7 PM ON ZOOM, WITH DN. JOHN WINKOWITSCH, OP

View previous Speaker Series talks at www.straymondmp.org/speaker-series/.

## **PARISH BIBLE STUDY GROUPS**

## **WEEK 5 BEGINS NEXT WEEK**

#### Sessions:

- Mondays 7:00 pm with Deacon Tom
- Tuesdays 7:00 pm with Fr. Jerome
- Wednesdays 10:00 am with Cheri Girardot and Maria Cornell (Women's Meeting)
- Wednesdays 7:00 pm with Deacon John
- Fridays 3:30 pm with Lauri Hofstrom

It's not too late to join. For complete information and schedule, visit <u>straymondmp.org/parish-bible-study</u>.

Session 5	Week of April 5	Session 7	Week of May 3
Session 6	Week of April 19	Session 8	Week of May 17

# Blessing of the Easter Food

Join us **Holy Saturday**, **April 3**, **at 10 am**, for our 3rd Annual Blessing of the Easter Food.



In many Eastern European countries, it is a tradition to have a basket of food blessed on Holy Saturday. In Poland, for example, the blessing of the baskets is known as *święcenie pokarmow wiełkanocnych*, a practice dating to the 15th century or earlier, and one which is still maintained by most families in Poland (and to some extent in other countries) on Holy Saturday. To learn more about this tradition, visit thespruceeats.com/1136995.

## **HOLY WEEK READINGS**

March 28, 2021 (Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion) At the Procession with Palms—Gospel: Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16

Reading 1: Isaiah 50:4-7

Resp. Psalm: Psalms 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24

Reading 2: Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel: Mark 14:1—15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/032821.cfm

April 1, 2021 (Holy Thursday)

bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/040121-Evening.cfm

April 2, 2021 (Good Friday) bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/040221.cfm

April 3, 2021 (Easter Vigil) bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/040321.cfm

April 4, 2021 (Easter Sunday) Reading 1: Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Resp. Psalm: Psalms 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Reading 2: Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

Sequence: Victimae paschali laudes

**Gospel**: John 20:1-9

bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/040421.cfm

## **SCHOOL CORNER**

# ST. RAYMOND SCHOOL ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM PLACES 2ND IN SAN FRANCISCO ARCHDIOCESE COMPETITION

St. Raymond School placed second overall in the Archdiocese of San Francisco California Catholic Schools Academic Junior High Decathlon competition. Students in grades 6-8 from schools throughout the Archdiocese of San Francisco competed in the



Academic Decathlon held last weekend. Our team included 8th graders Bella Svanberg, Grace Urban, Hailey Wells and Patrick Kane and 7th graders Ryan Karr, Emma Kane, James Palazzolo, Sam Boyd, Sarah Thieman, Henry Dommer, Luca Pinheiro, Sam Malek and Robert Cevasco.



St. Raymond students placed in five of these eight individual events. Bella Svanberg placed 3rd in Fine Arts, Grace Urban placed 2nd in Science, Ryan Karr placed 1st in Literature, Emma Kane placed 1st in Religion and Sam Boyd placed 3rd in Current Events.

Congratulations to all of our Academic Decathlon team members on a job well done. Under extraordinary circumstances this year, with a lot of hard work and perseverance, they did an excellent job representing St. Raymond School.

Team photo by Mo Kaba

To learn more about St. Raymond School, visit straymond.org.





## **FAITH FORMATION**

## THE ONE THING YOU NEED TO ENTER THE MYSTERIES OF HOLY WEEK

## By Fr. Steve Grunow, WordOnFire Blog

One of the great mysteries of Holy Week is the revelation of how God in Christ deals with our refusals, particularly the most terrifying refusal of all, that is the cross. The cross is terrifying because its refusal insists that God died, and not only died, but died in the most horrific manner we could devise.

The mystery is that such a terrifying response is met with God's acceptance of what our refusal imposes. God in Christ accepts death, and death in the manner that we devise: death on a cross.

Isaiah foresees all this—God's acceptance of the cruel sentence of death we impose on him—in today's "servant" text from Isaiah's great book of prophecy. The "servant," who is the Messiah (God in Christ), does not offer resistance to those who intend to harm him, to kill him.

#### Why?

God does this to reveal something of extraordinary importance about who he is and what he wants, particularly how he intends to deal with our refusals. And what he reveals is not only important, but also surprising.

Worldly standards of justice would determine that the horror of the cross should be met with an even more horrific wrath, a wrath at the very least equivalent to what we unleash in the cross. If we refuse God. should not God refuse us?

The answer to this question, given by Christ on the cross, is absolutely inexplicable. God doesn't refuse us; instead, he imparts to us a mercy that exceeds the demands of justice, and sets a world gone wrong back right. Through our refusal of God we beg for wrath. But God doesn't want to destroy us; God wants to save us.

And so, what God does with the cross is accept it and then transform it, inserting himself into the farthest reaches of our

refusals, descending himself into the alienation from God that we would impose on ourselves, and from that place, offering us a mercy that is as surprising as it is undeserved. Our attempts to destroy God are foolish and futile, and in the end, God undermines our every attempt

to do so, because in our efforts, we do not destroy him; we only risk destroying ourselves. And our destruction is not what God wants.

Thus, God meets our refusals with his mercy. Now we have to decide if we are willing to accept the mercy of God. If we do, then we have to change.

This is the decision that the cross of Christ demands that we make.

You see, the mercy of God is not about evading consequences; it is about the opportunity to set things right. The mercy of God is the gift of another chance, a chance that offers us the possibility of being changed, rather than being ruined.

Would we rather be changed or ruined? God shows us in the cross of Christ what he wants. But what do we want?

The Gospel presents the sad fact that Judas was not alone in his betrayal of Christ. The fact is that in their disappointment and fear, many of those who were closest to Christ abandoned him in his hour of greatest need. Despite all their protests to the contrary, when the moment came and the dark shadows descended, many of Christ's followers ran for the cover of the night.

As it was then, so it is now.

None of us should be so prideful as to place ourselves among the few who remained with Christ as he underwent his suffering and death. The apostle Paul reminds us, lest any of us think more of ourselves than we should, that all have sinned, all have fallen short

It is only in an attitude of humility that one can truly enter into the mysteries of Holy Week and appreciate their meaning and understand their purpose.

Unless we admit our refusals, repent of our sins, and have the same attitude as Christ, "who humbled himself and emptied himself of glory," we choose to lurk in the dark rather than walk with the Lord Jesus into his light.

Humility is the one thing we need this Holy Week.

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"Rain down, rain down, rain down your love on your people."

I'm writing this on the second day of gentle rains. The smell of freshness, the music and beauty of raindrops, the feel of the life-giving moisture on my skin— all bear witness to the renewal of the earth, and accompany the renewal of my soul during Lent. Perhaps your Lenten garden is beginning to sprout and the recent rains nourished your tender plants just as God continues to nourish your soul through your Lenten resolutions and practices. As we approach the end of Lent, will we continue those practices which have been bringing us closer to God? Or will we abandon them, feeling released from our Lenten restrictions?

We look at our burgeoning gardens and know that our work is not done. Gardening is the ultimate practice of patience in action. Once we've planted our seeds or cuttings, we must wait while they take root, grow and flourish into a fruitful harvest. But we do not wait passively; we must continue to nurture our gardens if we expect them to thrive. As the fruits emerge we must guard against birds or pests that threaten them. We may need to provide shade if some plants are receiving too much sun. We need to continue to water their roots so they will continue to grow. We may need to prune branches to encourage stronger plants and better fruits. Likewise, our spiritual garden needs constant maintenance, and Holy Week offers us a time of increased vigilance and attention to our salvation journey, in the realization that Easter does not signal an end to our journey, but rather, a renewed, refreshed commitment to building the Kingdom of God.

Our remembrance of our Lord's Passion during Holy Week is anything but passive: if we fully engage in the Triduum, we celebrate the institution of the Eucharist at Holy Thursday Mass, the call to service of the washing of the feet, the beginning of the Passion with the stripping of the altar and reposition of the Eucharist (which brought tears to my eyes as a child.) We are minutely aware of all the minutes leading up to the final act of suffering (Passion), in our active recollection of the Agony in the garden, the developing case against Jesus, the steps we take with him in the Stations of the Cross, the three hours of prayer and reflection on His final seven utterances, and veneration of the Cross. And then, we wait.

Holy Saturday can seem a day of passivity; with Jesus lying in the tomb, what is there for us to do? Just as in our gardens, there is always something to do: we can turn our faith to action; on that one day when Christ's eyes

and mouth and hands on Earth must truly be our own, because His were dead to the world, we can act for Him, by recommitting ourselves to our faith in the Resurrection, and by engaging in acts of service for and with those who are most vulnerable. We can "tend our garden" by cleaning up litter we may encounter on our daily walk. We may take the time to learn more about how the effects of climate change are already impacting the lives of the most vulnerable. We can donate to a cause that supports preservation of wildlife and nature preserves. We can dedicate ourselves to using energy more wisely, or act on using alternatives to fossil fuels. We can turn Holy Saturday into Holy Service-Day, and be the actual presence of Christ for others.

If we have used this season of Lent to repent of our own sinful past and nature, we can also turn to God in repentance for what we have done to our earthly home. As Pope Francis reminds us, "We have failed to care for the earth, our garden-home; we have failed to care for our brothers and sisters. We have sinned against the earth, against our neighbours, and ultimately against the Creator, the benevolent Father who provides for everyone, and desires us to live in communion and flourish together." (Pope Francis, General Audience, April 22, 2020)

As we accompany Jesus during this Holy Week of his passion and death, let us accompany each other, all the peoples of the world, to renew the face of the earth and the hearts of its people.

## LAUDATO SI' WEEKLY ZOOM

Please join our Zoom meetings **each Thursday at noon** to pray, learn, socialize, and serve and care for creation together. To join Zoom Meeting, click here: <a href="http://bit.ly/LaudatoSiZoom">http://bit.ly/LaudatoSiZoom</a>.

#### **IMAGE CREDITS**

**Cover**—Maundy Thursday II - Passover and Last Supper —stained glass detail from St. Patrick's Seminary, Menlo Park. Photo by Fr. Lawrence Lew, O.P. flic.kr/p/SxBtZ5 CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

Page 5—Focused on the Cross of Christ, The cross hangs over the Altar in the Dartmouth College Catholic Center chapel. Photo by Fr. Lawrence Lew, O.P. flic.kr/p/oPy8fz CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

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**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

## 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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**OFFICE HOURS:** Mon. to Wed. 9:30 am to 5:30 pm. For other weekdays, call before visiting.

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#### **CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS**

## MASS SCHEDULE (Effective April 4, 2021)

Saturdays 5:00 pm Vigil (Outdoors)

Sundays 8:00 am (Indoors),10:00 am

(Outdoors), 5:00 pm (Outdoors)

Weekdays 9:00 am (Mon.-Sat. Outdoors) Holy Days 9:00 am, 12:15 pm, 5:00 pm

#### **RECONCILIATION**

Saturdays 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm in the Rose Garden, or by appointment.

#### **ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Please contact the parish office at 650-323-1755.

#### **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

"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 as we pray-serve-socialize in His Name.

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 as we pray-serve-socialize together, and work by grace to build up in one another and share freely with others the abundance of magnificent gifts God has given.

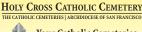
**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK** As a parish community we pray for the sick among us, including: Balvina Gonzalez, Bernice Corcoran, Bill Pflaum, Candy Hernandez, Celeste Green, Diane Mojtehedi, Emmanuel Barbariol, Janice Hagy, Lynn Bacon, Modesta Cintron, Penny Bantug, Sharon, William Cintron, those suffering from the coronavirus, the homebound, and those who wish not to be named. Please contact the parish office if you wish to have a name added to this list.



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