



ST. RAYMOND
CATHOLIC CHURCH
SERVED BY DOMINICAN FRIARS



The Ascension of the Lord
May 17, 2026



This Week

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026

- 8:15 am Mass followed by Adoration & Confession until 9:15 am
10:30 am First Holy Communion
3:30 pm Confession until 4:30 pm
5:00 pm Mass

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 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 Ministry

MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026

- 6:00 pm Legion of Mary (Parish Hall)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2026

- 10:00 am Bible Study
7:00 pm Catholic in Recovery
7:00 pm Holy Hour (Confession & Adoration)

SATURDAY, MAY 23, 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
7:00 pm Mercy Night

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2026

- 8:00 am Mass
9:00 am Religious Education
10:00 am Mass followed by ☪ & 🎉
5:00 pm Mass

Pentecost Liturgical Color:
Red

Mass Intentions

Sat., May 16, 5:00 pm Galvez, Herborn, & Ritzen Families, L&D

The Ascension of the Lord (S)

Sun., May 17, 8:00 am Lydia Cooper 🎂
10:00 am Josie Raon 🎂
5:00 pm St. Raymond Parish

Mon., May 18, 8:15 am Fr. Pawel Zybura, O.P. 🎂
St. John I, Pope & Martyr (s); St. Pier Giorgio Grassati, OP (m)

Tue., May 19, 8:15 am Yosef Tahbazof
St. Francisco Coll Guitart, OP, Priest (m)

Wed., May 20, 8:15 am Pia Jensen
St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest (m)

Thur., May 21, 8:15 am Joan O'Neill
St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, & Companions, Martyrs (m)

Fri., May 22, 8:15 am Ellen Fuentes
St. Rita of Cascia, Religious (m)

Sat., May 23, 8:15 am Dionisio Reyes †

Sat., May 23, 5:00 pm Ed Kennedy † & Sharon Kennedy Gerlach †

Pentecost (S)

Sun., May 24, 8:00 am Ruocco & Papa Families, L&D
10:00 am Aphrodite Matsakis
5:00 pm St. Raymond Parish

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

Mass Intentions are still available for 2026.

PRAYERS As a parish community we pray for the sick, including: Jackie Archibald, Nony & Penny Bantug, Maureen DeMoss, Esther Falsario, Anna Greco, Janice Hagy, Mark Head, Carolyn DeMarce, Sandra Lecha, Bonnie Morey, Rosie & Roger, Anjuli & Rashmi Nunn, Linda Rasmussen, Miguel Rosa, Karel Sykora, 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.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

The Week of the Collection

Today we take up the collection for the **Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC)**. Your support helps CCC fulfill its mission of love to share the gospel message of hope with people in the United States using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half the funds we collect remain here in the Archdiocese of San Francisco] to support local efforts. The other half support the communication activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and other projects across the United States and abroad. Be part of this campaign to spread the gospel message. Support the collection today! Learn more at www.usccb.org/ccc

Last week's special collection was for Catholic Charities San Francisco. Envelopes are still available.

The weekend of May 30-31 is the Society of St. Vincent de Paul 5th Sunday Collection.

DIAPAR DRIVE

The St. Raymond Parish community extends its heartfelt gratitude to everyone who supported our recent Baby Drive. Through your incredible generosity, families in need throughout our community received diapers, wipes, formula, clothing, and other essential items for their little ones. Your kindness and compassion are a beautiful reflection of Christ's love in action, and we are deeply thankful for the way our parish continually comes together to care for those most in need.

We would also like to offer a special thank you to the World-Famous St. Raymond Rummage Sale for their ongoing partnership and support. Our Baby Drive was blessed to receive many clothing items and essential baby gear through their generosity. Together, through faith, service, and community, we are helping build a parish rooted in love, hope, and the mission of caring for one another as one family in Christ. We are grateful for all you do to make our community outreach such a success.



MERCY NIGHT

Need a Miracle? Renewal? Healing?

Encounter
Jesus
in Adoration,
Worship
Music,
and
Fellowship

Saturday

May 23

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

**St. Raymond
Church**

*"Come to me, all you who are weary
and burdened, and I will give you rest."*

— Mt. 11:28

painting by Robert Puschartz

YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adult Group (ages 21–40). Looking for community and authentic friendship centered on Christ, or hoping to learn more about the Catholic faith? We meet on the 4th Thursday of every month for our 4D Event: Dinner, Drinks, & Discussion with Dominicans.

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



Young Adults Meetup Mass (YAMM): Every Sunday, young adults meet up after the 10:00 am Mass to enjoy coffee and donuts. Look for the Young Adult table after Mass.

ST. RAYMOND'S
YOUNG ADULTS (ages 21-40)
4-D: Drinks, Dinner, and Discussion with Dominicans
RSVP: 
THURSDAY, MAY 28TH
6:30-8:30 PM PARISH HALL
1100 SANTA CRUZ AVE. MENLO PARK



Why Do I Do What I Do?
Understanding Human Action
Discussion led by
Fr Raphael Mary, OP, PhD

ASK FR. ANTONY

WHAT IS SO SPECIAL ABOUT HOLY WATER?

Baptism is the first sacrament which everyone receives. It wipes away all original and actual sin, makes us Children of God, and makes us members of His Church. It is Baptism which makes us capable of actually receiving the other sacraments. It is such an important sacrament that we ought to constantly remind ourselves that we have been chosen by God in our own Baptism. It is for this reason that Catholic Churches keep Holy Water at all their entrances. When we enter and exit the Church, we dip our fingers in Holy Water and make the Sign of the Cross with it, reminding ourselves that we have been Baptized “In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Through His own Baptism, Jesus gave water itself the power to sanctify. Water which has been blessed by a priest becomes Holy Water, and is given real spiritual power by God. It reminds us of our calling to holiness, it gives us strength and grace to follow God’s will, and it has the power to expel the power of Satan. Catholics are invited to have priests bless houses, cars, religious articles, and many other things in our daily lives using Holy Water. We can also take Holy Water home and use it to bless ourselves, our families, our possessions, and anything else in our lives where we want to bring in the presence of God..

There’s so much to learn about our Catholic faith, and the best way to learn is to ask. If you have any questions, please reach out to Fr. Antony at frantony@straymondmp.org.

ST. DOMINIC'S HOLY FAMILY
AN ANIMATED SERIES



New from the Dominican Friars!
Watch now for free at youtube.com/OPWest

DOMINICAN CORNER

WHY DOES THE LORD ASCEND INTO THE SKY?

Br. Kevin Peter Cantu, O.P., reflects on the Gospel for the Ascension of the Lord (Mt 28:16-20).

An exercise that can be of great value in our Christian lives is to consider the words and deeds of our Lord Jesus Christ, and then to stop and ask ourselves: why on earth would He do that?

One great example of this is the mystery of the Ascension, where we can stop and ask ourselves: why on earth would our Lord Jesus literally float off into the sky on His departure from this earth?

In order to help illuminate this mystery, I propose to you that we consider two episodes from the day of our Lord's Resurrection. The first episode: when the eleven are gathered in the locked room and Jesus appears to them, what does He do? He shows them His hands and His side and invites them not just to look, but to touch. And then He eats a piece of baked fish in front of them. The point here is clear: it is Jesus, truly risen from the dead, in His humanity, the same one who suffered just three days before is now alive with them again. No other, no ghost.

Second episode: that same morning, Mary Magdalene has been searching for Him at the tomb. And when He finally appears to her and she finally recognizes Him, what does she do? Apparently, she reaches out to grasp Him, and He responds: "Do not touch me."

This is a remarkable contrast. On the very same day, He invites the disciples to verify that it is truly Him by touch, and yet with Mary Magdalene, the one who loves Him so, He says: "Do not touch me."

I think the mystery of the Ascension can help make sense of these two episodes, just as these two episodes can help us make sense of the mystery of the Ascension. How so?

In the Acts of the Apostles, it tells us that Jesus appears to His disciples many times after the Resurrection with many proofs showing that He has risen, that it is truly Him. But there's a danger here, and this is expressed in this episode with Mary Magdalene: that in rejoicing in His humanity, that He has truly risen from the dead, that the disciples—and we— so to speak, stop there.

The problem here is that Jesus came for glory. Yes, He is human, but He is also literally infinitely more. Brothers and sisters, our Lord Jesus has a divine destiny in mind for each and every one of us. And He is not just another wise man,

A vertical poster for Memorial Day Mass 2026. The background is a photograph of a cemetery with green grass and trees. A large, semi-circular graphic on the right side has a blue-to-purple-to-pink gradient. Inside this graphic, there are four white stars in the top right and bottom right corners. The text is white and reads: "Memorial Day Mass 2026", "Monday, May 25 11 am", and "Holy Cross Cemetery Menlo Park".

**Memorial Day
Mass 2026**

**Monday, May 25
11 am**

**Holy Cross Cemetery
Menlo Park**

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



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



FAITH | FREEDOM | FELLOWSHIP

another teacher, even another friend. He's all of these things, but He is the human being where His humanity is joined in one Divine Person who has ascended on high and is seated at the right hand of the Father, robed in power and glory, and He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.

So, let us, this Ascension, set our sights on the divine destiny which this feast of the Ascension tells us is our own. strengthened in confirmation, that He is with us always."

THE CRISTERO COUNTERREVOLUTION

PRESENTED BY
FATHER JAVIER OLIVERA RAVASI

DURING THIS YEAR'S RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK, THE CHURCH INVITES YOU TO LEARN ABOUT THE HISTORY, SACRIFICE, AND DEFENSE OF THE FAITH DURING THE CRISTERO WAR.



TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2026
7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

ST RAYMOND'S PARISH HALL
1100 SANTA CRUZ AVE,
MENLO PARK, CA 94025

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
EMAIL PEREZA@SFARCH.ORG
OR CALL 415-614-5616.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO
REGISTER OR
VISIT THIS LINK:
[SFARCH.ORG/EVENT/THE-
CRISTERO-WAR/](https://SFARCH.ORG/EVENT/THE-CRISTERO-WAR/)



OFFICE OF HUMAN
LIFE & DIGNITY



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education News

Please keep in your prayers the 39 children who will receive their First Communion this Saturday.

On May 31, the Religious Education program will conclude the year with a special activity for parents and children: making small shrine boxes to bring home and place in their prayer space.

Also on May 31, we will celebrate our last Family-Supported Mass before summer. Please contact florence.debretagne@straymondmp.org if your child would like to be a lector, sing, or serve at Mass.

BeAST News

Thank you to our guest speaker, Micaela Flores, for speaking to our BeAST youth about healthy and unhealthy relationships and boundaries.

Our last session before summer will be a beach day with BBQ, games, and Adoration, on May 31, 3-8 pm.

Throughout the summer, we will also offer several opportunities for youth to stay connected, including a middle school camp from June 29-July 1, as well as special events such as hikes, BBQs, and game nights.

For more information, please contact brjohnpaul@straymondmp.org or florence.debretagne@straymondmp.org.

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.

Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary meets every Monday at 6:00 pm in the Parish Center. Feel free to join us and learn more about the Legion of Mary.



Hands of Jesus Summer Camp

- For current 6th-7thth graders
(Catholic and non-Catholic welcome)
- June 29-July 1, 10 AM-2:30 PM At St
- St. Raymond Parish Hall
- Tuition: \$190

What if your perfect summer camp... was designed by YOU?
This year, we're creating a one-of-a-kind 3-day parish summer camp just for middle schoolers—and you get to help shape it. Want more games? Creative projects? Chill hangouts? Meaningful service that actually makes a difference? Let's build it together.

Register today



Or contact florence.debretagne@straymondmp.org if you have questions

<https://strmp.link/handsofjesus>



Mary's Garden Summer Camp

- For current 1st-5th graders
(Catholic and non-Catholic welcome)
- August 10-14, 9 AM-3 PM
- At St Raymond Parish Hall
- Tuition: \$290

A summer full of fun, creativity, and faith! Children will act out Gospel stories, bake, paint, build, sing, and pray—discovering the love of Jesus and Mary in a joyful and meaningful way. The program is thoughtfully designed by Faith Formation Director Florence, who brings 15 years of experience leading summer camps.

We have 30 spots only. It will fill out, please register today.



<https://strmp.link/marysgarden>

2026 CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE TO
ITALY & GREECE
IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SAINTS PETER & PAUL
WITH **PATRICK MADRID**
BEST-SELLING CATHOLIC AUTHOR & RADIO HOST

PATRICK & NANCY MADRID
YOUR HOSTS

FR. PAUL KELLER, OP & FR. PAUL MARICH, OP
YOUR CHAPLAINS

FOR RESERVATIONS, SCAN THE QR OR VISIT
PATRICKMADRID.COM/PILGRIMAGE
OR CALL **(800) 653-0017**

OCTOBER 4 - 15, 2026 | OPTIONAL PRE-STAY IN SORRENTO



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. www.reportbishopabuse.org

Photo Credits: Lady chapel of Sidney Sussex college in Cambridge commemorating the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary. Photo: Fr. Lawrence Lew, O.P. (CC BY-NC-ND 2.0). <https://flic.kr/p/AAHEe>

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.

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.



LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS AVAILABLE

Low-gluten hosts are available at every Mass. Simply join the presiding priest's Communion line to receive one.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK

Know someone who is homebound or ill? We'd love to connect with them. Our parish family cares for those who cannot join us for Mass, bringing the comfort of faith directly to their homes. Please contact the parish office at (650) 323-1755 so we can reach out and provide the ministry they need.

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	Tom Kelly tfk@sbcglobal.net
Transitional Deacon	Dn. John Paul Puschautz, O.P. brjohnpaul@straymondmp.org
School Principal	Roderick Harrison rharrison@straymondmp.org

PARISH STAFF

Director of Outreach	Hallie Colorado Hallie@straymondmp.org
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Facilities Supervisor	Pedro Hernandez
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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
Finance Council	Patrick Green (Chair), Dave Brenner, Caitlin Burke, Mark Secker, Art Shaw