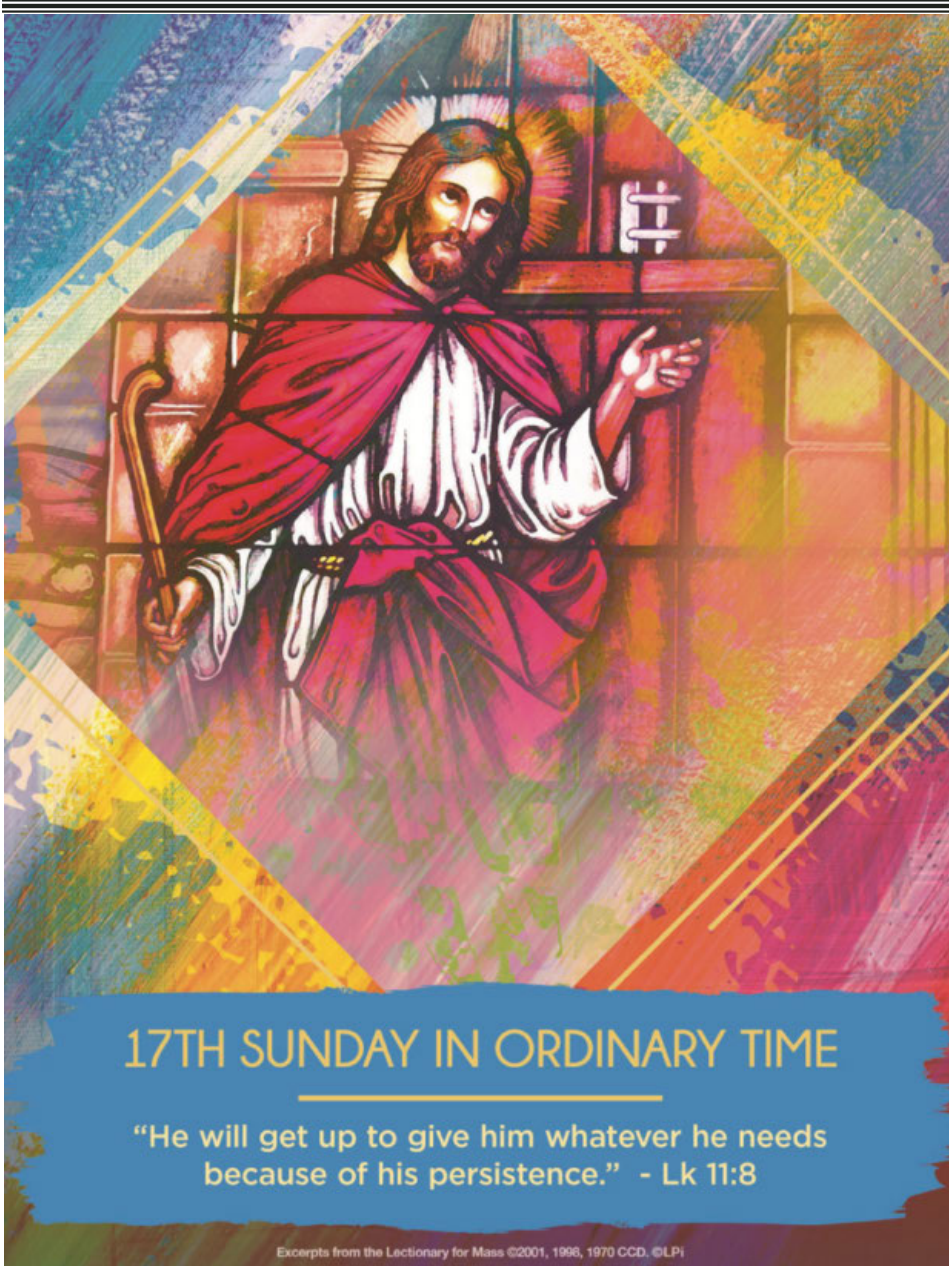


St. Raymond Catholic Church

12348 Paramount Blvd., Downey, CA 90242

Phone: 562-923-4509

Website: SaintRaymond.org Email: StRaymondCatholicChurch@gmail.com



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"He will get up to give him whatever he needs
because of his persistence." - Lk 11:8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

ST. RAYMOND PARISH

A joyous place filled with warmth and good friends,
A peaceful place filled with trust and love,
A place where everyone feels welcome,
A safe place to grow and learn,
A community that has been blessed.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass:

5:00 pm

Sunday: 7:00 am, 9:00 am,

12:00 pm (English)

10:30 am (Spanish)

Weekdays:

Monday to Friday
at 6:30 am & 5:00 pm

Saturday at 8:00 am

Holy Days of Obligation:

As Announced

CONFESSIONS

Mon, Wed, Fri: 4:15 to 4:50 pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 7:00 am
(until the last Penitent finishes)

Saturday: 8:30 am
(until the last Penitent finishes)
3:30 pm to 4:45 pm

Exposition

of the Blessed Sacrament with
Benediction

Saturday: 8:30 am to 9:30 am
After Mass in Church

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Fri: 10:00 am to 7:00 pm

Saturday: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am to 1:30 pm

Our Parish Priests

Fr. Samuel W. Ward, Pastor
Fr. Justin Ordoveza, Associate Pastor
Fr. John Higgins, Pastor Emeritus
Fr. Benoy Kuriakose, In Residence
Fr. Cesar Galan, fsp Associate Pastor

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 27, 2025**

PARISH STAFF

PASTORAL TEAM

Father Samuel W. Ward, Pastor
 Father Justin Ordoveza, Associate Pastor
 Father Cesar Galan, fsp Associate Pastor
 Valeria Pacheco, School Principal
 Sandy Gallegos, Director of R.C.I.A.
 Jennifer Quinones, Faith Formation & Youth Ministries

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Laura Larios, Parish Manager
 Emmanuel Larios, Office Clerk
 Geovanny Larios, Public Relations
 Jasmine Fernandez, Receptionist
 Erick Ramirez, Maintenance/Security

PRIESTS IN RESIDENCE

Father John W. Higgins, Pastor Emeritus
 Father Benoy Kuriakose

BAPTISM: One Sunday a month. *Call Parish Office to make arrangements for class and Baptism.*

FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION: Please call our Parish, School, or Religious Education offices to learn about education opportunities for the reception of these sacraments. *We also have an initiation process for adults seeking Baptism in our Church!*

MARRIAGE: Arrangements should be made at least six months prior to anticipated wedding date. Must contact parish before setting date.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: *In the event of serious illness or medical emergency, anointing of the sick may be arranged by contacting the Parish Office. Make an appointment to come*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office 562-923-4509
 Parish School 562-862-3210
 Faith Formation Office 562-800-7592
 Parish Website: SaintRaymond.org
 Parish Email : StRaymondCatholicChurch@gmail.com
 School Website: straymondschool-downey.org
 School Email Address: principal@straymondschool-Downey.org
 Youth Ministry: YouthMinistries@SaintRaymond.org

OPEN FOR PRAYER

CHURCH HOURS

Monday - Friday (on School Days)
 6:00 am to 7:30 am
 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm
 Saturday 7:00 am to 6:00 pm
 Sunday 6:30 am to 1:30 pm

HOLY FAITH CHAPEL HOURS

Monday - Friday 6:00 am to 9:00 pm
 Saturday 7:00 am to 8:00 pm
 Sunday 6:00 am to 8:00 pm

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

ALTAR SERVERS.....	Danette Buckley 889-2248	MARRIAGE NULLITY.....	Fr. Samuel Ward 923-4509
ALTAR SOCIETY.....	Laura Larios 800-7592	MEN'S PRAYER GROUP.....	Fr. John Higgins 923-4509
BAPTISM	923-4509	MINISTERIO DE DUELO.....	Blanca Espinoza 869-3661
BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS.....	923-4509	MOVIMIENTO MATRIMONIAL PARROQUIAL.....	Mr. & Mrs. Larios 261-3449
CANCER SUPPORT GROUP.....	Elaine Kunkel 531-9620	RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CATECISMO).....	Jennifer Quinones 800-7593
CONFIRMATION (High School).....	Jennifer Quinones 800-7593	RELIGIOUS RECOGNITIONS FOR YOUTH.....	Diane Garcia 862-8309
DIVINE MERCY MINISTRY.....	Larry Wysocki 927-1482	RCIA-ADULTS.....	Sandy Gallegos 800-7594
FILIPINO MINISTRY.....	Tess De La Vega 544-8020	SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN/FAMILIES FIRST.....	Diana Moser 923-4509
FINANCE COUNCIL.....	Ricardo Gordillo 923-4509	SCHOOL & SCRIP-GIFT CERTIFICATES.....	School Office 862-3210
MINISTRY GUADALUPANO.....	Salvador Larios 862-9879	SENIOR CITIZENS.....	Irene Vallini 923-4509
HALL & ROOM RENTALS.....	Park Place Catering 866-5464	SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL.....	Paul Iacovitti 923-4509
HAND MAID MINISTRY.....	Kathi Bode 716-7614	SPANISH BIBLE STUDY.....	Connie Ochoa 413-1475
ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION.....	Christine Ragusa 619-2168	SPANISH PRAYER GROUP.....	Liliam Flores 658-7890
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL 923-1932	Mario Campos 761-9804	TIJUANA ORPHANAGE.....	Joe & Edith Ibarra 923-4509
LEGION OF MARY English	Tess De La Vega 544-8020	WEDDING COORDINATOR	Tami Shilling 745-5592
LEGION OF MARY Spanish.....	Aida Rebollo 323-251-3976	YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY- THE UPPER ROOM.....	Julian Yopez 659-2234
LITURGY COMMITTEE/LITURGICAL MINISTRIES.....	Laura Larios 800-7592		



From our Pastor, Father Sam Ward

Dear St. Raymond's Family,

The following article on *Angelus News* online caught my attention. Catholic-Orthodox news is important to me as my mom is Antiochene (Syrian)-Orthodox. My great-grand uncle is the first American-Orthodox Saint canonized from the U.S., **St. Rafael of Brooklyn** (died 1915). And I am descended from **St. John Damascene** (of Damascus, Syria), Priest and Doctor of the Church (died 749).

Pope Leo XIV meets with U.S. Orthodox-Catholic pilgrim group at Castel Gandolfo

Catholic News Agency on *Angelus News* July 17, 2025

<https://angelusnews.com/news/vatican/pope-ecumenical-usa/>

Pope Leo XIV on Thursday met with a U.S. ecumenical group, led by Cardinal Joseph Tobin and Greek Orthodox Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, encouraging them to “return to the roots of our faith” in their **pilgrimage to Italy and Turkey**. Welcoming the group from his “native country” to his papal residence in Castel Gandolfo, located 15 miles southeast of Rome, the Holy Father said their visits to various holy sites in both countries are a “concrete way” of renewing their faith in the “Gospel handed down to us by the apostles.”

He said: “Your pilgrimage is one of the abundant fruits of the ecumenical movement aimed at restoring full unity among all Christ’s disciples in accordance with the Lord’s prayer at the Last Supper, when Jesus said, ‘that they may all be one.’”

Leo reiterated the importance of Christian unity—a key theme of his pontificate—during the meeting, saying Rome, Constantinople, and other episcopal sees “are not called to vie for primacy” but to pursue a path of “fraternal charity” through the Holy Spirit. “It is significant that your pilgrimage is taking place this year, in which we celebrate one thousand seven hundred years of the Council of Nicaea [in 325],” he said.

“The symbol of faith adopted by the assembled Fathers remains – together with the additions made at the Council of Constantinople in 381 – the common patrimony of all Christians, for many of whom the Creed is an integral part of their liturgical celebrations,” he continued.

Pope Leo specially thanked Elpidophoros for leading the ecumenical group alongside Tobin, saying such “signs of sharing and fellowship” among Catholics and Orthodox should not be taken for granted. “On December 7th, 1965, on the eve of the conclusion of the **Second Vatican Council**, my predecessor **Saint Paul VI** and the Patriarch, Athenagoras signed a **Joint Declaration** removing from memory and the midst of the Church the sentences of excommunication that followed the events of the year 1054,” he said. “Before then, a pilgrimage like your own would probably not even have been possible,” he added.

The pope asked both religious leaders to bring his greetings and “an embrace of peace” to **Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople**, who attended his May 18 inauguration Mass, when in Turkey to continue their pilgrimage. While encouraging the U.S. delegation to be “witnesses and bearers of hope” during the **2025 Jubilee Year**, Leo asked pilgrims to look forward to 2033, when Christians will commemorate the 2,000th anniversary of “the redemption won by the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus.”

“Spiritually, all of us need to return to Jerusalem, the City of Peace, where Peter, Andrew and all the Apostles, after the days of the Lord’s passion and resurrection, received the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and from there bore witness to Christ to the ends of the earth,” he said. Before concluding the audience, the Holy Father expressed his hope to meet the group again “in a few months” for an “ecumenical commemoration” to mark the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea.

He did not specify if he would or would not undertake an apostolic journey to Turkey this year to celebrate the occasion in İznik, modern day Nicaea, during the meeting.

I place you and your family under the guidance and protection of our Blessed Mother Mary and St. Joseph. St. Raymond Nonnatus, pray for us.

**In the Heart of Christ,
Father Sam Ward**

.....

Estimada Familia de San Ramón,

El siguiente artículo en **Angelus News** me llamó la atención. Las noticias católicas-ortodoxas son importantes para mí, ya que mi madre es ortodoxa antioquena (siria). Mi tío bisabuelo es el primer Santo ortodoxo estadounidense canonizado, **San Rafael de Brooklyn** (fallecido en 1915). Y soy descendiente de **San Juan Damasceno** (de Damasco, Siria), Sacerdote y Doctor de la Iglesia (fallecido en 749).

El Papa León XIV se reúne con un grupo de peregrinos católicos-ortodoxos estadounidenses en Castel Gandolfo.

Agencia Católica de Noticias sobre *Angelus News*, 17 de julio de 2025.

Continuación en Pagina 4

Continuación de Pagina 3

El Papa León XIV se reunió el jueves con un grupo ecuménico estadounidense, encabezado por el Cardenal Joseph Tobin y el Arzobispo Greco-Ortodoxo Elpidophoros de América, animándolos a "regresar a las raíces de nuestra fe" en su **peregrinación a Italia y Turquía**. Al recibir al grupo desde su "país natal" en su residencia papal en Castel Gandolfo, ubicada a 24 kilómetros al sureste de Roma, el Santo Padre afirmó que sus visitas a diversos lugares sagrados en ambos países son una "forma concreta" de renovar su fe en el "Evangelio transmitido por los apóstoles". Dijo: **"Su peregrinación es uno de los frutos abundantes del movimiento ecuménico que busca restaurar la plena unidad entre todos los discípulos de Cristo, según el Padre Nuestro en la Última Cena, cuando Jesús dijo: 'Que todos sean uno'".**

León reiteró la importancia de la unidad cristiana — tema clave de su pontificado — durante el encuentro, afirmando que Roma, Constantinopla y otras sedes episcopales "no están llamadas a competir por la primacía", sino a seguir un camino de "caridad fraterna" a través del Espíritu Santo. **"Es significativo que su peregrinación tenga lugar este año, en el que celebramos los mil setecientos años del Concilio de Nicea [en el año 325]", afirmó.**

"El símbolo de fe adoptado por los Padres reunidos sigue siendo, junto con las adiciones realizadas en el Concilio de Constantinopla en 381, patrimonio común de todos los cristianos, para muchos de los cuales el Credo es parte integral de sus celebraciones litúrgicas", continuó.

El Papa León agradeció especialmente a Elpidophoros por liderar el grupo ecuménico junto a Tobin, afirmando que tales "signos de comunión y fraternidad" entre católicos y ortodoxos no deben darse por sentados. **"El 7 de diciembre de 1965, en vísperas de la conclusión del Concilio Vaticano II, mi predecesor San Pablo VI y el Patriarca Atenágoras firmaron una Declaración Conjunta que borraba de la memoria y del seno de la Iglesia las sentencias de excomunión que siguieron a los acontecimientos del año 1054", declaró. "Antes de esa fecha, una peregrinación como la suya probablemente ni siquiera habría sido posible", añadió.**

El Papa pidió a ambos líderes religiosos que transmitieran sus saludos y un abrazo de paz al **Patriarca Bartolomé I de Constantinopla**, quien asistió a su Misa de Investidura el 18 de mayo, durante su estancia en Turquía para continuar su peregrinación. Al tiempo que animaba a la delegación estadounidense a ser testigos y portadores de esperanza durante el **Año Jubilar de 2025**, León pidió a los peregrinos que miraran con ilusión hacia 2033, cuando los cristianos conmemorarán el bimilenario de la redención obtenida por la pasión, muerte y resurrección del Señor Jesús.

"Espiritualmente, todos necesitamos regresar a Jerusalén, la Ciudad de la Paz, donde Pedro, Andrés y todos los apóstoles, después de los días de la pasión y resurrección del Señor, recibieron el Espíritu Santo en Pentecostés, y desde allí dieron testimonio de Cristo hasta los confines de la tierra", dijo. Antes de concluir la audiencia, el Santo Padre expresó su deseo de reunirse de nuevo con el grupo "dentro de unos meses" para una "conmemoración ecuménica" con motivo del 1700 aniversario del Concilio de Nicea.

No especificó si emprendería o no un viaje apostólico a Turquía este año para celebrar la ocasión en İznik, la actual Nicea, durante la reunión.

Y los pongo bajo el amparo y protección de la Santísima Virgen María y San José. San Ramón Nonato, ruega por nosotros.

En el Corazón Sacratísimo de Jesucristo, Padre Samuel Ward

Welcome to St. Raymond Parish

We are delighted you've come to our parish, and we hope you'll find a home with us. Being a registered member allows us to better serve you; you can register by calling (562) 923-4509 or going online to SaintRaymond.org.

If you move or change your phone number, please call the parish office at (562) 923-4509 to let us know.

BULLETIN INFO: The bulletin deadline is Friday, 6pm, nine days prior to issue date. Please email or deliver your input, in writing, to the Parish Office.

Email address ParishManager@SaintRaymond.org

All notices are subject to available space and may be edited.

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Sacrament Program Important Dates

Registration for new and returning students: will be on Sunday, July 27th 9am - 1pm.

Must have to register:

1. Baptism Certificate (if not baptized, bring birth certificate)
2. First Communion Certificate (if applicable)
3. \$150 Deposit (cash or check only)

If you do not have copies of these for your child you can request them from the Church the Sacrament was done at and bring copies with you to registration.

Jennifer Quinones,
Faith Formation Director
(562) 800-7593
youthministries@saintraymond.org

**Friendship Sunday
this weekend
is hosted by:**

St. Vincent de Paul



JOURNEYING THROUGH GRIEF BEREAVEMENT SUMMIT

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish Hall
7215 Newlin Ave Whittier, CA 90602
Cathy Narvaez (562) 631-8844

Saturday, September 27, 2025, 9am-6pm

Grief is not a disorder, a disease, or a sign of weakness. It is an emotional, physical, and spiritual necessity, the price you pay for love. The only cure for your grief is to grieve.
- Earl A. Grollman

There is a tremendous need for bereavement ministry. We hear stories of grief and trauma every day. But where do we find help to deal with our grief, to help with our mourning, to work through the pain and sadness? Unfortunately, there are very few places available.

The First Journeying Through Grief Bereavement Summit invites bereavement ministers, those interested in accompanying the grieving, and anyone who is interested in bereavement to join us. Resources will be available from organizations that provide help to those who have experienced the death of a child, the death of a spouse, the death of a loved one to suicide, and more.

Speakers will address topics such as what is bereavement, how to start a support group, pre-planning, working with mortuaries, planning Vigils and Funerals and more.

There will be time to meet others in the field of bereavement and make connections with the goal of reaching out to those in need.

The cost of \$75 will cover a continental breakfast, lunch and all materials, supplies and resources. Doors open at 8:30am.

To register, please include your name, the name of your parish/organization, your role or area of interest and whatever else you want to share or ask.

Payment can be made by Zeile to (562) 631-8844. Please RSVP by Monday, September 15, 2025.



WE GRIEVE BECAUSE WE HAVE LOVED. - Johann Hari



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Figuras de autoridad y la responsabilidad de mantener límites personales

Cuando un adulto utiliza su autoridad para controlar o manipular una situación, pone a los niños y adultos vulnerables en peligro de sufrir abusos. La manipulación puede producirse a menudo a través de comportamientos de engaño que pueden llevar a la violación de los límites personales y en última instancia al abuso. Siempre es responsabilidad del adulto de mantener los límites personales adecuados y saludables con los niños a su cargo. Para obtener una guía sobre cómo interactuar con los menores en nuestras parroquias, escuelas y ministerios, por favor visite <https://lacatholics.org/policies-and-procedures/> y lea el artículo de VIRTUS® "Ministerial Boundaries, Power and Authority" ("Límites ministeriales, poder y autoridad") en lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

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Agosto 1-3, 2025

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- Padre Hugo Eparza, CP
- Padre Clemente Barrón, CP



Para registrarse o para más información, por favor llame a: Paulina Baeza al 805.905.3871

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PRIEST MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 27:	7:00 am - Fr. Sam 9:00am- Fr. Justin 10:30 am - Fr. Cesar 12:00 pm - Fr. John
Monday, July 28:	6:30 am - Fr. Justin 5:00pm - Fr. Cesar
Tuesday, July 29:	6:30 am - Fr. Justin 5:00 pm - Fr. Sam
Wednesday, July 30:	6:30 am - Fr. Justin 5:00 pm - Fr. John
Thursday, July 31:	6:30 pm - Fr. Benoy 5:00 pm - Fr. John
Friday, August 1:	6:30 am- Fr. Cesar 5:00 pm- Fr. Justin
Saturday, August 2:	8:00 am - Fr. Cesar 5:00 pm - Fr. Cesar
Sunday, August 3:	7:00 am - Fr. Justin 9:00 am - Fr. John 10:30 am - Fr. Sam 12:00 pm - Fr. Cesar

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Departure Location: CVS at Florence Ave. and Paramount Blvd.
Return: Arrive in Downey 5:00 - 5:30 pm

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- Free Bingo on the bus. Prizes. Prizes. Prizes.
- \$20 minimum game play required
- Harrah's Player's Cards are available (not required)

Sign-Up & Payment Deadline: July 22, 2025

Reservations: Imelda Lopez at 213-618-8677

Payment: Check or money order should be made payable to:

Our Lady of Grace Women's Guild

Mail Payment to: Our Lady of Grace/Casino Trip, P.O. Box 4642, Downey, CA 90241-9998

Questions? Contact Imelda Lopez at 213-618-8677

Don't miss out on this fun-filled adventure!

Our Lady of Grace is a 501 (c) 3 organization. Fed ID # 95-1644605
No Refunds



2000 Hail Mary Devotion

TO JESUS THROUGH MARY...

"With the Rosary, the Christian people sits at the school of Mary and is led to contemplate the beauty on the face of Christ and to experience the depths of his love."
Saint Pope John Paul II

"The Rosary is the most powerful weapon to touch the heart of Jesus, our Redeemer who loves His Mother."
St Louis de Montfort

Date: Saturday, September 13th, 2025. 8:00am to 6:30pm

3rd apparition of Our Lady of Fatima

Mass - 8:00 am

Adoration and Benediction - 8:30 to 9:30 am

Procession

Final Venue - Old Hall

Sponsored by: English and Spanish Legion of Mary

For more information please contact:

Our Lady Queen of Angels Presidium 562-544-8020 (Tess)

Nuestro Señora De Los Angeles Presidium 323 251-3976 (Aida)



St. Raymond Catholic Church, 12348 Paramount Blvd., Downey, CA 90242

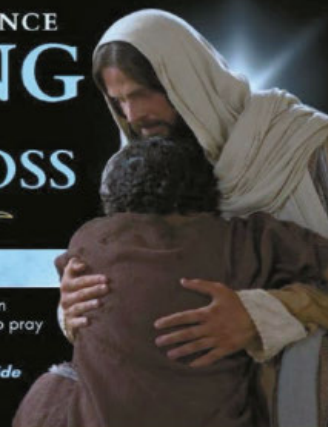
MASS OF REMEMBRANCE HEALING AFTER SUICIDE LOSS

ALL ARE WELCOME

Please join us for a special bilingual Mass in memory of loved ones lost to suicide and to pray for healing for those mourning their loss.

September commemorates **National Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month**.

SMALL RECEPTION TO FOLLOW AFTER MASS.



ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH
10827 PIONEER BLVD, SANTA FE SPRINGS, CA 90670

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2025 @ 8:00 AM

FOR MORE INFORMATION

PLEASE CONTACT:

ROSA SANTANA AT 562-861-5099
rosamsantana2018@gmail.com

TO LEARN ABOUT RESOURCES FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION & AWARENESS MONTH PLEASE SCAN:



ENGLISH



SPANISH

