



# ST. RAYMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*"Teaching goodness, discipline and knowledge for 150 years"*

FALL/WINTER 2018-2019

**150 YEARS AND  
GOING STRONG!**

## ST. RAYMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CELEBRATES OUR 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

### CARDINAL DOLAN CELEBRATES MASS; WE HONOR THE SISTERS OF CHARITY

**W**hen the Sisters of Charity started St. Raymond School in September of 1868, the school was part of what was then known as West Chester Village and the surrounding area was farmland. One hundred-fifty years later, the farms are long gone but the Sisters of Charity are still here and St. Raymond Elementary School is still going strong in the urban Bronx.

To celebrate this milestone, we kicked off our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a special Mass celebrated by His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan in the school's auditorium on Thursday, October 4. In addition to His Eminence, our pastor Father James Cruz and former pastor Monsignor John Graham concelebrated the Mass. Other guests included Sr. Helen McGovern, SC, who represented the Sisters of Charity of New York; Dr. Timothy McNiff, Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of New York; and some friends of the school. Students from Kindergarten through Grade 8 also attended.

The Sisters of Charity have been present in the school for most of its existence. Two Sisters of Charity — Sr. Mary Cleary, SC and Sr. Ellen Dunne, SC — still serve at the school today. During the Mass, Principal Eugene Scanlon presented a book of 150 days of intentions honoring the Sisters of Charity to Sr. Helen McGovern, SC. Following the Mass, Cardinal Dolan toured the school and visited a few classrooms.

"We are grateful to His Eminence for celebrating Mass for us on this tremendous milestone in the school's history," said Mr. Scanlon, "and for taking the time to visit our students. We are also grateful to Father Cruz for his support of the school, and to the Sisters of Charity for their faithful service. Most especially, we thank God for the opportunity to educate children in the Catholic faith for the last 150 years and remain committed to continuing our mission in the upcoming years and beyond."



Cardinal Dolan visits with students in Class 8-311 (top) and their teacher Ms. Haggerty; and with students in Class 7-304 (bottom) and their teacher Ms. Barbarite.



Sr. Helen McGovern, SC (left) holding the book of intentions that was dedicated to the Sisters of Charity at the school's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass. With her is Sr. Mary Cleary, SC, the Elementary School's Assistant Principal for Grades 3-5.



His Eminence gives his homily during the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass in the auditorium.

*Photos of Cardinal Dolan by Colm Flynn*

Dear Alumni and Friends of the Elementary School,

May the peace of Christ be with you!

This past fall was a very special time for St. Raymond Elementary School. We were honored to have His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan celebrate Mass here to kick off the school's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. At the anniversary Mass, we also honored the Sisters of Charity for their ministry at our school from 1868 to the present.

Mass and the sacraments are the heart of our religion program. In addition to our anniversary Mass, we also celebrated the Mass of the Holy Spirit, All Saints Day and Thanksgiving Masses, and Mass ending Catholic Schools Week. Our students who are altar servers served at our school Masses. Our Faith Formation Program began again in the fall, and William Snow joined us to teach out of grade Penance and First Communion services for our children in Grades 3-7. He is also teaching Confirmation classes.

The reason St. Raymond School was opened 150 years ago is the same reason it is still in existence today — to educate our students in the Catholic faith and draw them closer to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As long as we continue to do that, we will be successful.

I wish you a Joyous Easter season.

Faithfully in Christ,

**Father James Cruz**  
Pastor



Dear Alumni and Friends of St. Raymond's,

As you saw from our cover story, this past fall we kicked off St. Raymond Elementary School's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a Mass celebrated by His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan. We continue our proud history by remaining committed to our mission of providing our students with the finest Catholic education available.

On the academic front, we are giving the MAP Growth Assessments three times a year. The results help us prepare for the New York State Assessments. In November, 98 of our students took the TACHS exam and all of them were accepted into at least one Catholic high school.

Our Family Faith Formation program remains strong and active, and service to others remains one of our guiding principles. In the fall, we collected more than 2,500 food items for local families during our Thanksgiving Food Drive. We raised \$1,749 to purchase 116 care packages for our men and women in the military and \$1,482 to purchase 162 pairs of pajamas for children in need.

Registration for the 2019-2020 academic year is going well.

Thank you for your continued faith in us and for your generosity and support.

Gratefully,

**Eugene Scanlon**  
Interim Principal



## FALL-WINTER ROUNDUP



**Mass of the Holy Spirit**



**Fall Fundraiser Winners**



**8th Grade Honors Italian Class Trip to Arthur Avenue**



**Ghostbusters' Halloween Visit**



**After-Care Program Pumpkin Art**



**Pre-Honors 6th Graders Code Robots**

Photo by Josephine Casale

Photo by Christopher D'Armiiento

Photo by Yinnie Amessé

# FALL-WINTER ROUNDUP *continued*



**Thanksgiving Food Drive**



**Ajkun Ballet Performs for the After-Care Program**

*Photo by Christopher D'Arriento*



**Kindergarten West at NYBG Holiday Train Show**

*Photo by Jillian Collins*



**Christmas Show 2018**



**Pre-K 3, UPK & Kindergarten Holiday Show**



**4<sup>th</sup> Grade Dissects Flowers**

*Photo by Christiana Galala*



**Edward Cardinal Egan Scholarship Winner**



**UPK Building Projects**



**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to *Come From Away* on Broadway**

*Photo by Patricia Hughes*



**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading Buddy and Pre-K 3 Student**



**Pajama Drive for Children in Need**

# ST. RAYMOND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL THEN AND NOW



No photos exist of the original St. Raymond School. In 1909, Archbishop Farley dedicated the new Elementary School shown in the photo. That building is now Saint Raymond Academy for Girls.



In 1949, Monsignor Tierney broke ground for the new Elementary School, which was completed and dedicated by Cardinal Spellman in 1951.



Photo by Vinnie Amessé

Principal Eugene Scanlon with students in front of St. Raymond Elementary School as it looks today.

## St. Raymond Elementary School Newsletter

Editor:  
Elaine Nole, *Advancement Director*

Photos:  
Elaine Nole  
(unless otherwise indicated)

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## KEEP IN TOUCH

Want to keep current with the latest happenings at St. Raymond Elementary School?



Email [alumni@straymondelementary.org](mailto:alumni@straymondelementary.org)  
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Visit our website at [www.straymondelementary.org](http://www.straymondelementary.org) for updates, and for current and archived issues of our school newsletter.



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