

St. Raphael the Archangel

Respect Life Sunday



Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel
Basilica del Carmine Maggiore in Napoli, 12th c.

PARISH ADDRESS

40000 North U.S. Highway 45
Old Mill Creek, Illinois 60046-7464
phone 847.395.3474 fax 847.395.3552
email rectory@straphaelcatholic.org
www.straphaelcatholic.org

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Matthew Kowalski, *Pastor*
Dr. Gregory K. Webster, *Deacon*
Dr. Mark Mrowiec, *Operations Director*
Ms. Annette Wynn, *Coordinator of Religious Ed.*
Mr. Alex Fries, *Music Director*

Dear St. Raphael Parishioners,



A man had two sons: We can think of this Sunday's parable as a very short version of the Prodigal Son story. One son was rebellious but repented, the other son was obedient in word only. Jesus is teaching how important it is to repent of our sins. Repentance is even more important than holiness itself, because in some way all of us are lacking in holiness. The greatest honesty we can have is to admit that we have sinned, and to repent of the particular sins we have committed. All of us, at some time, have been that child who refused to obey our Father.

Feast of St. Raphael our Patron: Belated greetings for the Feast of St. Raphael the Archangel. It was this past Friday, September 29. Parishes can celebrate the feast of their patron as a solemnity, which is the same liturgical category as a Holy Day.

Offertory Gift Bearers: From the Covid shutdown in 2020 until now we have not had anyone bring up the offertory gifts. Normally the ushers will recruit gift-bearers just before Mass begins. I was slow to bring this back because we have been short on ushers for some Masses; they were often scrambling at the last minute to get more volunteers. Now the situation has settled enough to bring back the gift-bearers. It may be a very small part of the overall Sunday liturgy, but a simple way to take part. We will resume this starting next weekend. Go ahead and tell an usher if you are interested.

Adoration / Holy Hour: In this year of dedication to the Eucharist, there has been some discussion among staff and the Pastoral Council about having a regularly scheduled evening of Adoration, i.e., a Holy Hour. St. Raphael Church has a particular challenge for evening devotions, in that we literally have no neighborhood around our church. Each of us, including your pastor, must make at least a small investment in travel time for church events. In any case, a Holy Hour will be scheduled for All Saints' Day, November 1.

Day of Renewal, September 25: I attended the archdiocese-wide meeting in Rosemont this past Monday, with three parishioners. Cardinal Cupich and other invited speakers addressed the assembly on the topic of spiritual renewal. We can easily see that religious observance has declined over the last few generations, with negative consequences in the general culture. Crime rates have increased, mental health in general has declined, moral confusion is widespread. People need God as much as ever, but seem uninterested in finding Him. As Jesus observed centuries ago, they are "sheep without a shepherd". It was for this very reason Jesus gave authority to his apostles. How do we bring the gospel to a culture rich in material things, but increasingly deprived of spirituality and meaning? This is the task of the Church today.

God bless,

Fr. Matthew

Mass of Remembrance

There was a nice turnout for the third annual ARS sponsored Mass of Remembrance last Saturday morning and thirteen of us were able to enjoy brunch afterwards at Emily's Pancake House in Lindenhurst.



Knightly News



Planning Meetings are held on the first Friday of the month at Steve Laky's house starting at 7:00 pm; monthly meetings will be on the second Thursday starting at 6:30 pm saying the Rosary; 7:00 pm. Business meeting will start in the Fellowship Room downstairs of the Church. If you are already a Knight and your Email or phone number have changed, please update your information to steve.laky@outlook.com. If you wish to become a Knight either come to one of our meetings or E-mail Steve Laky. All men of the Parish are welcome to join us.

St. Raphael The Archangel Mass Schedule and Times

Weekday: 8:30 am (Monday-Saturday am); Saturday: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am and 11:00 am

St. Raphael the Archangel Office Hours

The Church Office is open Monday - Thursday from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm and closed on Fridays.

Confession : Saturday afternoons from 3-3:40 pm.

Baptism: Registered parishioners should contact the parish office at 847-395-3474.

Marriage Preparation: Registered and supporting members should call the office. A date should not be set until consulting the pastor.

WEDDING BANNS

III Nikki Megerle and Tyler Schend

Blessing of Animals, this Sunday, October 1

Father Matthew will give the traditional St. Francis of Assisi Blessing of Animals on October 1. It will take place immediately after the 11:00 am Mass in front of the church. Please keep your pets leashed or in cages, and well-behaved.



Bundle Up Weekend

There will be a St. Vincent DePaul (SVDP) trailer in the church parking lot before and after our Saturday 4 pm and Sunday 9 am and 11 am Masses the weekend of **Sept 30 and Oct 1**. Please drop off any small household items, clothing, etc. They do not accept furniture, electronics or children's toys. Your donations will help many people in need.



Aid for Women Baby Bottle Drive

During the month of October, Respect Life month, St. Raphael will be having a Baby Bottle drive benefiting "Aid for Women".

Bottles can be filled with cash, coins or a check. Please write Baby Bottle Drive on the memo line.

Baby bottles can be picked up in the church narthex September 30 through October 8.



2023 Annual Catholic Appeal September Update



The Annual Catholic Appeal is an invitation for every Catholic family to respond with a generous heart. Your gift will provide inspiration, education, and services to the less fortunate in our Archdiocese and throughout the world. The 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal is open during the year for donations to support these ministries. You may contribute through our regular collection or online at our St. Raphael website throughout 2023. There is still time to fulfill your pledge.

Our 2023 Parish Goal: \$23,027

2023 Amount Pledged: \$21,530

Last Year's Collection: \$24,850

Thank you for your generosity toward this important ministry.

St. Raphael the Archangel Religious Education Calendar

Wednesday Classes at Milburn Middle School from 6:30-7:30 pm: October 4, 11, 18 and 25

Sunday, October 15 Family Mass, Grades 8 and 1 assisting, St. Raphael Church

For more information about our Religious Education Program, please contact:

Annette Wynn, Coordinator, at Religiouseducation@straphaelcatholic.org



Altar and Rosary Sodality News



ARS had a busy meeting last Monday night with 18 ladies in attendance to include two new faces. There was also an informative presentation by Strang Funeral Home of Antioch on funeral pre-planning.

Saturday, October 7, we will be attending the Chicago Botanic Gardens Fall Festival & Bulb Sale, carpooling from church. Tickets are available online for \$17. Let Grace Bower or the office know if you are interested in attending. Also watch for details on another movie night at Antioch Theater to see *Beyond Utopia*.



"Fill My Cup" Event (Social)

Carousel (\$4)

Relax & spend time with fellow families from our parish

Free Admission and Parking!

Free Petting Zoo and Play Structure

Maze - Apple Tree espalier with walking trails, 3 activity areas, a central climbing tower with games to play (\$8, Children under 2 years are free)

On-site Bakery (Apple Cider & Apple Cider Doughnuts), Country Kitchen and Gift Shop

Express and Barrel Train Ride options (\$4 each)

Family Faith Formation Group

Join Us for a Family Autumn Adventure at Royal Oak Farm

October 1, 2023

Starting at 3pm

Fun for the whole family!

This weekend!

For more information about this event or other FFFG upcoming events, contact Donna at FamilyFaithFormationGroup@gmail.com

I Struggle
by Deacon Gregory Webster

I struggle.
But don't have much to complain about.

I fear.
John Paul II told me "Be Not Afraid."

I worry.
Anxiety is a monster I try to cage.

I rush.
Even when I am not in a hurry.

I hunger.
But not sure for what.

I hope.
Knowing in God is my joy.

I petition.
For my needs.

I pray.
Seeking understanding.

I bleed.
But won't admit I was cut

I ache.
My football coach said to get back up.

I ponder.
Looking at the stars.

I wonder.
What lies beyond them.

I search.
To see what I missed.

I anger.
At my injustice.

I fail.
At seeing your injustice.

I resent.
When I am not seen.

I miss.
Seeing you.

I journey.
A circular path.

I topple.
When I should pick up.

I believe.
Help my unbelief.

I run.
When I should stay.

I do not love.
As Jesus calls me to do.

I do not feed the poor.
I miss seeing Jesus in them.

I do not bury the dead.
I bury those alive in my speech.

I do not visit the prisons.
Even when the imprisoned are not in jail.

I am not a peacemaker.
When seeking my place in the world.

I am not the dad my father was.
But I understand him more as I get older.

I am not the brother I should be.
Biological, fraternal or comrade

I am not the relative that calls.
Yet I always have a phone with me.

I am not the friend to cry with.
But I will be there when you call.

I am an introvert.
Who has learned to be loud.

I am not the deacon worthy of the stole.
None of us are.

I put up walls.
When I should be taking them down.

I pray the words.
But God wants my emotions.

I recite the psalms.
Without hearing the song.

I look at the sunset.
Seeing the glory of creation.

I look at the horizon.
And note the world is curved.

I miss my parents.
Knowing they are both dead and still live.

I save for my 401K.
Not being promised tomorrow.

I dream about tomorrow.
Without living in joy today.

I hear the bells before Mass.
And know they toll for me.

I carry decisions of 45 yrs. ago.
As if I made them today.

I speak with confidence.
Having little of it myself.

I am in awe.
When I look at the cross.

I am the *Imago Dei*.
So are you.

In all, none of this matters.

Today, I have a breath.
God is letting me start anew.

{Originally published in the Catholic Journal,
www.catholicjournal.us, September 2023}



Each year, many thousands of adults in America attend OCIA and enter the Church at Eastertime. Deacon Greg Webster leads the OCIA sessions at St. Raphael Church. Call the parish office today at 847.395.3474, or contact Greg: gwebster@archchicago.org or 847.395.3474.

Exploring Priesthood Weekend: October 27, 2023 at 7pm - October 29, 1pm University of St Mary of the Lake



Exploring Priesthood Weekend retreat is designed to help further discern God's call to the diocesan priesthood through formation at Mundelein. Throughout a weekend of prayer, discussions, fraternity, recreation, and presentations from current faculty and seminarians, you will better understand God's movement in your heart as you experience life on campus.

During Exploring Priesthood Weekend, you will have the chance to learn about the steps for discernment, values of priestly life, and the structure of seminary formation. Current seminarians will share their vocation stories, and you will join them at Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and the Liturgy of the Hours. Our historic campus with its many chapels will also be open to you for your personal prayer and exploration. Our prayer for you is that by fully engaging in the opportunities provided on this retreat, you will find more clarity on where God is leading you. Register at: <https://forms.office.com/r/H3v7Jt33Hx>.

Go Light the World



Once again, this Christmas, St. Raphael the Archangel is hosting our third annual interfaith Nativity Pageant with other churches in the area! This is a great opportunity for the Christian community to come together and celebrate the birth of Jesus! With a huge turnout last year, we are most excited for his event to start again. This is for all primary and youth. (K-12)

If you like to act and sing- whether as a soloist, small trio, group etc., have a musical talent or just want to be part of something extraordinary, then we most welcome you! EVERYONE is welcome to be a part of this simple and wonderful event. It is at NO cost to anyone!

Kristine Judd and I are most excited to head this extraordinary event this year! We both have numerous years working with the youth of our churches and much experience with musicals and theatre. Natasha Spradlin is an incredible pianist who will once again help this come to life!

We plan to meet on Sunday evenings at St Raphael from 6-7:30, starting on October 1st. We plan to perform the play on Sunday, December 17 at 6:30. A full schedule will be handed out at practice.

Christ is the center of all our lives and to come together and worship the greatest gift given to us-with others, is truly a blessing!

Love and Blessings,
Marlen Thompson, 314-541-1379 marlenbrigid@gmail.com

Mass Intentions

Week of October 1, 2023

Requested by:

Saturday, September 30, 2023	8:30 am 4:00 pm	† Carol Fuge † James & Christine Baron	Bob & Elizabeth Forster Sandy Czerwinski
Sunday, October 1, 2023	9:00 am 11:00 am	The People of St. Raphael † Julian Robak	Zbigniew Robak
Monday, October 2 , 2023	8:30 am	John Kelley	Kimberly Allen
Tuesday, October 3, 2023	8:30 am	† Ken Clark	JoAnn Osmond
Wed October 4, 2023	8:30 am	† Sir Knight Jim Wallace	Bishop Quarter Assembly of the Knights of Columbus
Thursday, October 5, 2023	8:30 am	† Ed Pillash	Marietta Centko
Friday, October 6, 2023	8:30 am	† John Anen	The Anen Family
Saturday, October 7, 2023	8:30 am 4:00 pm	Communion Service † Carol Ondricka	The Boutell Family
Sunday, October 8, 2023	9:00 am 11:00 am	The People of St. Raphael Kellen & Megan Price	Kellen Price

In Loving Memory of our recently deceased parishioners

Richard and Claudette Matthews (Parents of Laura Matthews)

May God's perpetual light shine upon them.

Please pray for those in our parish and community who are sick:

Betty Laky
Wayne Francke
Janusz Kowalski
Bill Hutchings

Tom Tomasello, Jr.
Belen Kling
Fr. Art Mattox
Frank Wihtelich

Richard Biel
Mary Lou Biel
Residents of Rolling Hills

St. Raphael the Archangel Serving in the Armed Forces

The names of active duty military personnel from the St. Raphael community are listed below. We keep them in our thoughts and prayers as they protect our country and freedom. Please notify the parish office if you would like to add someone to the list or if your service person is no longer active in the military.

Captain Nicholas A. DeSilvia, U. S. Air Force
1 LT Mary Claire Lindroth, U.S. Army
SFC Robert L. Ochsner III, U.S. Army
1 LT Sarah Ochsner, U.S. Army

Worship & Spiritual Life Schedule

Mass Times for October 7-8, 2023

Mass Times	4:00 pm Saturday	9:00 am Sunday	11:00 am Sunday
Clergy	Fr. Jim Merold	Fr. Matthew Kowalski	Fr. Matthew Kowalski Dcn. John Haderlein
Lector	Garry Ryan	Ann Hitschel	Open
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Donna Pavelski	Steve Laky	Bill Booker
Altar Servers	3 Open	E. Marry T. Marry 1 Open	R. Edran G. Muzones M. Muzones
Ushers	Dennis Civic Joseph Costa Tom Hagerty Paul Pavelski	Bob Forster Catherine Laky Fritz Meyers 1 Open	Rich Josten Rafael Muzones 2 Open
Fellowship	Wanda Hagerty	Open	Mary Mrowiec



ST. BEDE SCHOOL

36399 N. Wilson Rd. Ingleside, IL 60041 - 847-587-554 - www.stbedeschool.com

NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

OCTOBER 4, 2023

Join us in celebrating the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, the Patron saint of all animals and the environment.

Our Lady of the Lakes Parish is hosting outdoor pet blessings to promote this day for our special friends.

3:00pm at St. Bede School
5:30pm at St. Peter Church



Congratulations to our 5th graders who were presented with their very own blessed Bibles during our September 15th Mass.





Congratulations to the Siegel Family! St. Bede's first \$500 raffle winners.

ST. BEDE SCHOOL Presents the First Annual

TRUNK OR TREAT!

Saturday OCTOBER 28 5 - 8pm

St. Bede School Parking Lot
36399 N. Wilson Rd. - Ingleside, IL 60041

For More Information Please Call or Email Dana Ellison at 847.514.9726 or eysmom1@gmail.com

Free Admission!



Coast to Coast Rosary & Mass

Saturday, OCTOBER 7th

2:45 PM – 5:30 PM

Cook Park, Libertyville

Corner of Milwaukee Ave & Church Street

Join us in prayer using HEAVENS MOST POWERFUL SPIRITUAL WEAPONS to BLESS and PROTECT OUR COUNTRY:

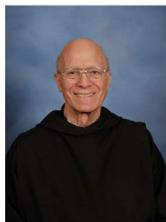
ROSARY, CHAPLET, HOLY MASS ANTICIPATORY

In case of inclement weather:
WSFI Catholic Radio
200 North Milwaukee Ave.
Libertyville, IL 60048

OUR LADY OF VICTORY, PRAY FOR US!

Evangelization in the Modern World

at St. Benedict Abbey Retreat Center, Benet Lake, WI
on October 2nd or 7th, 9:30am – 2:00pm



Fr. Daniel



Br. Matthew

Registration ends 48 hours before each retreat.

Call and reserve your spot today!

262-396-4311, ext. 104

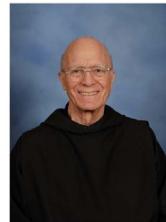
Fee \$15 per person, lunch included

The Gospels and the Church Alive

Evening Faith Formation Series

at St. Benedict Abbey Retreat Center, Benet Lake, WI

on Thursdays, October 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th, 7:00-8:30PM



Fr. Daniel



Br. Matthew



Fr. Macario

All Participants Must Register

by Monday, October 2

Call and reserve your spot-262-396-4311, ext. 104

Fee \$30 per person for the whole series

A circular logo for "CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL" featuring a crest with a cross and three stars. Below the logo, the text "CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL" and "BY MARY" is visible. The background of the image shows a blue wall with some yellow markings.

Forgiveness: The Secret of Peace

Thursday, October 12, 2023
7:00 PM

Kathy A. Nemmers Welcome Center

A DVD cover for "Forgiveness: The Secret of Peace" showing a stylized eagle in flight. Below it, the text reads "FORGIVENESS: THE SECRET OF PEACE" and "A Documentary Film about One man's fight to bring HOPE and HEALING to a nation."

40 Days for Life Waukegan

From Wednesday, September 27th through Sunday, November 5th, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Waukegan Planned Parenthood at 1601 N. Lewis Avenue, and also to help spread the word about this important community outreach.

Sign up for one-hour vigil times at <https://www.40daysforlife.com/waukegan>.

YAM-Lake County

Young Adult Ministry Lake County

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/981171095370036/

Webpage: <https://yamlakecounty.wixsite.com/yamlakecounty>

Email: yamlakecounty@gmail.com